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This Week

National

Anne Golden urges government to tackle problem of homelessness. *Page 5*

Palestinian terrorist to appeal IRB deportation ruling. *Page 6*

USDS students assist children in other countries. *Page 14*

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Winnipeg leader appointed new dean of law at University of Manitoba. *Page 26*

National

Jewish life after bar/bat mitzvah explored in *The CJN's* second Roundtable Discussion. *Page 30*

Dr. Gideon Koren takes new post at HSC. *Page 34*

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Shabbat: Behar-Bechukotai
Candlelighting: 8:08
Iyar 21, 5759
Havdalah: 9:13

www.cjnews.com

TV ads in the Israeli election campaign began officially airing last week. Clockwise from top right are commercials from the following parties: One Israel, Centre Party, National Religious Party, Yisrael b'Aliyah, National Union and Likud. *[Israel Sun photo]*

No election deal: Mordechai

Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

TEL AVIV — The Centre party leadership this week reiterated its commitment to support Yitzhak Mordechai's candidacy for prime minister.

"We are nobody's subsidiary party, and we'll meet on the18th of May," Mordechai said, at a Tel Aviv press conference designed to revive the Centre party's failing campaign.

The party's top four leaders criticized the media's rumor-mongering regarding Mordechai's intention to quit the premiership race and support Barak. The four blamed Barak and the media for conducting a campaign of misinformation aimed at undermining Mordechai's candidacy.

They attacked the media for reporting on a Barak-Mordechai deal, despite the Centre party's repeated denials of such collaboration. They accused the media of creating news rather then reporting it.

The party's leaders also emphasized the importance of a strong Centre party in the Knesset, irrespective of who becomes prime minister, in order to break the current lock the haredi parties have on the political system.

They launched a blistering attack on Shas leader Aryeh Deri, saying they would not enter into coalition negotiations with a man who was recently sentenced to a four-year jail term.

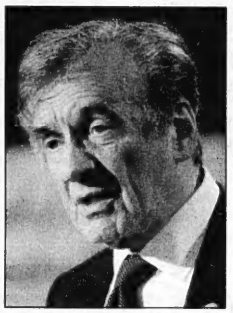
INSIDE

The second *CJN* Roundtable: Developing Jewish life after ba and bat mitzvah. *Please see page 30.*

'The world is no longer silent'

By ELIAS LEVY
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Renowned writer, Nobel Peace Prize winner, talmudist, philosopher, advocate for human rights, Elie Wiesel is one of the great intellectual and humanistic figures of our time.



Elie Wiesel

A survivor of the Auschwitz and Buchenwald extermination camps, Wiesel has spent 40 years fighting racism, exclusion of minorities and totalitarianism.

On Holocaust Remembrance Day, April 13, Wiesel was the guest of honor of President Bill Clinton, at the White House. In his talk on The Dangers of Indifference, which attracted considerable attention, Wiesel analyzed the stakes in the current crisis in Kosovo, and once again warned humanity against the historic amnesia of memory.

Volume 2 of Elie Wiesel's memoirs will appear before the end of this year.

On May 28, the Université de Montréal will honor Wiesel with a doctorate honoris causa.

Continued on page 24

Bombings leave Jews of London anxious — please see page 35

The News in Brief

CANADA

Immersion in Israel

TORONTO — At least 25 Toronto Jewish high school students will take part in a unique immersion program this summer at Ulpan Akiva in Netanya. Participants will experience complete immersion in Israeli culture and society by touring the country accompanied by soldiers, encountering Israeli high school students, learning Hebrew and attending seminars with public figures. The program runs July 5 to 31. For details, call program organizer Itia Golan at 905-886-6770 or the Israel Experience office at 398-6931.

Holocaust Course Funded

VANCOUVER — Thanks to a local Holocaust survivor, funding has been set up to provide a permanent course on the Holocaust at the University of British Columbia. The new Sophie Waldman Endowment for Holocaust Education will allow UBC to begin a course in September 2000.

ISRAEL

Foreign Minister Visits

JERUSALEM — Improved Israeli-Russian relations would serve the interests of both countries, Russian Foreign Minister Igor Ivanov said upon arriving in Israel last month. Ivanov's visit has prompted some critics to suggest that his presence was calculated to win votes for Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu from immigrants from the former Soviet Union.

Poll: Race a Tie

JERUSALEM — Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Labor Party leader Ehud Barak are running virtually neck and neck in the race for prime minister, according to an opinion poll published last month. The survey, conducted by Gallup and published in *Ma'ariv*, showed that Netanyahu would receive 36 percent of the vote if the May 17 election were held now, while Barak would receive 34 percent. Yitzhak Mordechai trailed with 11 percent.

WORLD

Gunman Had Jewish Roots

LITTLETON, Colo. — One of the Littleton gunmen who traded Nazi salutes with fellow "Trenchcoat Mafia" members was the great-grandson of a prominent Jewish philanthropist in Columbus, Ohio. The Jewish Community Centre in Columbus is named after Leo Yassenoff, great-grandfather of Dylan Klebold, who along with Eric Harris opened fire in their suburban Denver high school April 20, killing 12 students and one teacher before killing themselves. While Klebold was raised a Lutheran, he reportedly read the Four Questions at a Passover seder this year, and his mother was raised in a Jewish home, family members have said.

Survivors Mark Escape

ZAGREB — Holocaust survivors gathered recently at a former concentration camp in Croatia to commemorate an escape attempt. In 1945, 600 inmates broke out of their barracks in the Jasenovac camp. Only 70 escaped, and the others were shot to death. The survivors called for a guilty sentence to be imposed on the camp's commander, Dinko Sakic, who was extradited to Croatia last June and is being tried for crimes against humanity.

Report Accuses Banks

WASHINGTON — French banks stole billions of dollars from Jews and other groups during World War II and then transferred the money to North Africa, according to a 1943 CIA report. The partial release of the report by the World Jewish Congress comes as the group is stepping up its pressure on European banks to settle claims dating from the Holocaust era.

New Move On Crosses

WARSAW — The Polish Senate has amended a law, allowing for the removal of 200 crosses that have been placed near the site of the Auschwitz death camp in the past year. The amendment would let stand a large cross erected near Auschwitz that was used in a 1979 mass by Pope John Paul II. The amendment now heads to the Parliament's lower house.

Memorial Unveiled

YEREVAN, Armenia — Members of the Jewish community of Yerevan last month unveiled a memorial to victims of the Holocaust. Leader Rima Varzhapetian, said the community will also plant two fir trees to memorialize the victims of the 1915 genocide of Armenians. There are between 300 and 400 Jewish families in Armenia today.

De Rothschild Dies

NEW YORK — Baroness Batsheva de Rothschild, a patron of Israeli dance, died last month in her home following a long illness. She was 84. Born in Paris, de Rothschild moved to the United States with her family following the outbreak of World War II and immigrated to Israel in 1962. Two years later, she founded the Batsheva Dance Company. Through her ties with noted choreographers, she helped the troupe attain international standing. In 1967, de Rothschild founded the Batdor Ballet Academy, and remained active in its management until the weeks preceding her death.

Holocaust Memorial Features Swedish Envoy

FREDERICTON — This year's annual interfaith Holocaust memorial service here featured Sweden's ambassador to Canada describing an international co-operative effort designed to memorialize the victims of the Holocaust, and educate current and future generations about its lessons.

Jan Olof Tahl described the Swedish Living History Project on the Holocaust, which brings together Sweden, Great Britain and the United States. Launched in 1997, the project includes a wide range of activities, including the publishing of the book *Tell Ye Your Children*... some 900,000 copies of which have been sent on request to parents of schoolchildren or distributed to schools, libraries, seniors' organizations and private individuals. The book presents facts about the Holocaust and attempts to explain how the unimaginable became reality. Stahl brought copies for distribution.

Memorial candles were kindled by survivors and in memory of the 1.5 million Jewish children who perished; while James Stewart of St. Andrews, N.B., a Royal Air Force veteran who had been imprisoned in Buchenwald, lit a candle in memory of Canadian veterans who died in World War II.

Tragedy Has Struck

An extraordinary woman in our community—a 50 year old, single mother of 10 children, has tragically passed away after a serious illness.

Her modest salary as a secretary for one of our local Jewish Day Schools, allowed her to barely cover the basic family expenses, let alone the cost of expensive medical treatment and nursing care.

The children have been left with about $200k in debts and no further means of financial support. Funds are required for basic necessities such as food, clothing, housing and Jewish education.

The family desperately wants to stay together, with the older children taking on the responsibility of raising and ultimately marrying off the younger ones and themselves.

We appeal to you to support our community's efforts to establish a trust fund for these children. All cheques over $10 will receive charitable tax receipts. In the spirit of Jewish compassion and generosity at this holiday time, please open your hearts and donate generously. Thank you.

Rabbi Menachem Adler
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Vol. XXIX, No. 18 (1,395)*

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Report urges changes to Quebec school system

By JANICE ARNOLD
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — A report now before Quebec's education minister calls for an end to the historic privileges of Catholics and Protestants in the public school system, the secularization of all schools, and the elimination of religious instruction, as such, during school hours.

A guiding principle of the report is that any policy adopted by the Quebec government on the question of religion in schools must be based on the principles of equality and state neutrality.

While the recommendations would mean radical change, particularly for Catholics, the recommendations may inadvertently have the effect of greater exposure to religious content, especially to Christianity, than most Jewish students in the public system today are used to.

The report, written by a task force chaired by Université de Montréal professor Jean-Pierre Proulx, proposes that the study of religions, from a cultural and secular perspective, be made compulsory for all students at the elementary and high school levels.

Students would be encouraged to look at world religions, and especially those present in Quebec, from "a social sciences viewpoint," in order to gain a "better understanding of the background behind the central message of each religion."

The goal would be to foster an appreciation of religious diversity, and to contribute to "the building of a common civic space" respectful of personal religious choices.

While the authors of the report stress that such study must be neutral, they also emphasize that "a prominent place" be given to Christian traditions.

"Christianity should be given a prominent place in the study of religions, given its profound impact on the western world and part of the eastern world," the report states. "Its influence is manifest in all fields of human activity. Literature, music, art, architecture and politics are but a few examples."

They said, giving Christianity prominence is justified because Catholicism and Protestantism have played a major role in Quebec's history and its social and cultural life.

"Catholicism will be given the attention it warrants as the religion of the great majority of Quebecers throughout Quebec's history, and as the cultural matrix which shaped Quebec as a society."

It is also recommended that schools make their facilities available outside school hours, to all religious groups that wish, at their own expense, to provide religious programming to students.

Although school boards based on denomination – Catholic or Protestant – were abolished last July and replaced by language-based ones, individual schools continue to have the right to designate themselves as Catholic, Protestant or secular, according to parents' wishes.

Almost all schools in Quebec continue to have Catholic or Protestant status, although the latter have been essentially neutral for many years, and the former continue to teach Catholicism as part of the curriculum. The Protestant schools' "Protestant" instruction is described as non-denominational and eschewing doctrine.

However, with the reorganization of the school boards, all schools are required by law to offer students three choices: Catholic, Protestant or secular moral education. In theory, other religions may seek their own classes, but schools are not obligated to provide them.

The change to language-based boards, as it now stands, also means Jewish students could find themselves in English, but Catholic schools.

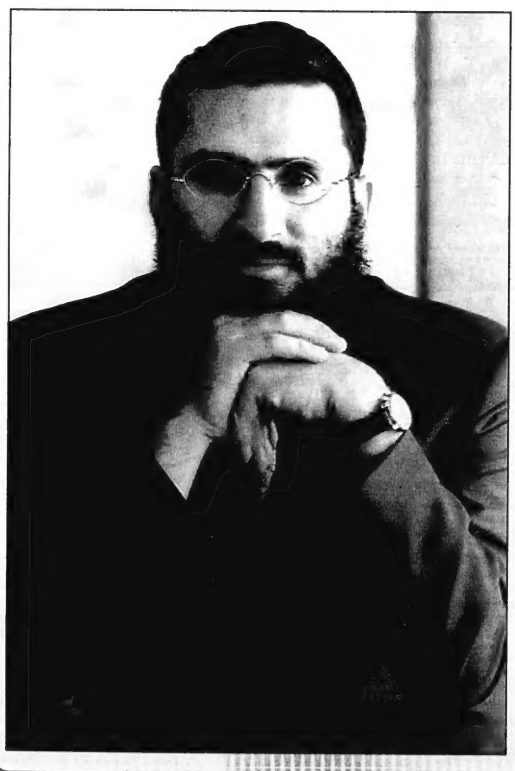
The report concludes, after consultation with legal experts, that the present school system is discriminatory because of the advantages accorded Catholics and Protestants. It also concludes that the system violates both the Canadian and Quebec human rights charters' guarantees of equality and freedom of religion, and possibly Canada's international commitments.

To create linguistic boards, Section 93 of the 1867 Constitution Act was amended to repeal the application in Quebec of denominational rights in schooling.

Legally, the current situation can only exist by Quebec's invoking the notwithstanding clause, a measure that must be reviewed every five years. A decision to renew must be made this June.

The Proulx committee was mandated by then education minister Pauline Marois to study the place of religion in the schools in light of these changes. The result, after 1½ years' work, is this 270-page report, *Religion in Secular Schools: A New Perspective for Quebec*. It is intended to serve as a

Continued on page 22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From the editor's desk

The unity of whole numbers

In less than two weeks, Israel votes. The campaign is down to its final few days. Political commercials started airing last week on Israeli TV, signalling the fevered and frenzied dash by the main parties and the contending prime ministerial candidates down the stretch run.

The airwaves in Israel are now thick with political messages.

On the cover of this issue we have displayed a collage of six of the very first party commercials that appeared on Israeli television. There is also in this issue an essay by David Goldberg, the director of research and education for the Canada Israel Committee, on some of the similarities and differences between the Israeli and the Canadian political systems.

Despite the differences pointed out by Goldberg in his article, there is, indeed, one key similarity he politely did not mention.

The television messages currently being aired in Israel are like all other political messages aimed at capturing votes from a voting public in a democracy, namely, partisan puffery, negative imaging and cynical self-promotions. Thus, they are familiar to Canadians, too.

The 33 parties running in the Knesset elections, however, do not have unlimited air time to run their commercials. In total, they have 11½ hours of television air time until May 16, the day before the election.

Each party is allowed a precise amount of commercial time on TV, according to a formula which takes into account the number of Knesset members in their ranks.

But even though the parties have 11½ hours available to them, the viewing public will not necessarily be watching 11½ hours of paid political announcements.

Most viewers have cable TV. In this election, unlike previous elections, they can simply "click" away a political commercial.

And many viewers do.

In addition to TV air time, 26 hours have been allocated for election ads on the radio.

Thus, when one combines radio and television electioneering with that in the newspapers, and at workplaces, bus stops, supermarkets and coffee houses, there are very few pockets or spaces of quiet air left unfilled with politics and political commentary.

What is an interested observer of the Israeli elections, many thousands of kilometres away, to make of it all?

The only obviously accurate observation is that the intensity that characterizes Israeli life in general, also characterizes Israeli politics, to a degree that is not common here in Canadian life or Canadian politics.

This "intensity gap" adds to the challenges facing the Canadian Anglo-Jewish press in its coverage of life in Israel.

The CJN toes no political line; nor does it advocate any single approach to Jewish fulfilment. As we have written in this space on many occasions in the past, *The CJN* is committed by mandate and by practice to "serv[ing] the Jewish people in Canada, in Israel and in all its habitations."

We believe one of the highest imperatives of that service requires us, unceasingly, to toe only the line that stands for Jewish unity, and to advocate only the approach that best advances mutual respect and civility among diverse Jewish groups.

I am compelled, therefore, to express regret and disappointment that it appears so much of the political fare offered for viewing on Israeli television is not only antithetical to unity, mutual respect and civility, but actually appears calculated to divide Israelis into increasingly smaller and more fractious factions.

For example, a friend of mine in Israel described for me one of the Meretz party's commercials.

"A secular man is walking across the desert, panting, sweating, carrying a haredi on his back.

He finally throws the haredi fellow off his back and the music comes on: "*Bekarov yihyeh poh tov*." (Soon everything here will be good.)

Without denying the seriousness of the many issues between the haredim and the rest of Israeli society, the message in the Meretz commercial is quite obvious and quite obnoxious.

Equally obnoxious is the message maliciously cultivated by the Shas party in a videotape, in which criminally convicted party chair Aryeh Deri accuses the court system and "the elites" of having framed him in order to destroy both him and his party.

"There is a group," Deri says, "which...decided to establish a secular state in which it is forbidden to mention Torah, Judaism and the Sabbath. They took our youth by the hundreds of thousands, cut them off from the rabbis and the family, and took away their souls."

Though we are only observers of the Israeli election, it is still valid to say, even from the Diaspora, that we should be striving to mold Jewish groupings into stronger units of whole numbers.

The Meretz and the Shas messages do just the opposite.

They are exceedingly odious and even dangerous.

MBD

SEE JN

DOUBLE FUN WALKING FOR ISRAEL

This archival photograph of two obviously happy girls was taken after the UJA Federation walkathon three years ago. This year, Israel Funwalk 99 will be held on May 30. Registration begins at 9:15 a.m. at Nathan Phillips Square. **[Photo by Miller]**

Greater Toronto Area

Golden urges government to tackle homelessness

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The commitment of volunteers at Congregation Darchei Noam and St. Peter's Roman Catholic church, who have teamed up to feed and clothe the homeless as part of the Out of the Cold program, is "just exemplary," said Anne Golden recently.

But volunteers cannot carry the burden alone, said the chair of Toronto Mayor Mel Lastman's Homelessness Action Task Force and president of United Way of Greater Toronto.

"I'm not sure the full impact of our findings has penetrated through all levels of government," said Golden, whose report on homelessness was issued four months ago. She spoke recently at Darchei Noam on Responding to Homelessness: Treating the Symptoms, or Fixing the System, at an evening honoring the Out of the Cold volunteers.

To solve the problem of homelessness, the focus must be on prevention, not reaction, said Golden. "We have to be focused on the causes of homelessness: poverty, mental illness and lack of affordable housing."

Unless we take serious action, she warned, the situation will continue to worsen.

Although homelessness statistics are higher than they sometimes appear – a 31,000-name waiting list for affordable housing actually represents 31,000 heads of families and thus 100,000 people – Golden views the report as "very positive" because of its prescription for strategies like creating more affordable housing, supportive housing for people with special needs, and ensuring a more equitable geographic distribution of low-cost housing and services.

"Homelessness is fixable. We don't have to have this, and we act as if we do."

The response cannot be just local, Golden emphasized. In every city studied, two-thirds of the homeless came from elsewhere, she noted.

Because of increasing rents, tens of thousands of affordable units are being lost, she said. "We need the federal government to get back into the housing business."

Golden's report called for 2,000 new, low-cost housing units a year. That figure was a compromise, she said. "We need a minimum of 4,000. We've never built more than 1,600 units in a year...and I was asked to prepare a report that was doable."

Countries like Israel, she noted, build 50,000 units a year. Two thousand would be "a big accomplishment" for Toronto, she said.

Governmental costs to implement the report's recommendations would amount to a fraction of a percent of the total budget, said Golden, noting also the moral imperative to take action.

"There are enormous costs implicit in doing nothing."

Rabbi Larry Pinsker, spiritual leader of Darchei Noam, also spoke, using Talmudic text to illustrate Jewish obligations with respect to the homeless population.

NEW CHAIR OF WOMEN'S CAMPAIGN

Carole Sterling (centre) is the new UJA Federation Women's Campaign chair for 2000. She was recently installed along with vice-chair Dodi Weil (right). Sterling takes over from past chair Judy Engel (left). Sterling is also a member of UJA Federation's board of directors and was last year's Young Leadership Award winner. In accepting her new position, Sterling stressed the importance of Jewish values and the responsibility of one Jew for another.

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Palestinian terrorist set to appeal deportation ruling

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — An Immigration adjudicator has ordered a Palestinian terrorist living in Brantford, Ont. to be removed from Canada for his role in an attack on an El Al airliner.

However, Mahmoud Mohammad Issa Mohammad plans to appeal the decision to the Immigration and Refugee Board's (IRB) appeal division, according to his lawyer, Barbara Jackman.

Jackman said the adjudicator erred in not considering Mohammad's case on humanitarian and compassionate grounds. If the IRB's appeal division grants the appeal, she will argue that Mohammad should be allowed to remain in Canada because of his lengthy "settlement" here, because his family is here and because the terrorist events took place 30 years ago.

"There is no evidence he has engaged in similar activities or would support similar activities now," she suggested.

Mohammad, 56, was ruled inadmissable to stay in Canada because of his membership in a terrorist organization and his role in terrorist activities.

In 1968, Mohammad was a member of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine when he participated in an attack on an El Al aircraft in Athens. He and an accomplice raked the plane with gunfire and grenades, killing an Israeli passenger.

He was found guilty of manslaughter and sentenced by a Greek court to 17 years in jail. In 1971, after serving less than one year of his sentence, he was pardoned and released, after other Palestinian terrorists hijacked a Greek plane and threatened to blow it up unless Mohammad and seven other Arabs were freed.

Mahmoud Mohammad [file photo]

In 1987, Mohammad received a Canadian immigration visa by concealing his past. After he immigrated to Canada and received permanent residency status, his terrorist role was revealed and immigration authorities began efforts to deport him.

Over a decade ago, an immigration adjudicator ruled he could be deported because he had deliberately lied when he applied for permanent resident status by not admitting his criminal record.

Since then, his case has wound through the legal system, with a side trip to London, England. The RCMP was foiled in its attempt to remove him to North Africa when the Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS) and British intelligence objected during Mohammad's stopover in England. Mohammad returned to Canada and applied for refugee status.

Mohammad works as a contractor in the construction industry, is married and has three children.

Canadian Jewish Congress welcomed the decision to deport Mohammad. "If the international community is to be successful in eradicating terrorism there can be no moratorium on terrorists. By staying the course in regard to Mohammad, Canada has affirmed that terrorism will not be tolerated," said Congress president Moshe Ronen.

"Accepting [a refugee] claim from a convicted terrorist who lied upon entering Canada would have made a mockery of our refugee determination system," Ronen said. "Such flagrant abuse would tarnish Canada's reputation as a country prepared to do its share to fight terrorism while welcoming genuine asylum-seekers whose lives are at risk."

"We are satisfied that the Canadian legal system has worked effectively to achieve justice in this case," said Paul Michaels, director of communications for the Canada-Israel Committee. "We feel that Canada should never be a safe haven for terrorists."

"We are not going to give terrorists protection in Canada, no matter how long ago an act was committed," said Huguette Shouldice, a spokesperson for Immigration Canada.

City of Vaughan
The City Above Toronto

NOTICE OF ADVISTORY COMMITTEE VACANCIES

Appointment to vacancies for the Arts and Culture Advisory Committee and the Youth Advisory Council

The City of Vaughan currently has vacancies for the following committees.

ARTS AND CULTURE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Arts and Culture Advisory Committee shall undertake short and long-term planning initiatives to promote, foster and make accesible arts and culture in the City of Vaughan. Applicants must be residents of the City of Vaughan.

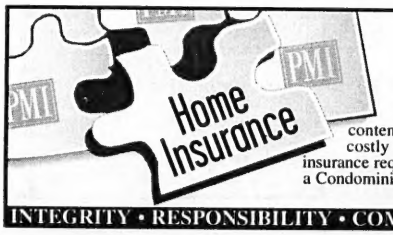
YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Youth Advisory Council promotes the understanding of the workings of local government through education, involvement and participation, and functions as a forum to enhance the responsiveness of the City to those issues which are likely to have a direct impact on the youth of the community. Applicants must be teenage residents of the City of Vaughan.

If you wish to be considered for appointment to the Arts and Culture Advisory Committee or the Youth Advisory Council, please ocmplete an application form available from the City Clerk's Department at the Civic Centre, 2141 Major Mackenzie Drive, and City of Vaughan L:ibraries and Community Centres.

Applications will be received by the undersigned until ***4:30 P.M. ON FRIDAY, MAY 21, 1999***. For further information, please contact Ms. Rose Magnifico, at (905) 832-8585, extension 8030.

J.D. Leach, City Clerk, City of Vaughan Civic Centre, 2141 Major Mackenzie Dr., Vaughan, Ont. L6A 1T1.



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New Village Shul to open

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO – Hundreds of people are expected to attend the grand opening of the new Village Shul, the first synagogue to open in the Bathurst-Eglinton area in many years.

The new 24,000-square-foot building is the culmination of the congregation's development from rented quarters at Beth Lida synagogue on Gilgorm Avenue, to the living room of spiritual leader Rabbi Yaakov Palatnik and on to a storefront on Eglinton Avenue.

Membership has grown from a nucleus of five families, who wanted to find a place they could be comfortable in after studying at Aish HaTorah, to 290 adults – this includes singles and both spouses of married couples.

Rabbi Palatnik moved to Forest Hill with his wife Lori and their children, to head up the project. The programs offered in partnership with Aish HaTorah, include the Jewish Family Institute, which applies the wisdom of Torah and psychology to such topics as raising children, and making good marriages; adult education classes; a Hebrew school; and a bat mitzvah course.

There are daily, Shabbat and holiday services, as well as alternative and instructional ones. A family service will be offered at the new facility.

The Village Shul, located at the corner of Eglinton Avenue and Old Park Road in Forest Hill, opens this week. [Zephyr Studios photo]

The new building will also feature a youth chapel, a patio rooftop, an early childhood learning centre, a library with a fireplace, and a social hall. The main sanctuary will have separate side by side seating for men and women.

"The two sides will be equally able to see and hear everything that is going on on the bimah," said the rabbi.

A seven day a week women's mikvah will open in the not-too-distant future.

Rabbi Palatnik stressed that The Village Shul and its programs are "for the benefit of the whole community, not just for our members."

Celebrations for the opening of the new shul will begin May 7 with a banquet in the new social hall. The first service will be held on Shabbat, followed by a kiddush, and special lectures.

On May 9, the Torah scrolls will be paraded along Eglinton Avenue from the old shul to the new one, accompanied by a klezmer band, dancing and singing. Eglinton will be closed for the event.

Special guest will be Rabbi Noah Weinberg, dean and founder of Aish HaTorah in Jerusalem.

Rabbi Palatnik noted that major backers and supporters include Leslie Dan, Alan Berg and president Peter Friedman.

For more information, and membership inquiries, call The Village Shul at 785-1107.

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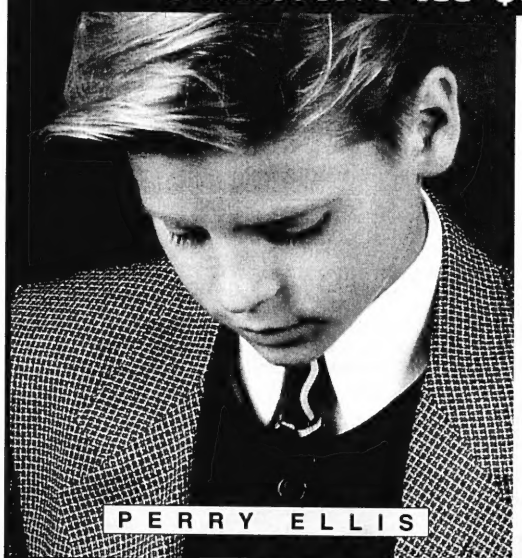

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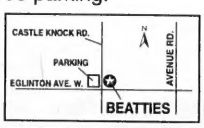

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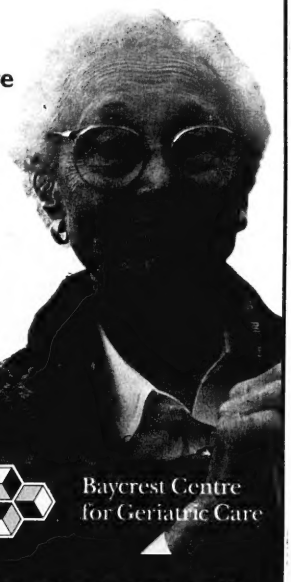

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Editorials and Letters

The Canadian Jewish news

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White wolves

While still in the numbed aftermath of the murderous carnage committed in Littleton, Colo., by the two teenaged worshippers of Adolf Hitler, news came last weekend of the third hate-motivated bombing in three weeks on the streets of London, England.

Two people were killed and more than 70 were injured in the blast that ripped apart the Admiral Duncan pub in the Soho district of London. The pub was known to be a hangout for gays.

London police have tied this bombing to two previous bombings recently, one against Londoners of African-Caribbean descent in Brixton, south London and the other against Asian-Londoners in Brick Lane, east London.

A suspect was taken into custody within 48 hours. But, as the *New York Times* reported, "the arrest failed to quell widespread anxieties among minority groups that they may be the next target of what police depict as a hate-driven racial campaign by extreme rightists that has sent tremors of nervousness across London."

It is with good reason that the anxieties have not been quelled.

A new, extremist, right-wing, evil group called the White Wolves has apparently sprung from underneath the detritus and dark rocks of the gutter to claim responsibility for the latest attack.

"The White Wolves," reports the *New York Times*, "are said to be an offshoot of Combat 18 – which takes its name from the position of Adolf Hitler's initials in the alphabet – itself a violent breakaway group from rightist political organizations."

Along with other minorities in London, the Jewish community has been targeted by these latest neo-Nazi incarnations.

A week before the April 17 bombing in Brixton, someone issued the following public statement on behalf of the White Wolves: "Notice is hereby given that all non-whites and Jews (defined by blood, not religion) must permanently leave the British Isles before the year is out. Jews and non-whites who remain after 1999 has ended will be exterminated."

It is our fervent hope that all major international police forces have already mobilized to co-operate and take whatever measures are necessary to bring these criminals to justice.

Weekend news reports about the Soho bombing mentioned that the White Wolves are believed to have connections with neo-Nazis in the United States and Europe. If the Wolves are connected to violent hatemongers and racists in the United States, they are undoubtedly connected to their Canadian counterparts as well.

We expect, therefore, that the government of Canada will join in what we hope is a co-operative, international law enforcement effort to stop these white predators, white cowards, White Wolves.

By forebears' grace

There is, in Jewish tradition, a notion that good things can happen to someone by dint of the good deeds and the grace of one's forebears. It is called, in Hebrew, *b'zchut avot*, roughly translated as by the merit of one's forebears. It was therefore with great pleasure that one could read in the *New York Times* last Sunday a story about the metaphysical magic of *b'zchut avot*.

The parents of Lamija Jaha, an ethnic Albanian Kosovar, through courage and kindness, saved Davor Bakovic's mother, a Jew, during World War II. Today, Lamija Jaha and her family are in Kibbutz Ma'agan Michael in Israel, rescued from certain brutality and possible death at the hands of Slobodan Milosevic's henchmen.

Because we can never know the future, we must try to perfect the present, if not for the sake of the world, then for the sake of our children.

WISDOM OF THE AGES

"And if your kinfolk becomes downtrodden and he puts out his hand toward you, give him strength." *(Parshat Behar)*

Dry Bones

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Never again justifies NATO bombing

Henry Srebrnik is rethinking his support of NATO air strikes (*CJN*, April 22), as are some Israeli leaders, because they are relating the conflict between Serbs and Kosovar Albanians with the conflict between Arabs and Jews. That is why these leaders are not speaking out against the atrocities being inflicted upon the Kosovar Albanians.

Srebrnik cites incidences in the past where Serbia was a friend of the Jews, and all the other Yugoslav peoples, the Croats, Albanians and Bosnians, were enemies, or at the very least, not friends of the Jews.

Srebrnik forgets one thing which means a great deal to the Jewish people. That is that "never again" applies to Jews as well as non-Jews.

Ethnic cleansing may or may not be genocide or even a holocaust, but it is taking people out of their homes, taking away most of their possessions and driving them to the border. It is taking men and shooting them in the head. It is raping of women. It also means mass graves. We saw what ethnic cleansing meant in Bosnia and we now have a repeat performance.

If this is not a holocaust then it is heading in the right direction. Srebrnik gives logical reasons for the Serbs doing what they are doing. Hitler also had reasons for his actions which people around the world had no quarrel with, even before the war. I often think that if the world had done for the Jewish people in 1939 what NATO is doing for the Kosovar Albanians, how magnanimous that would have been.

No, our motto is "never again," and that applies to all people, no matter what their race, ethnicity, demography, politics or circumstances.

A. Bernstein
Toronto

Bans on Passover foods going too far

In the world of health, diet and fitness there is a woman who has been promoting her particular ideas under the caption "Stop the Insanity!" I think that the same thing applies to how the holiday of Passover is developing. What began (at least according to tradition) as a holiday on which chametz was to be avoided, has now expanded to include a ban on many other things.

Legumes (peanuts, corn, rice, beans, peas) are not grains, but have become prohibited to those who adhere to the Ashkenazi tradition, despite the circuitous "logic" involved in that ban. Now some have added a prohibition against using matzah in any mixture with water. Therefore, knaidlach and cakes made from matzah meal or matzah cake meal have become forbidden to some, and the word gebrokts, has entered the lexicon.

And now, certain fruits and vegetables are no longer considered kosher by some Jews. Try and find broccoli, asparagus, or strawberries in some kosher restaurants. Where will this end? Isn't it enough what the Torah forbids? Do Jews need to look for extreme, unreasonable and far-fetched additional prohibitions to observe? Isn't it time somebody said: "Stop the Insanity?"

Dr. William Klein
London

World never learns the lesson of war

A great sigh of relief echoed through the world on VE day, a half a century ago. "Well," we said, "thank God that's over with." The western world had learned its lesson, and peace, in one form or another, has comforted the residents of our corner of the world ever since.

Recently, however, our eyes have been opened to the duality of the world we live in. Articles and videos that we don't want to see, surround us, grab us, force us to look at human nature in its basest form. Suddenly, the long-forgotten beast has reared its ominous head. The civilized world is aghast. How could we have been so blind? We must stop this war. We must never let this happen again. We have seen too many mass graves. The western world has once again learned its lesson. No longer will oppression and hatred rule any part of our planet, no matter how remote.

It is with this in mind that we all hope and pray for a speedy end to the horrors and atrocities of Kosovo. "Well," we'll say, "thank God that's over with."

At least, that is, until the next war comes along.

David Levine
Age 17
Toronto

Unlike Kosovars, Holocaust Jews had no hope

It was interesting to read Rabbi Gunther Plaut's remarks as to the difference between the expulsion of the Kosovars, and the Shoah. (*CJN*, Apr. 22)

In a catastrophic event, when people are brutally expelled from their homes, facing a threatening and unknown future, the only thing left is hope. The Kosovars realistically have that hope, knowing that efforts are underway to feed them and provide some shelter. NATO even promises them an eventual return to their homeland.

The victims of the Holocaust, however, were robbed of any glimmer of hope, facing nothing but anguish, torture and death.

Eric Weldon
Montreal

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures. Letters sent by e-mail must also include the sender's municipal address.

Perspectives

The Israeli and Canadian political systems: a primer and critical comparison

By DAVID GOLDBERG

Israel and Canada are fellow democracies. Both have enshrined in their political cultures basic precepts of democracy. These include constitutionally guaranteed freedoms of speech and assembly, universal suffrage, multi-party electoral systems, respect for human rights, a professional civil service, and the hallmark "checks and balances" on political power, such as an independent judiciary, independent press and independent police force.

Nevertheless, despite these shared democratic values and traditions, there are important differences between the Israeli and Canadian political systems, several of which emerge in the current campaign leading up to the May 17th elections in Israel. This article will highlight some of these differences.

Canada's Parliament [Jeff Rosen photo]

Whereas Canada has a bicameral parliament, comprised of the House of Commons and the Senate, Israel's legislative system is unicameral, centred exclusively around the Knesset. The members of the House of Commons are chosen directly through a constituency-based "first past the post" electoral system, and the senators are appointed by the prime minister, ostensibly in consultation with the provincial premiers. The members of Israel's 120-seat Knesset, however, are elected in an indirect manner, with their entry to the Knesset determined by their placement on party lists.

Unlike Canada, which is divided into 301 separate ridings, all of Israel is one big riding. The number of Knesset seats won by a party is based on its share of the popular vote.

Canada's electoral process is based on the British parliamentary tradition. By contrast, Israel's electoral system has its roots in the complex political compromises that were made in the early days of the Zionist movement and in the pre-state Jewish community (Yishuv) in mandatory Palestine.

In order to ensure maximum participation in the political enterprise unfolding in Palestine, each party and political faction was accorded a degree of representation roughly equivalent to its size and popularity. This system of proportional representation, forms of which are common in Europe, was adopted by Israel when it achieved statehood in 1948.

For the first four decades of independence, the percentage of votes cast that enabled a party to win a seat in the Knesset was one percent. The percentage was increased to 1.5 percent in 1992.

Thus, for a party to win a seat in the upcoming 15th Knesset, it will need approximately 55,000 votes.This system of proportional representation, coupled with the low Knesset-entry "hurdle," historically, have prevented any one Israeli party from winning a clear majority of seats in the Knesset, leading in turn, to the formation of complex coalition arrangements generally unseen in Canada.

Moreover, though Canadians aspiring to enter politics usually need the endorsement of their local riding associations and/or the national parties, for the most part we have not experienced the kind of horse-trading and backroom dealings that have traditionally typified the process by which Israeli political parties form their electoral lists.

The Israeli and Canadian systems differ also in the ways in which they select their heads of state and heads of government.

The head of state in Canada is the British monarch, represented by the governor general. By custom, he or she is formally appointed by the monarch, on the advice of Canada's prime minister.

Israel's head of state, the president *(nasi)*, is formally elected by the Knesset. Historically, the election of the president has been perfunctory, with the candidate already being agreed upon by the major parties.

However, this has not always been the case. Indeed, Israel's current president, Ezer Weizman, was re-elected in March 1998 with 63 of 120 Knesset votes, after an intense and open challenge from his competitor, Likud member of Knesset Shaul Amor.

The powers and responsibilities of Canada's governor general and the president of Israel are generally similar. Both represent their countries in official functions, administer oaths of office to senior government officials and supreme court justices, and receive the credentials of foreign diplomats.

The Canadian head is empowered to invite the leader of the largest party in the legislature to form a new government. With the adoption of the direct election of the prime minister in 1996, (more about this development in a moment) this power and responsibility were taken away from Israel's president.

While it is not unheard of for the governor general to comment on public policy, this has occurred only in exceptional circumstances. By contrast, Israeli presidents have more frequently used their office to comment on, and try to influence the affairs of state. This has most certainly been the case with the current president, Ezer Weizman, though previous presidents too have sought to intervene in the day-to-day functioning of the government.

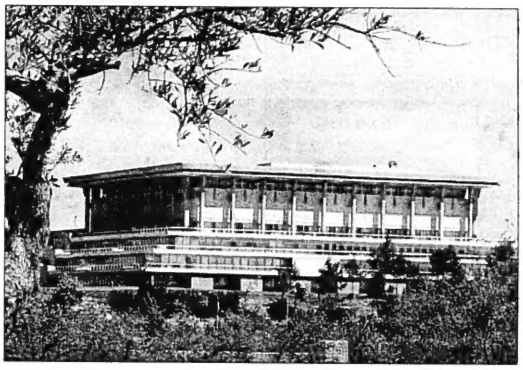
In both countries, the head of government is the prime minister. In Canada, the person who leads the party that gains the most seats in an election is asked by the head of state to form a government, and thereby become the prime minister.

Until 1996, that was also the method for choosing the prime minister in Israel.

Since then, Israel's prime minister is chosen through direct election simultaneous with the election for the Knesset. If no candidate receives a majority of the votes, a run-off ballot between the two leading candidates must be held. If necessary, the run-off will be held on June 1.

According to the amended Basic Law: The Government, a candidate for prime minister may be nominated by a party, or a group of parties, holding at least 10 seats in the outgoing Knesset, or by a petition bearing the signature of 50,000 eligible Israeli voters.

In the current election, the campaign by Ze'ev Binyamin (Benny) Begin – leader of the new Herut-Moledet-Tekumah right-wing coalition – was saved when 10 members of the outgoing (14th) Knesset agreed to endorse his candidacy for prime minister.



Israel's Knesset

By contrast, another declared candidate for prime minister, former Moledet Knesset member Yosef Bagad, was disqualified when it was discovered that many of the signatures in support of his candidacy were fraudulent, and when he failed to gain the endorsement of 10 Knesset members.

Israel's prime minister-elect has 45 days in which to form a government. By law, the cabinet must be comprised of no fewer than eight ministers (including the prime minister), and no more than 18. There is no legal requirement for cabinet ministers to be members of the Knesset, though all must be eligible to run for the Knesset. So it was, that Ya'akov Ne'eman served for a time as minister of finance in the Netanyahu government, without ever becoming a member of Knesset.

Similarly, in Canada, Prime Minister Jean Chrétien first brought unelected Stephane Dion and Pierre Pettigrew into the federal cabinet, though both subsequently successfully contested seats in Parliament.

Unlike Canada, where senior members of the governmental bureaucracy are usually professional civil servants, in Israel, it is often the case that senior bureaucrats, including deputy cabinet ministers, are either political appointees or members of the Knesset.

This "politicization" of the senior civil service is one consequence of the many and complex compromises an Israeli prime minister must make to form a coalition government out of the chaos that arises from an electoral system comprised of, literally, scores of political parties and special interest groups.

To be sure, Israelis and Canadians are both able to boast that they have multi-party electoral systems. However, there are multi-party systems and there are multi-party systems! Canada's House of Commons is presently comprised of five political parties; by comparison, the 14th Knesset was comprised of a total of 11 parties, and there are some 33 parties registered to contest the elections to the new Knesset!

Most analysts conclude that this is indeed a recipe for chaos and confusion, if not outright political stalemate!

As already noted, Israel's system of proportional representation, combined with the low threshold for winning seats in the Knesset, encourage the participation in the electoral process of an extraordinarily large number of political parties, representing a wide array of special interests and positions on the ideological spectrum.

Moreover, the electoral system militates against any one party winning a majority of seats in the Knesset. Indeed, in Israel's 51 years of statehood, there has never been a majority government.

Of course, minority governments and coalition governments are not unheard of in Canadian politics. However, given the limited number of parties contesting elections, coalition governments tend to be the exception rather than the rule in Canada.

The reverse is the case in Israel. It is difficult to imagine a party emerging from the May 17th elections with a majority of seats. This means that the prime minister-elect will have to form a governing coalition based on the kind of complex political compromises and "dirty" backroom deals rarely experienced in Canadian politics.

In the final analysis, there are indeed many differences between the Israeli and Canadian political and electoral systems. The essential characteristic of the two systems however, is that they share an overriding loyalty to democracy. Each has adapted their democratic institutions to the many unique political challenges confronting them.

Of course, neither system is ideal. What system on earth is? But, to paraphrase Winston Churchill, while the Israeli and Canadian derivatives of democracy may not be perfect, they are infinitely better than any derivative of non-democratic government.

David Goldberg is director of research and education for the Canada-Israel Committee.

Opinions

Burying my last aunt

My Aunt Alice, who recently died in California, was born in 1897 into a family of 15 children, of whom 13 grew to adulthood. She was destined to live just about the entire 20th century – and what a life it was!

Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

Early on, she exhibited intellectual capacity, and was sent to various special schools, including university – which in those days was unusual for a daughter of a highly conservative Jewish family in Germany. Women were destined for family life and not for a career.

But Aunt Alice had her own plans. She graduated from university and then went to postgraduate school. Though in the early 1920s she even earned a PhD in physics and chemistry, she could not get a job for quite a while, being both Jewish and a woman.

Fortunately, she met her future husband whose meteoric career in the judiciary was equally remarkable, for he became the chief justice of one of Germany's states – an achievement that was also a rare exception for a Jew.

Not long thereafter, however, when the Nazis came to power, her husband was humiliated and discharged, loaded on a truck and exhibited for public view with a placard around his neck which proclaimed him to be a Jewish traitor, and therefore to be despised and spat upon.

Emigration followed soon thereafter for the two, and South Africa gave them a haven. There, Alice became the initial breadwinner for the family, concocting cosmetic creations – something she had learned to do when studying chemistry. The couple had one son. Eventually Alice's husband did pass his law examinations, but before long, fate felled him, and he died in 1960 while returning to South Africa from a trip abroad. (They had visited my mother on her 70th birthday.)

Alice now migrated again, and joined her son, who had settled in New York. She engaged in a series of activities as a volunteer in the Jewish community. An avid reader and intellectual, she was also a great hiker, a member of the Sierra Club, and outdid many of her friends when climbing mountainous terrains on their regular excursions.

She made a wonderful circle of friends and was proud of her son, who, like his father, had his own splendid career that led him to become the president of one of the United States' great retail stores, Mac's West. In the course of his changing posts, Alice went along with him, first to Los Angeles, then to Houston, back to Los Angeles, and eventually to San Francisco, where she died.

She was the last of her kind, my mother's younger sister. Only 11 years ago, the two of them and one other sister, still met at a European resort for their annual summer get-together. Today all three are gone.

I flew to California to be at the funeral and comfort the family as well as myself. Now a chapter in my own life has been closed, and my generation is the oldest one in our clan.

I am most fortunate to belong to a family that produced the likes of my Aunt Alice. The century comes to a close, but her memory will always be alive.

Election countdown

Two weeks before Israelis go to the polls, any prediction I make is bound to be risk laden. However, a few things are clear. Unless Itzik Mordechai, leader of the new centrist party, withdraws his candidacy for prime minister before May 17, for the first time in their history, Israelis will vote in a run-off, scheduled for June 1.

Shira Herzog in Toronto

That vote will decide the prime minister, and any polls that speculate on the results of that vote are, indeed, merely speculative. They are anticipating a hypothetical situation that the voters have never faced. And how those voters really behave will be determined by the results of the Knesset vote on May 17, and not just by their stated preferences at this time.

It is also clear that the results of the prime ministerial vote will depend on the behavior of three distinct blocs: the haredim who support Benjamin Netanyahu, the Israeli Arabs who support Ehud Barak, and the Russian Israelis who support Netanyahu. The haredim tend to vote en bloc, in a highly disciplined fashion. The Arabs may not show up in full force on June 1, and any drop in their voting participation will adversely affect Barak. In turn, if the Russian voters stay at home, this will adversely affect Netanyahu.

In 1996, Netanyahu won by only 15,000 votes, and the result could be just as close this time around. The two weeks separating the votes are likely to be an intense period of negotiations, as the two remaining contenders (probably Barak and Netanyahu) vie for promises of support that will get them over the 50 percent threshold.

There are two deeper trends that can also be discerned. First, is the general acknowledgement that whatever the results of the vote, the country needs a national unity government, comprising both Labor and Likud.

Netanyahu has learned the lesson of his first term of office, when he governed with a majority that hamstrung him on the peace process, and finally led to this month's early elections. He risked losing his majority if he proceeded with the peace process, and he risked losing it if he did nothing. Furthermore, the centre-right in Israeli politics knows that it has to stay close to the centre mainstream if it is to have broad public support.

Labor, for its part, has internalized the bitter lessons of Yitzhak Rabin's assassination. It knows that in order to lead effectively on the peace issue, it cannot be perceived as being dependent on a "leftist government." Even if either party can get its own Knesset majority with the support of the new centrist party, only a coalition of Labor and Likud sends a message of broad support. In reality, therefore, the election is about who will lead a unity government.

Just weeks before the election was called, Netanyahu and Barak had essentially completed negotiations over formation of a national unity government. The agreement was never carried out, because of the lack of trust between the two men. A new election may compel them to act, and may even challenge them as leaders of their respective parties.

This may explain the low-key nature of the campaign, even as Election Day nears. The public knows full well that there are no great differences on the peace issue among the three leading candidates for prime minister. Indeed, both Barak and Mordechai have a stronger track record on security than does Netanyahu. And a majority of Israelis have repeatedly indicated their willingness to make further concessions to the Palestinians, including accepting the establishment of a Palestinian state, on certain clear conditions that safeguard Israel's security. The election, therefore, is about leadership and style.

A second, related trend is a general disenchantment with politicians. The lukewarm reaction of politicians across the board to the conviction of Shas leader Aryeh Deri has reinforced the public perception that any principle can be compromised for the sake of political gain. The outcry has come from the public, the media and even the attorney general.

Underlying it all is a sense that the values of the rule of law and the nature of Israeli democracy are profound issues that need to be debated. There is also a feeling that the Netanyahu government has not been outspoken enough in its defence of these principles. A recent, vicious, verbal attack on the police and the judiciary by Avigdor Liberman, one of Netanyahu's closest political allies and leader of a new Russian party, has reinforced this sense.

But even this critical debate is overshadowed by what remains the central issue, the future relationship with the Palestinians, and negotiations over the outstanding political and territorial questions. Israelis will vote for the man whom they believe can best lead them on this difficult road.

Fallout from Colorado

As more information comes about the horrible school shootings in the affluent suburb of Littleton, Col., we discover a clear neo-Nazi connection. The two shooters apparently timed their massacre to coincide with Hitler's birthday.

Morton Weinfeld in Montreal

They wore swastikas or swastika-like symbols on their clothes. They frequented neo-Nazi Web sites, and spent several years learning German. They liked music infused with racist and neo-Nazi sentiments.

What can be done? Serious gun control is long overdue in the United States. Parents must be vigilant and observant about their children's behavior. Teachers and police officers must pay attention to aberrant behavior, which is not easy to do, because so many teens naturally seek to challenge the boundaries of adult authority. Others are attracted to cults and eccentric behavior as a way to establish their individuality.

But is there not a deeper problem? While general crime rates in the United States have been declining, teenage crime is up, notably among young girls. The fatal assault on B.C. teenager Reena Virk, by young girls in the main, is in some ways as shocking as the Colorado shootings.

There is a culture of violence — and promiscuous sexuality — which has indeed been gaining ground, as can be seen most clearly in movies, computer games and television. This feeds into the racist and anti-Semitic movements which use the Internet as well as other media and art forms to spread their hateful messages. It is crucial to regulate the content of these media, no matter how challenging the task.

The cries of civil libertarians about the dangers of censorship should not lead to inaction, particularly in the United States. Regulation is required, which is not the same as censorship. It should be apparent that these media can be as harmful as tobacco and alcohol, which are regulated, and hard drugs, which are banned.

Civil libertarians are quick to argue that even the Bible is suffused with physical and sexual violence: Were not the Amalekites the first victims of attempted genocide? Should it too be off limits? (Actually, I recall in Hebrew school that our teachers would periodically skip certain portions of the Torah. After a while we quickly figured out that those were the juicy parts and read them more intently than the assigned verses.)

But the difference between the Bible and the trashy violence and racism in contemporary culture is twofold. First there is a difference in degree and sensory impact. Seeing blood and gore, enhanced by Hollywood's wizardry, is likely more influential than reading about it.

Second, for each instance of violence, the Bible has many, many examples of uplifting and inspiring morality. A civilization that can go to the moon and still revere Shakespeare can learn to differentiate between cutting edge artistic freedom and messages promoting hate and violence.

But there is no reason to undermine needed efforts at reform by overstating the problem or assuming it is unprecedented. Young adults have long been fascinated with violence, well before the advent of modern communications media, though perhaps today the problems occur at a younger age.

Universities in Europe, throughout the 19th and early 20th century, were full of student movements characterized by terrorist, nihilistic, and suicidal impulses, that arose from ideologies of both the right and left. Germany, Russia and Bosnia were particular centres. Brawls, duels, suicides, as well as cult-like rituals and secret fraternities, were not uncommon.

So the causes of the irrational violence of the Littleton teens are likely more deeply rooted than the prevailing currents in our culture and society. These clearly play a role. But so may genetic predispositions to psychopathology. So may generic patterns of neglect or abuse found among well-meaning parents. Even trained mental health professionals can be fooled by violent teens, as was the case in Colorado, where the two teens were positively assessed just a few weeks before the tragedy.

If we cannot eliminate all the root causes of this evil, we should at least limit the opportunities for it to be expressed. Control the guns and regulate the trash.

The Kirshner File

Israel's ties with Egypt fraught with tension

Twenty years ago, in an elaborate ceremony in Washington which seemed to presage a new, hopeful era in Middle East politics, Israel and Egypt promulgated an historic peace treaty.

Sheldon Kirshner in Toronto

With it, Israel signed its first peace agreement with an Arab country, and neutralized its most dangerous military adversary.

Two decades on, Israel and Egypt maintain peaceful relations, the overriding objective of the accord. The border is quiet. Israeli tourists are free to visit Egypt and vice versa. There is trade and a modicum of co-operation in certain fields.

And yet, as Israeli politicians and commentators are wont to say, the treaty has fallen short in one major respect. Israel's relationship with Egypt remains incomplete because full normalization is still a lofty goal, rather than a concrete achievement.

In fact, "cold peace" is probably the phrase which best describes the state of Israel's ties with Egypt today.

Both sides are disillusioned. Although Egypt's ambassador to Israel, Mohammed Bassiouny, claims that relations are "normal" rather than chilly, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak declared recently that the treaty will "stay cold" for a long time to come. And several months ago, the former Israeli envoy to Egypt, Moshe Sasson, observed: " The peace with Egypt has never been at such a low ebb."

Sasson has a point, though he overlooks one important fact. At the height of the 1982 war in Lebanon, Israel turned a blind eye to the Phalange massacre of civilians in two Palestinian refugee camps, Sabra and Shatila. This prompted Egypt to recall its resident ambassador, Saad Mortada, in Tel Aviv. Egypt did not appoint a replacement until 1986, a reflection of deep-seated anger and disappointment on the official and unofficial levels.

The treaty, a watershed in the annals of the Arab-Israeli conflict, was the culmination of a process informed by high hopes, war weariness and a change of regime in Egypt.

For 18 years, Egypt was ruled by Gamal Abdel Nasser, a fervent Arab nationalist who, through three wars in 1948, 1956 and 1967, never really reconciled himself to Israel. His successor, Anwar Sadat, more of an Egyptian patriot than a pan-Arabist, initiated the 1973 Yom Kippur War to regain the Sinai Peninsula.

On the first day of the war, Egypt stormed across the Suez Canal, captured Israel's string of fortifications there – the Bar-Lev Line – and established a beachhead in Sinai. The three-week war essentially ended in a stalemate, and resulted in a series of negotiations sponsored by the United States which climaxed with a series of Israeli withdrawals from Sinai and the 1979 peace treaty.

Sadat had five broad, inter-related goals when he entered into talks with Israel: to wrest back every square inch of Sinai; to resolve the festering Palestinian question; to develop Egypt's battered economy; to supplant the Soviet Union with the United States as Egypt's super power ally; and to position Egypt for a continual influx of American aid. (Last year, Egypt received $775 million and $1.3 billion (US) respectively in economic and military assistance from Washington).

Sadat's visit to Israel in 1977, one giant step in the march toward peace, created the conditions for the 1978 Camp David Accords, which envisaged the return of Sinai to Egypt and self-determination for the Palestinians. Camp David, in turn, spawned the 1979 treaty.

During the course of these arduous negotiations, Israel and Egypt quarrelled over the depth of Israel's pull-out from Sinai. Israel's prime minister, Menachem Begin, was loathe to relinquish Jewish settlements like Yamit in northeastern Sinai, but finally had to do so.

Once that problem was solved, there were two further sources of tension which, Egypt claims, blocked normalization. First, Begin refused to stop building new settlements in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, claiming that he had never promised to do so. Second, the Palestinian autonomy talks, which the Palestinians boycotted in any case, got hopelessly bogged down in a welter of intractable disputes over their self-governing powers.

Neither was Egypt pleased by Israel's 1981 bombing of Iraq's nuclear reactor near Baghdad. In 1982, the Egyptians condemned Israel's invasion of Lebanon. Five years later, they sided with the Palestinians when the intifadah broke out.

Israel's 1989 decision to give up Taba – a Sinai enclave bordering Eilat – dispelled some of the bitterness. But Taba was merely a truce. Egypt, much to Israel's annoyance, continued to lobby for a Palestinian state under the administration of the PLO.

With the 1993 Oslo agreement, Israel's mercurial relations with Egypt improved markedly, but not to a degree which satisfied the new government of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, who complained of an "ill wind" blowing in from Cairo.

By 1994, Israel and Egypt were embroiled in a nasty spat over Israel's refusal to sign the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty. As this dispute simmered, Amr Moussa, Egypt's foreign minister, ruffled feathers by refusing to don a yarmulke while visiting Yad Vashem, the Holocaust memorial-cum-museum in Jerusalem.

Since Benjamin Netanyahu's election as prime minister in 1996, the situation has gone from bad to worse.

Within a month of his victory over Labor party candidate Shimon Peres, Netanyahu met with Mubarak in Cairo, assuring him that he had every intention of pressing ahead with Oslo. But soon, Mubarak accused Netanyahu of prevaricating and of doublecrossing him.

Since then, with the Har Choma housing project in eastern Jerusalem, the expansion of Israeli settlements in the territories and the breakdown of the 1998 Wye memorandum, Mubarak has charged Netanyahu's government with undermining the peace process.

By way of reaction, Egypt has spearheaded an Arab League campaign to stymie Israel's efforts to deepen nascent relations with Arab countries such as Morocco, Tunisia, Qatar and Oman.

In addition, Egypt boycotted a 1997 economic conference in Qatar, scheduled to be attended by Israel. Several months ago, Egypt rejected an Israeli request to take part in Cairo's international book fair on the grounds that Israel was not fully implementing the Wye agreement.

Egypt's unfriendly attitude, however, is not just rooted in its criticism of Israel's policy. Egypt regards Israel as a serious regional rival.

Hosni Mubarak

Due to these considerations, the quality of Egypt's bilateral ties with Israel leaves much to be desired. In all but two sectors, agriculture and trade, Egypt has discouraged co-operation. Relatively few Egyptians visit Israel. Cultural ties are all but non-existent. The vast majority of Egyptian intellectuals are hostile. Professional syndicates – doctors, lawyers and so on – shun Israel altogether. The Egyptian mass media is vehemently anti-Israel and occasionally anti-Semitic.

Given the inhospitable climate, few observers are surprised that Mubarak has not freed Azzam Azzam, an Israeli Druze who was accused of spying for Israel and given a 15-year prison sentence.

Mubarak himself, while having hosted Israeli leaders in Egypt, has studiously rejected Israeli invitations for a reciprocal visit. As president, he has visited Israel only once, in 1995 for Rabin's funeral.

"Life is a great big canvas, and you should throw all the paint on it you can."
– Danny Kaye

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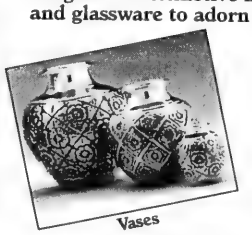

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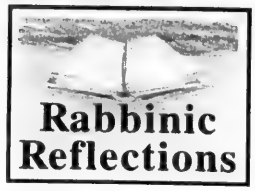

Proclaiming freedom for all the people

By RABBI RONNIE CAHANA

This week's Torah portion teaches us about the holiness of space. What sort of home do we build? What sort of temple do we make for ourselves? What sort of a society do we take responsibility for?

Just as on Pesach there is a cleansing, both inside all Jewish establishments and in ourselves, so is there a spiritual need to live so that we treat all people and all matters with holiness and dignity; creating a temple in our midst.

The Torah speaks of proclaiming freedom in the land to all the inhabitants. (Lev. 25:10.) It is through the land, through the way we live with our society and our community, and how we love what we have, that brings freedom.

Unfortunately, many people have cultivated the idea that they are never to feel at home. They stay perpetual strangers and outsiders (as if this gives a unique and valued status). Many like to say, "I feel Jewish in Canada and Canadian in Israel." To them, a Jew is never to find home.

The Torah, however, teaches us to make the stranger find home. "Proclaim freedom for *all* the people." It does not say to do this just for the citizens or just for the slaves or the elite or the farmers or the intelligentsia. Proclaim freedom so that *all* can be free, and none will feel oppressed.

The freedom that will come to Kosovo must be more than just remaining in Serbia. Freedom cannot be coupled with destruction (not in Belgrade, not in Pristina), and the world is waiting to see how the Kosovar refugees will be treated, as well as to see if democracy will truly replace the dictatorship. These are ethical principles that the religion of Torah insists upon.

The value in Torah is that the world is God's. The holy land, as well as its produce, is God's, and the land itself must be accorded a Shabbat to recognize God as the creator and owner.

Holiness is in the detail of love, in the cultivation of peace and rest to all things, so that they can restore. Every society, every community, must be led with a sense of giving everyone a higher mission, or everyone is dragged underground. Every seven years, a Shabbat is given to all who might feel oppressed and burdened, so that there can be no misuse under the guise of law or under the guise of emergency.

I am reminded of the story of the child who played hide-and-seek alone. After 30 minutes, he realized sadly that no one was looking for him. So, one would think, it is with God. Many people who read the Torah do not look for God inside it. Many who come to the holy land, do not look to see God there. Many of us don't take responsibility for what society is doing to others. We continue to make others feel like strangers, and to justify that they should feel oppressed.

"And you shall not hurt one another but you should fear your God, for I, God, am your God." (Lev. 25:17.) The Torah teaches that you should fear God so that you don't deceive yourself nor oppress with false justifications. God watches over all and we should never forget it. Shabbat Shalom.

Rabbi Cahana is spiritual leader of the Lodzer Holocaust Centre in Toronto.

Israel's political parties

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

As election day approaches, we continue to survey the Web sites Israelis are surfing as they prepare to vote for the next Knesset.

Not surprisingly, one of the largest sites belongs to Israel's ruling Likud party **[http://www.likud.org.il/english/index.html]**. The English part has sections devoted to party platform ("will not cave in to Arafat; protecting a united Jerusalem") and a message from Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. However, in the Hebrew area, the site excels. There, you can listen to the Likud jingle **[http://www.likud.org.il/b3d.html]** or even watch three slick television ads about Likud and view a message from the prime minister. Likud Holland also operates a bilingual Dutch/English site **[http://alpha.nedernet.nl/~likoed/]**.

The Labor party has also set up an impressive Hebrew-only site **[http://www.avoda.org.il/]**. There are profiles of leader Ehud Barak and other Labor members of Knesset, and there's an area where you are invited to participate in a debate about the election **[http://www.avoda.org.il/forum.html]**.

You can view four Labor party TV commercials at the One Israel site **[http://www.oneisrael.co.il/]**. The Labor youth wing operates its own Web page **[http://www.geocities.com/CapitolHill/1548/]** complete with a Top Ten List of Things You Should Know About Ehud Barak.

Halchud HaLeumi **[http://www.gezernet.co.il/tgs/ICHUD/english.html]** is a coalition of the Moledet **[http://www.moledet.org.il/]**, Herut and Tekumah parties. Led by prime ministerial candidate Benny Begin, the party opposes the Wye agreement and supports "the acceleration of Jewish settlement in all parts of the Land of Israel."

The Third Way **[http://www.thirdway.org.il/]** is Avigdor Kahalani's centrist political party. Kahalani, a former member of the Labor party, objects to withdrawal from the Golan Heights.

Tsomet is headed by veteran politician Rafael Eitan **[http://www.tsomet.org.il]**. According to its platform, "the people of Israel has the sole right to the Land of Israel." Like most election sites, this one has information in Hebrew and English. But in a nod to the political realities of Israel, this one also has pages in Russian and Amharic, the language of the Ethiopian immigrants.

At Hadash, the Communist party of Israel Web site, "the struggle goes on" **[http://www.hadash.org.il/]**. A predominantly Arab party, Hadash (along with the Balad party) had five seats in the previous Knesset. A feature article in *Ha'aretz* magazine said Hadash-Balad MK Azmi Bishara is "perhaps the most articulate, thoughtful and effective adversary of Zionist ideology in Israel today." **[http://www.muwatin.org/citizenazmi.htm]**.

The headline at Israel's Green party **[http://www.yerukim.org/]** will probably turn heads: "Peace in Israel is only a matter of time. But what happens until then?" The Hebrew-only Web site is concerned with such issues as water and air quality, urban sprawl and chemical and biological waste.

Several prominent parties have decided not to establish a presence on the Web. For background on Agudat Yisrael, Mercaz, Yisrael Beitenu, Degel HaTorah, Shas and the National Religious Party, check out the Jerusalem Post site **[http://www.jpost.co.il/Info/Elections99]**, Jewish Telegraphic Agency **[http://www.jta.org/elect.htm]**, Israel Wire **[http://www.israelwire.com/elections.html]** and in Hebrew, Yedioth Aharonot **[http://www.elections-yedioth.co.il]**.

Any veteran politician would agree that politics is a gamble. Ezra Tisona would surely agree. The millionaire is the founder of Israel's Casino party **[http://www.zyworld.com/casinoparty/]**. Tisona says betting should be decriminalized and casinos should be set up throughout the country.

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a Toronto-based television producer who writes, lectures and teaches about the Jewish Internet. He can be contacted at [mdm@inforamp.net].

Midrashic Moments

Story of Ruth and Naomi

By RACHAEL TURKIENICZ

The holiday of Shavuot is approaching and our thoughts turn to the Book of Ruth and the story of Ruth and Naomi. It is the story of a bond that forms between two women – Ruth, a Moabite and Naomi, an Israelite.

The story begins with Naomi and her family – her husband and her two sons. As Naomi begins her journey, she is the only woman surrounded by a family of men.

Within the first chapter of the book all the men of her family die and Naomi finds herself surrounded by her daughters-in-law. Thus the story quickly recontextualizes Naomi from a woman among men to a woman among women.

Her daughter-in-law, Ruth, articulates her loyalty to Naomi and formally converts to Judaism. Her declaration begins with the now famous words: "Whither thou goest, I will go."

Interestingly, these words take place at a time in the story when there is no male presence. The husbands have died and Boaz (the husband-to-be) has not yet appeared.

In fact, Naomi has just finished telling her daughters-in-law that she has no ability to provide any men for them and thus the possibility of potential men has also been dismissed.

The text has reinforced the absolutely female setting within which Ruth's words are spoken. Also, Naomi is returning from the land of Moab to the land of Israel. In essence, Naomi is returning from living in exile back to the covenantal land.

There is a beautiful midrash that echoes these ideas and speaks to Ruth's declaration. Numbers Rabbah states that the Shchinah would accompany Israel whenever she was exiled. The Shchinah is God's Presence on earth and the rabbis state several times throughout midrash and Talmud that the Shchinah is intrinsically tied to the Jewish people and their deeds.

The rabbis have assured us that whether we are in exile or in the land of Israel, God has never abandoned us for the Shchinah has followed us wherever we go. The Shchinah is also always referred to in the feminine form.

When Ruth declares to Naomi that she will follow her from Moab to Israel, from Naomi's exile to her promised land, from Ruth's homeland to her self-imposed exile, she has declared an understanding of one of the basic fundamental pillars of Judaism: The covenant bonds God and the Jewish people. The covenant embodies loyalty; neither party can abandon the other.

Wherever we may be, the Shchinah will be with us and we must strive to return that loyalty. On Shavuot, when we celebrate the receiving of the Torah and the covenant it contains, we should hear Ruth's words echoing: "Whither thou goest, I will go."

Valuable lessons learned in Israel

Guest Voice

By LAURIE FAINER

One of the elements of Judaism that I enjoy the most is its spirituality, the fact that prayer, whether it is your own or from a siddur, no matter where you pray, will lead you to feel closer to God.

When I first informed my rabbi that I might be interested in the rabbinate, he suggested that I should visit Israel, and have Judaism and its spirituality enter my life on an daily basis.

The program suggested was a four-month exchange, known as the NFTY Eisendrath International Exchange. After much fundraising and soul searching, I began my journey from Hamilton, Ont. to Israel, as the only Canadian participant in a group of 29.

This program allows the participant to become completely immersed in Hebrew language and Jewish history. What made the history lessons unique, was that we would learn about an ancient story or ruin, and then we would go out and see the relics, or walk where our ancestors had.

We had general studies in the afternoon. For me, they were chemistry and economics, and I received full credit for all four courses from my home high school.

The program also showed us modern culture. We spent eight weeks at the Hebrew Union College campus in Jerusalem, and then some time living with an Israeli host family, and two weeks on Reform kibbutzim. After that, we spent a week in Gadna, in army training, which every Israeli must do the year before they enter the army.

Periodically, we would go on extended trips around Israel, such as a hike from the Mediterranean to the Kinneret seas; and an outward-bound experience in the Negev, where we hiked in the desert, slept under the stars, snorkeled in Eilat, slept and dined in a Bedouin tent, and rode camels.

After my trip, I realized that three things had had an impact on me.

First, I found that staying with a host family was beneficial. It helped me to feel like an Israeli citizen. The fact that I had to take city buses for 45-minute rides in the morning and at night by myself, enabled me to learn the whole central area of Jerusalem like the back of my hand.

I found out that Israeli families' norms and values are quite different from ours. For example, in North America, we put limits such as curfews on teenage children. However, in Israel, it seems that once children turn 15, they are given a key, and told they can come and go as they please, which they do readily.

In some ways, this freedom is a good thing, for it helps prepare the children for their army service, where they are in charge of themselves.

Secondly, before I left for Israel, I heard that Reform Judaism was dead in Jerusalem. I wanted to verify this before I made any such assumptions. I am pleased to report, however, that there is a Reform congregation, Kol Haneshema, which has a growing population, and several other Reform synagogues are starting up in Israel.

I found that in Israel, you didn't have to search too hard to experience holiness. There was a sense of spirituality everywhere, whether at a market or at the Western Wall.

I enjoyed the fact that the services were all in Hebrew, and that things just shut down for High Holy Days. For example, on Yom Kippur you can literally run through the streets, as it is against the law to drive.

Lastly, I found that Israeli people deal with fear very differently from North Americans. There were times when bombs would go off only a few streets away, and although they wouldn't let us into the area for a few days, we were encouraged to go back when the restrictions had been lifted. You have to make an effort not to live in fear in Israel. If you let it affect you, then the terrorists are essentially winning.

This trip was an experience that taught me, not just about my heritage, but about living in a society unlike my own. I also learned many valuable lessons about myself.

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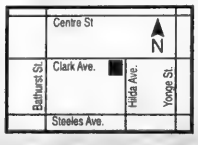

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USDS students assist kids in developing countries

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO – Students at the Bayview Campus of United Synagogue Day School (USDS) have donated nearly 200 kits of school supplies to children in developing countries.

The kits were presented at a special assembly last week to Craig Kielburger, the 16-year-old founder of Free the Children, an organization that provides school and health supplies for needy youngsters in such places as India, Brazil, Senegal, Kenya, and the Balkans.

The material collected by USDS students is earmarked for use by the Mandela Children's Fund in South Africa.

Kielburger explained that in many countries, including South Africa, children cannot attend school if they don't have their own school supplies, which many of the children are too poor to purchase.

Cherie Sachar, advisor to the students council, told *The CJN* that the project was part of the school's ongoing *tikun olam* (healing the world) tzedakah efforts.

Encouraged by the example of students at German Mills Public School, who had already been involved in Free the Children, the USDS students, in grades 6, 7 and 8, raised money, partly through a Sportathon. They also diligently scrounged for donations from companies, businesses and individuals.

Each cloth-bagged kit consisted of notebooks, pens and pencils, a ruler, scissors, crayons, erasers, stickers, a toy, and a personal greeting from the student who packed the kit.

Sachar said that the youngsters tried hard to make the kits more personal. "For instance, they found colorful stickers and funky erasers."

To the strains of Michael Jackson's *Heal the World*, the students came up to the stage and dropped the kits in shopping carts before they were packed up for shipment.

Kielburger, whose polished yet passionate address belied his age, gave a dramatic description of youngsters with no skills, and little hope, living in garbage dumps, or working 14 hours a day making cigarettes. Because they can't read, he said, they can be cheated and tricked. "They are powerless."

"Don't underestimate what you have done," he told the spellbound students. "You are giving a child the freedom to go to school, to be empowered. You are helping change the world by helping one person at a time."

Questions came thick and fast to Kielburger, who said he has been involved with helping children since he was twelve.

"Get your friends, your synagogue groups, the boy scouts, clubs to help," he pleaded, agreeing with a questioner who pointed out that since school supplies get used up quickly, there is a constant need to replenish the supply.

Free the Children works with grass-roots organizations to ensure that the material goes to those who really need it, he said.

Kielburger said that his organization is also sending health supplies and teddy bears to children in war-torn Kosovo.

While the project was carried out under the auspices of the student council, organizers were Alex Baker, Ashley Kochman and Lesley Suchter.

Second from left, Ashley Kochman, Alex Baker and Lesley Suchter, organizers of USDS Bayview campus drive to provide school supplies to children in developing countries, show the supply kits to Craig Kielburger, founder of Free the Children. [Leila Speisman photo]

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Beth Avraham Yoseph (O)	613 Clark Ave. W. (905) 886-3810	7:00 PM	8:45 AM	6:45 & 7:30 AM	6:45 & 7:30 AM	8:20 PM
Beth Emeth (C)	100 Elder St. (416) 633-3838	7:00 PM	8:45 AM	7:30 & 8:30 AM	7:30 & 8:15 AM	8:25 PM
Beth Tikvah (C)	3080 Bayview Ave. (416) 221-3433	6:00 PM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	7:15 AM	7:30 PM
Holy Blossom (R)	1950 Bathurst St. (416) 789-3291	6:00 PM	10:30 AM	9:00 AM	----------	6:00 PM
Ohr Somayach / JEP (south) (O)	2939 Bathurst St. (416) 785-5899	7:00 PM	8:30 AM	7:45 AM	Mon. Thurs. 6:35 Tues. Wed. Fri. 6:45	8:20 PM
Shaar Shalom (C)	2 Simonston Blvd. (905) 889-4975	7:00 PM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	7:00 AM	7:00 PM
Shaarei Shomayim (O)	470 Glencairn Ave. (416) 789-3213	7:00 PM	9:00 AM	7:30 AM	7:30 AM	8:20 PM
Shaarei Tefillah (O)	3600 Bathurst St. (416) 787-1631	7:00 PM	8:45 AM	8:30 AM	6:30 & 7:30 AM	8:20 PM

This is not a comprehensive listing of the synagogues in the Greater Toronto area. The information is provided by the Vaad Harabonim of Toronto and the Toronto Board of Rabbis. The Vaad and the Board will periodically revise the listings. For statutory holidays, please call the Synagogue for any changes in times.

Greater Toronto Area

Secular humanism said gaining ground in Israel

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Zev Katz has his work cut out. As one of the leading secular humanists in Israel, his goal is to reinterpret Jewish tradition and merge it with the modern realities of science and rationalism – and all in the Jewish state yet.

It must be a task, advocating late 20th century-style secular humanism in the place founded on Jewish principles and where strict religious standards still dominate parts of daily life.

Katz, 75, cradles his chin and reflects on that. "Tradition and religion are two different things," he says. "Tradition existed even before Judaism." Strict Orthodoxy "doesn't live up to modern humanism [because] the elements of modern humanism are liberty, fraternity and equality."

So how does the rallying cry of the French Revolution affect the roughly 20,000 secular humanists in Israel, where institutions like marriage, divorce, conversion and burial are still governed by an Orthodox monopoly?

"We are not in the same boat as the Orthodox," Katz says diplomatically. "But we are careful not to offend.

"Our enterprise is a search for continuing Jewish tradition and values in a non-religious, non-obligatory way. Religion should not be mixed with politics. It should not be imposed."

Secular Jews, explains Katz, a writer, teacher and long-time activist, don't automatically disdain faith or elements of it. He points out that 94 percent of all Israelis attended a seder and similar high numbers mark all the major holy days.

But at the same time, between 70 and 80 percent of Israelis believe there should be alternatives to current laws on marriage, divorce, conversion and burials.

Together with Prof. Yehuda Bauer of Hebrew University (Hebrew U), Katz co-founded the Israel Association for Secular Humanistic Judaism, to give voice to those Israelis who choose to live outside the religious mainstream.

Zev Katz

Katz, who teaches at Hebrew U, was in Toronto recently for a talk at a local high school presented by Oraynu (formerly the Secular Jewish Association). This local group, which is made up of 60 families, advances secular humanistic Judaism.

A one-time volunteer in Israel's pre-state Haganah, Katz is also active in secular humanism on the international level. He says it's ironic he's a secularist, given that he descends from a long line of Belz Chassidim.

But he has not eschewed religious trappings entirely.

"I keep Shabbat," he told *The CJN* in an interview. "I think it's a great idea to have one day to be free of everyday concerns, to study, to have spiritual renewal. But it should not be forced."

In Israel, Katz is active in a coalition of intellectuals, scientists, non-Orthodox rabbis and women who are fighting the Orthodox monopoly on life-cycle events.

Their campaign, he points out, has picked up steam over the past few years due to the influx of Russian immigrants, many of whom have questionable status as Jews, because their lineage has been passed through their fathers rather than their mothers.

Many Israelis get around Orthodox-only marriage laws by tying the knot outside the country. Katz points out that 25 percent of all marriages registered in Israel are performed in Cyprus or elsewhere abroad.

Katz also counts as a victory, of sorts, the recommendations of the Ne'eman Commission, which addressed the Orthodox monopoly on conversions.

The commission suggested the establishment of a conversion institute, where converts would be taught Orthodox, Conservative and Reform thought. The Institute for Judaic Studies, located in Carmiel, launched its programs in March, with 37 students, all from the former Soviet Union.

Ultimately, conversions will still be Orthodox, "but for the first time, they will be exposed to other streams of Judaism," Katz says.

When it comes to the thorny issue of conversion, Katz has his own yardstick: "Anyone who laughs when a Jew laughs and cries when a Jew cries, I say, certify him."

Another breakthrough came recently when the Supreme Court ordered the religious council of the municipality of Dimona to accept a woman. "We hope that in the same way, Reform and Conservative [Jews] will be recognized on religious councils," Katz says.

But perhaps the strongest advance for Katz and fellow secularists came in March, when Israel's first secular burials took place, in Beersheva. This was after two years of wrangling. In 1996, the Supreme Court ruled against the Orthodox monopoly and ordered that space be set aside in Jewish cemeteries for "alternative" burials.

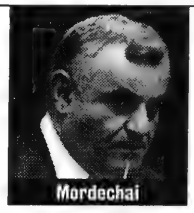
Secular Jews will continue their campaign, Katz says, but much depends on the outcome of this month's elections, and how much a new government will have to depend on Orthodox parties to form a coalition.

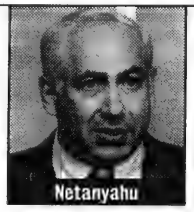
Other advances include last year's establishment in Israel of the Institute for Pluralistic Judaism, which the government and the New Israel Fund finances to the tune of about 2.5 million shekels a year. The money goes to school curricula, publications and outreach.

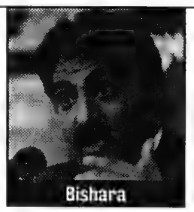
Katz also proposes what many might consider a paradox: a yeshiva for secular Jewish studies. Its students would also serve in the armed forces.

"Our main point," Katz says, "is to view Judaism as a culture and not necessarily as a religion. Many founders of Israel espoused the same principles.

"Everybody has the right to interpret the Jewish tradition the way he or she sees it, according to individual standards, tastes and preferences."







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Women receive tips on how to better balance their priorities

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — If you're too busy to even think about managing your time better, Jerome Shore has one tip. Stop answering your phone – even if you can only stop until 9:30 or 10 a.m.

Speaking at an evening seminar called Balance Your Act, which was co-sponsored by Jewish Women's Federation and UJA Federation Women's Campaign at the Lipa Green Building, Shore advised an audience of about 40 women, "If you're doing something that's really important, do a good job on it, get it done really well and don't do anything else."

Shore, who is in business with his wife, is managing partner of The Coaching Clinic. He led participants through several workbook exercises geared to determine an individual vision of a balanced life, and how to achieve it.

His hope, he said, was that participants would leave with a commitment to change one habit. "Maybe it will be a crucial difference that will have a domino effect," he said.

Guilt, perfectionism and family obligations are among the barriers to achieving balance, suggested some of the women.

Sometimes dealing with guilt is a matter of examining underlying beliefs, Shore explained.

"I see a lot of working women whose house isn't as neat as they want it to be. Their mothers, who didn't work, always had the beds made. You've got to factor in, 'Mom didn't work, and there are so many more things for me to do,'" he said.

Shore offered a number of strategies for getting things done, but the tip he feels is most important is to do one high-priority activity from each of three categories – work, home and personal – early in the day.

He suggested that mothers get up an hour before their children to carve out time for themselves. (The flip side, he noted, is that they have to go to bed earlier.)

If people don't set aside personal time – for example, to work out – they will feel stressed and imbalanced, Shore said.

A lot of people are helpless, he believes, because they over-generalize, saying "I'm not that type of person" or "It doesn't work for me."

One participant suggested delegation as a strategy. "One of the problems," said Shore, "is that it's typically easier to do something yourself than to delegate."

Changing your expectations of the person to whom you delegate, and letting go of the belief you have to do something yourself, may help, he said.

He also offered other ways of delegating, such as to the garbage can, "to your body" (by getting in better shape to be able to handle more), or to "a policy," such as not answering the phone at dinnertime.

Shore is an advocate of cleaning up messes, both physical and other, such as administrative, legal, and relationship-related messes.

"How many people get a burst of energy when they clean up their office?" he asked. "Imagine how wonderful things would be if your offices were always neat and clean."

A note of caution on work-related messes – "If you need to spend time with your kids or yourself, whether you take care of yourself or not, your in-basket will always be full," he said.

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Greater Toronto Area

CJC outreach program takes teens to Washington

TORONTO — Instead of the usual spring kallah focusing on the Holocaust, Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region (CJC) officials approved a first-time visit to Washington for the 22 teenagers in its high school outreach program.

Participants in the three-year program for teenagers living in small communities, accompanied by volunteers, went on the three-day visit that included a tour of the U.S. National Holocaust Museum.

CJC vice-chair of the Ontario region Paul Walman of Kitchener, a parent volunteer, said the tour of the Holocaust Museum was "very intense, but I needed more time to absorb as much as possible."

A past president of Beth Jacob Congregation, he said that while growing up, he had received little education about the Holocaust. "It is important to start educating Jewish youth early."

Alexandra Rawek, 15, of Peterborough, found the visit to the museum "very overwhelming. The overall effect of the visit was one of shock. It left me with my mouth wide open, trying to understand how I would have reacted if I had been a European Jew at the time."

Rawek found "particularly stunning" the exhibit featuring displays showing how the Nazis classified the races, including devices such as instruments to measure the size of heads. She also said that she had been unaware of the Nazis' extermination of disabled people.

For Jared Raab, 14, of Peterborough, "it was a powerful experience, but difficult to take in all at once. I was shocked at walking through the railcar used to transport Jews to the camp. It was mind-boggling to understand that 100 persons were in a car where only a few could rest comfortably. I now feel that I can really talk about the Holocaust with other people, including fellow classmates."

Adam Levine, 14, of Barrie said that he "cried inside" as he toured the exhibits. "I felt deep sadness and grief for what happened to my fellow Jews."

For Jessica Zimmerman, 13, of Oakville, the most emotional moment was "seeing the shoes of the victims all piled up."

After the tour of the Holocaust museum, Leanne Rosen, outreach program co-ordinator, scheduled time to discuss the visit. "They were overwhelmed, horrified, yet fascinated, especially by the concentration camp and ghetto exhibit."

CJC administrative assistant Glenda David, another parent volunteer said: "I was struck by the deep emotions and insightful remarks expressed by people so young, after such a traumatic visit."

The teens also had the opportunity to talk about their experiences growing up in small communities. "Some told of incidents with students who were either ignorant or racist, and the action or lack of action by school authorities.

"We discussed what actions to take in such circumstances, and what actions are acceptable in today's society. We reinforced how Canadian Jewish Congress can be of assistance in some instances," said Walman.

Rosen said, "We talked about [how students] need to take responsibility when they encounter racist actions. They have to take a stand and speak up.

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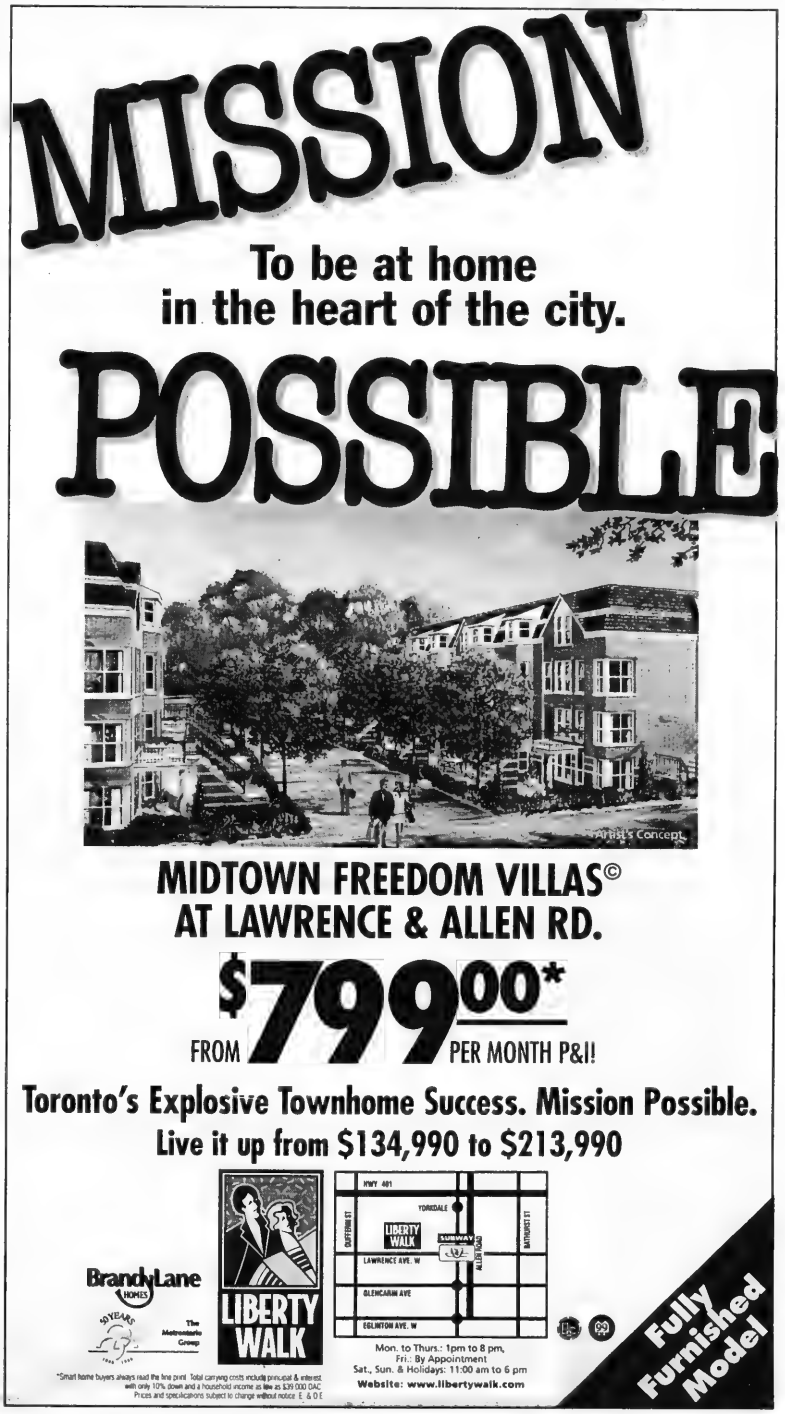
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CHAT students explore the future

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — When art administrator/curator/writer Jessica Wyman was a student at the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto (CHAT) in the 1980s, she had no clue that she would ever want to do the type of work she's doing now.

Last week, Wyman spoke as one of three dozen panelists at CHAT's career day for Grade 11 students, the idea being that the teens could benefit from her experience and that of others in the workforce. Most panelists were CHAT alumni.

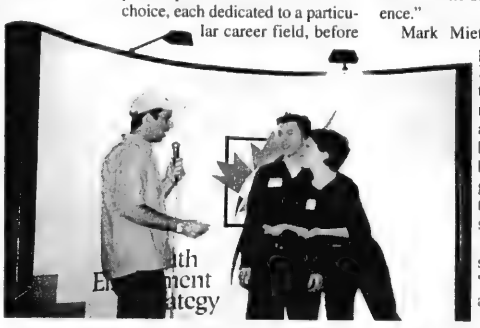
The program, an annual event, received funding this year for the first time from Human Resources Development Canada, enabling the school to expand it to a full day. Upward Motion, a youth-oriented customer service and conflict management training company, worked on the event in partnership with the school.

Rabbi Howard Sacknovitz, the school's director of guidance services, under whose auspices the day was organized, believes young high school students should "get a good education and begin the process of knowing what their interests and personalities are, and then finding areas that sort of match that." It's too early make narrow choices, he told *The CJN*.

Guidance counsellor Margaret Klompas said she hoped the 217 students in the grade would learn that there are many opportunities, and to do what they enjoy.

The day kicked off at the school with an address by Martin and Farah Perelmuter, a lawyer and former adwoman respectively, who bucked convention four years ago to establish their own speakers' bureau, Speakers' Spotlight. The couple advised students to pursue what they love to do, take risks and believe in themselves.

Students also attended two four-person panel discussions of their choice, each dedicated to a particular career field, before proceeding to the Holiday Inn Yorkdale for a kosher lunch and afternoon sessions including talks by author Karen Schaffer and motivational speaker Sunjay Nath.



Noah Gordon, left, role plays at CHAT's Career Day with Josh Switzman and Carmelinda Dimano of Upward Motion. [Frances Kraft photo]

Kim Ades and a four-person team from Upward Motion led an hour-long workshop involving students in a series of vignettes addressing challenges the students might face in the workplace.

"Instead of saying, 'I can't,' say, 'How can I?'" Ades advised.

As part of the morning arts and communications panel, Wyman explained that, for her, one thing led to another. When she was studying art history in university, people used to ask why she didn't do something useful, she said.

Beverly Redlick, a former teacher who became an interior designer, advised students that if they enjoy what they're doing, they'll probably be very good at it.

Jennifer Zeifman, who works in public relations, said that volunteering was probably the best thing students could do for themselves.

"It will give you an idea if this is something you want to pursue, and will give you a step up on other students who don't have that experience."

Mark Mietkiewicz, CBC-TV producer and *CJN* Internet columnist, touched on the work ramifications of being an observant Jew. He has found people to be "immensely gener us...as long as they know you're serious about it."

Hearing eight speakers in two hours "gave me insight into a whole bunch of careers," said student Lara Hart, who attended the education and science/math/engineering/computers sessions.

Marissa Verskin found a business panel especially helpful in offering "a lot of different opinions and ideas."

Students have to make "big decisions" about their future at a young age, noted Josh Landzberg, who has already established his own Web site design business with another student. Learning that it's possible to change course was a very important benefit of Career Day, he said.

"I think it's great that CHAT expands its horizons to do this program," said student Daniel Held. "They're always willing to do something for the students."

With files from Zoe Shapiro, Grade 8 student at Associated Hebrew School, as part of her school's job shadow day.

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Greater Toronto Area

SHATIL shares its expertise with NGOs

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Aliza Mazor feels she has the best job in the world.

The associate director of SHATIL – the Israeli organization founded in 1982 to provide assistance to non-profit social change organizations – says she is energized by working with activists who are "so committed, dedicated and passionate about their work."

Mazor, 36, was here recently for two days to meet with supporters through the New Israel Fund (NIF), of which SHATIL is a grantee.

Toronto (a city with which she is familiar, as an alumna of Camp Shomria) was her only Canadian stop on a North American tour that also included New York, Washington and Mazor's native Chicago.

Recently, SHATIL (a Hebrew acronym that means seedling, and stands for Consulting Support Service) has become involved in a "virtual coalition," using its expertise in advocacy and coalition building to help organizations in other countries with issues involving freedom of information and the environment.

About five years ago, Mazor noted, SHATIL brought together about 80 grassroots organizations, and helped pass Israel's first freedom of information legislation.

"That was very exciting," she said.

The organization, which has a $2.6 million (US) budget and 50 employees in three locations (Jerusalem, Haifa and Beersheva), shares its expertise with about 500 non-governmental organizations, both locally and abroad, per year.

They run about 260 training sessions a year – in about five different languages, she added

In 1997, Mazor was one of three SHATIL staffers who travelled to South Africa for two weeks as guests of non-governmental organizations (NGO). The highlight for her was a retreat with Zulu women doing literacy training, economic development and domestic violence prevention.

Several months later, SHATIL brought the 20 women to Israel for 10 days. They stayed at Neve Shalom (a Jewish-Arab "village of peace" also funded by the NIF) and met with their Israeli counterparts.

"It's a real opportunity to take something Israel should be proud of – our NGO sector – and be able to show that to the world," she said, noting that as many staff as possible, even junior staff, have the opportunity to participate in international work.

A social worker by training, Mazor has been with SHATIL for the past 10 years.

She feels the NGO community "can provide a really good balance to government in terms of influencing social policy and pressing for change."

Having worked briefly for Israel's governmental social welfare system, she was so excited to discover SHATIL that she took the only position open there at the time, working as a secretary/translator for her first three months.

Even today, Mazor says, the work gives her hope.

She spent eight years building SHATIL's resource development assistance department – the area responsible for training NGOs in skills like proposal writing and fundraising – before becoming SHATIL's development director. Earlier this year, she was named associate director.

Although SHATIL has no specific projects with Canada (its work being geared more to developing democracies), Canadians who have expertise in related areas have volunteered with the organization.

A current SHATIL project, still in the works, is a planned "models sharing" conference for peace groups. The intention is to build "an ongoing connection, even if it's just through the Internet."

In addition to sharing expertise with NGOs in places like eastern Europe, SHATIL is working closer to home with Palestinian NGOs.

"Having a strong NGO community in the Palestinian entity," Mazor said, "will ensure civil society and a strong democracy, which I think is in the interests of everybody in the region."

MOCK WINS WIN AWARD

Karen Mock, national director of the League for Human Rights of B'nai Brith Canada, received the International Women's Day award of the Women's Intercultural Network (WIN). Mock was honored for her involvement in human rights, anti-racism and interfaith activities. From left are WIN vice-president Rheba Adolph, Mock's mother Esther Greenberg, WIN vice-president Mavis Burke, Mock, and WIN president Talat Muinuddin.

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Sunday, May 30, 1999 • 8:00pm

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Hamilton

Cantor Marshall Loomer
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Toronto

Cantor Noam Goodman
Toronto

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Beth Jacob Synagogue
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Tickets: $18.00

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Her sister Tali, mother Gail, grandparents Max & Rose
and aunts Pearl and Edyie send these messages to her.

TO MY DEAR SWEET ORLY,

Five years have passed
but not one day goes by,
That I don't think of you
and see your smile.

Your shining eyes I see
and your laughter I hear,
I can't get you out of my thoughts,
in my heart you are so dear.

I love you, dear Orly
You are with me day and night
Forever my sister,
Forever "my light"

Love, Tali

ORLY

Your smile lifted the spirit
of the meanest soul,
the hardest heart.
Your shining eyes
filled with life,
Your voice filled
with laughter and excitement
Affected even the saddest soul,
Your love of people,
Your insight, your charm
You left us,
But you are not gone.

Love, Mom

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Monday, May 10, is deadline for May 20 issue. Due to the Shavuot holiday, Thursday, May 13, is deadline for the May 27 issue. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Saturday, May 8

NEW VILLAGE SHUL

The New Village Shul grand opening Shabbat, inaugural traditional service, Be Cool in Shul alternative service, special lectures, multi-level children's programming, kiddush. Guest speaker **Rabbi Noah Weinberg**, founder, Aish HaTorah Jerusalem. 9 a.m. to noon, 1072 Eglinton Ave. W. 785-1107.

Sunday, May 9

YIDDISHLAND CAFÉ

Workmen's Circle Yiddishland Café evening, The World and I, songs by Yiddish poet **Abraham Reisen**, with singers **Miriam Eskin** and **David Wall**, pianist/accordionist **Sasha Luminsky**, clarinetist **Martin Van de Ven**. 7:30 p.m., 471 Lawrence Ave. $12 in advance, $15 at door. 787-2081.

BROTHERHOOD PROGRAM

Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Brotherhood Mother's Day program, romantic music, violin and piano recital with **Yossi** and **Yehudith Peleg**. Breakfast 9:15 a.m. $4.

Monday, May 10

ABOUT DIABETES

Canadian Diabetes Association (CDA) Jewish chapter meeting, New Hope in Diabetes Research with **Dr. Robert D. Silver**, Toronto Hospital, Western Division. 8 p.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. CDA members $1, non-member $2. **Esther Schwartz** 782-2176 or **Shirley Glatt** 225-1989.

NATUROPATHIC MEDICINE

Beth Sholom Sisterhood presents a talk by **Jill Kelner** and **Dana Lerman** of the Canadian College of Naturopathic Medicine. 8 p.m.

Tuesday, May 11

WHAT KIDS DO AND WHY

Jewish Family & Child Service features **Dr. Umesh Jain**, adolescent psychiatrist, speaking on Why Do Kids Do What They Do?, a common sense approach to parenting, 8 p.m., Rosedale Heights Public School, 300 Rosedale Heights Dr., Thornhill. $5. 905-882-2331.

HISTORY OF FASHION

Associated Hebrew Schools Parent Teacher Council evening of fashion through the 20th century, History of Fashion for Ladies of All Ages, boutiques 7 p.m., show 8 p.m. Kamin Education Centre, 300 Atkinson Ave., Thornhill. $10. **Terry** 905-764-1216.

INTERDATING

Chabad Lubavitch of Markham Sisterhood Night, Interdating – Challenges in the '90s, **Susan Jackson** director, Jewish Community Networking of Canadian Jewish Congress, 8 p.m., 83 Green Lane, Thornhill. Teens welcome.

WAGES OF SIN

Beth Tzedec Congregation four-part dialogue, featuring rabbis from different viewpoints, continues with The Wages of Sin: Why Am I Being Punished? with **Rabbi Lawrence Pinsker**, Congregation Darchei Noam, and **Rabbi Michael Brown**, Centre for Jewish Studies, York University. 7:30 p.m.

JEWS OF GENEVA

At the Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Sisterhood meeting, **Yoan Benchetrit** of Switzerland talks about the Jewish Community in Geneva. 8 p.m. Guests $3. 633-5500.

MOTHER'S DAY DINNER

Bring your daughters, mothers, grandmothers, friends to Adath Sholom Sisterhood's Mother's Day dinner – choice of chicken, salmon or pasta. 6:30 p.m. $23/person in advance. Reserve. 635-0131.

Wednesday, May 12

SPRING AUCTION

Torah Life & Living annual Spring Auction, 7:30 p.m., Beth Avraham Yoseph of Toronto, 613 Clark Ave. W., Thornhill. Couvert $10. 250-6999 or 905-709-6183.

FASHION SHOW

Swing Into Spring fashion show, Beth Tikvah Sisterhood fundraiser for Sisterhood projects and Princess Margaret Hospital. Fashions by Mondi. Boutique browsing 7:15 p.m., show 8:30 p.m. $20. 221-3433, ext. 353.

Thursday, May 13

ROOFTOP CELEBRATION

Jewish Campus Services, Ked-

Continued on page 21

Go ahead ...live a little!

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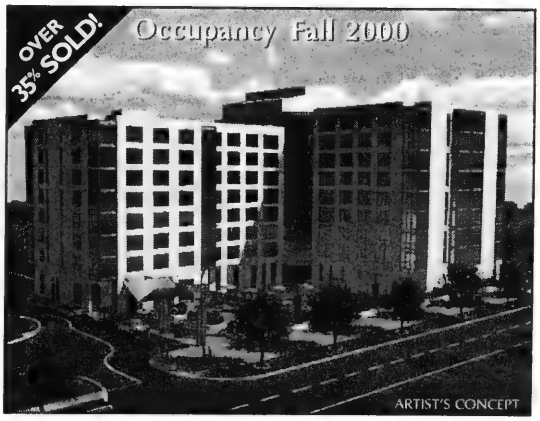

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What's New

Continued from page 20

ema, Kesher and Koach invite Jewish students and young adults to a Jerusalem Day celebration on the rooftop of Bloor Jewish Community Centre. Israeli culture, music, refreshments, cash bar. 7:30 p.m. $2. 785-1465.

BEREAVED FAMILIES

Bereaved Jewish Families of Ontario presents **Rabbi Yael Splansky**, Holy Blossom Temple, speaking on Jewish Views of the Afterlife, 8 p.m., Adath Israel Synagogue. **Sheila Browne** 638-7800, ext. 202.

And What Else Is New

ARCHITECTURAL EXHIBIT

The Consulate General Of Israel presents Encounters: The Vernacular Paradox of Israeli Architecture, unique photographic exhibit showcasing modern Israeli architecture, May 7-23 at the Design Exchange Building, 234 Bay St., 3rd floor, Tuesday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Free admission. 640-8522.

FRIENDS OF YIDDISH

Friends of Yiddish 15th anniversary gala, dinner and dance, **Harvey Atkin, Michael Mandel** and Jordan Klapman Trio, Sunday, May 16, 6:30 p.m., Adath Sholom Synagogue, 864 Sheppard Ave. W. Black tie (optional), members $18, guests $25. Reserve by May 10. **Min Grossman** 905-709-4602.

APPRAISAL EVENT

Appraisal Event sponsored by Holy Blossom Temple fine arts committee and Sisterhood, Sunday, May 30, 1-5 p.m. at the temple. Bring in articles, silver, glass, paintings, jewelry for appraisal by Ritchie's Appraisers. $15 per item, $25 for two items. Call for appointment 789-3291, ext. 524, or pick up a form at any of the synagogues or libraries in the area.

WEEKEND RETREAT

Shaarei Shomayim Congregation and Brotherhood Weekend Retreat June 18-20 with **Rabbi Michael Skobac** at Maple Lake Resort and Convention Centre, Parry Sound. Theme: Is Religion Killing Judaism: Today's Focus on Spirituality. Saturday evening program, late night videos, lectures and more. $250. Children 4-12 $55; under 4, free. 783-7365.

GUELPH SYNAGOGUE

Beth Isaiah Synagogue Golden Anniversary Gala Evening featuring Canadian pianist **John Arpin** and vocalist **Barbara Collier** Sunday, May 16, 8 p.m. at War Memorial Hall, University of Guelph, College Avenue and Gordon Street. Also a draw and a chance to win one of six dinners for two. Tickets $35. 416-787-0869.

GOLF TOURNAMENT

Join the first ever Village Shul Golf Tournament, Tuesday, May 18, at Club Link's Cherry Downs. Golf, lunch, dinner, giveaways, a chance to win a $40,000 luxury car and $40,000 in hole-in-one contest. 785-1107.

SHABBATON

First Narayever Congregation, 187 Brunswick Ave., Saturday, May 15, with **Rabbi Ben Hollander**, visiting scholar from Jerusalem. 5:30 p.m., teen program, The Multi-Dimensions of Life for Teenagers in Israel Today; 6:45 p.m., Minchah and program, Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem; 8:45 p.m. program, The Moment of Truth: Israel on the Eve of Election. **Peter Gold** 927-1796.

ROSH CHODESH TEA

Congregation B'nai Torah Women's chesed committee Rosh Chodesh Tea, Sunday, May 16, 2:30 p.m. **Judith Pachino** speaks on Who's Counting? Sifra, Sivan, Shavuot. Musical entertainment. $5. Reservations/information 226-3700.

BETH TIKVAH SINGLES

Beth Tikvah Progressive Singles upcoming events:

Oneg Shabbat Friday, May 14, 8 p.m., guest speaker **Karen Mock.** No admission charge.

Sunday, May 16, 8 p.m., interactive Bible study class continues with The Book of Ruth with lecturer **Chana Sargon**, $5. RSVP 221-3433, ext. 352.

JF&CS GROUPS

Jewish Family & Child Service groups. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

Coping with Separation and Divorce begins May 11; Positive Parenting begins May 6; Social Skills Group for Kids 7-9, 10-12, 13-15 begins may 18; Parenting teens begins May 18.

SINGLES SCENE

25-35 Group:

Billiards Night at Heroes, 1600 Steeles Ave. W., Thursday, May 6, 8 p.m. RSVP **Sarit** 669-5499.

Monthly meeting, Wednesday, May 12, 8 p.m. at Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue.

Night out with the Jays at Skydome, Monday, June 21, 7 p.m., $15. Call now to order tickets, **Rhonda** 905-731-9441 or **Sarit**. Deadline Friday, May 14.

35-55 Group:

Monthly meeting, Monday, May 10, 8 p.m. at Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue.

Billiards Night at Heroes, 1600 Steeles Ave. W., Thursday, May 20 8 p.m. **Rhonda**

FOR SENIORS

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). May 6, members meeting; May 8, Yom Ha'atzmaut dance, call **Malka Colla** for tickets 630-5771; May 13, bingo. All activities in Hebrew, English, Yiddish. **Jerry Bengall**, president, 905-707-7334.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: May 10, variety show to celebrate Mother's Day with entertainer **Tanya Granonski**, light lunch, 12:30 p.m.; July 27, trip to Kingston, cruise, entertainment; Aug. 25, morning cruise, matinee *Move Over Mrs. Markham* at Gryphon Theatre; Oct. 12, *West Side Story* at Stratford. **Lena** 785-5773. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: May 11, free blood pressure clinic 10 a.m. to noon; May 12, Niagara Falls, Niagara-on-the Lake; May 13, 27, Casino Rama; May 16, Spring Fair and Bake Sale; May 23-25, Ottawa; July 5-11, Catskills; Thursday mornings, ballroom dancing free to members; Wednesday dances, 7-9 p.m., free to members. 395-7881.

LZA Seniors Club, Borochov Cultural Centre, 272 Codsell Ave., open for socializing Monday to Friday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Ladies Folkdancing classes Thursdays 1:30 p.m. Cultural Discussion Group Tuesdays 10 a.m. Register to see *My Fair Lady* at Stage West, Wednesday, June 16. **Libby** 782-2059 or office 630-9444.

Young at Heart Seniors summer vacation to Catskills kosher Raleigh Hotel, 10 days, July 23-Aug. 1, double occupancy $1,399.95, single $1,695. Package deal. Price depends on money exchange. Ask about comprehensive medical. **Helen** 635-6343.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Razzle Dazzle Revue, music, song, comedy, Monday, May 10, 1:30 p.m. $1.

Therapeutic Touch, nurse **Florence Baum,** Tuesday, May 11, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. **Joan.**

Hearing Aid Checkup, **Barry Katz**, Tuesday, May 11, 12:15 p.m.

Parkinson's Support Group, **Ruth Cohen,** Outreach and Community Health, discusses How to Prevent Accidents in the Home – A Senior Safety Guide, Tuesday, May 11, 1:15-2:15 p.m.

Community Update Series, **Bonnie Kates**, chair, Jewish Distress Line, presents When You Need to Know Someone Cares. Thursday, May 13, 1:15 p.m.

Israeli Club Etrog: Do you speak Hebrew? Join club members every Tuesday at 7 p.m. for movies, lectures, dances, singalongs, bingo, picnics. Programs based on topics of interest to Israelis, conducted in Hebrew. Tuesday, May 11, Jerusalem Day party. **Anna** ext. 110.

Movie, *Stepmother* Sunday, May 9, 2:30 p.m.

WAGMAN CENTRE

Wagman Centre, 55 Ameer Ave. 785-2500. **Mara Swartz** ext. 2275.

Monday, May 10 – Creating a Balcony Oasis, Containers, Planting, Transplanting and Soil, 2-3 p.m.

Tuesday, May 25 – Lunch and Learn, Challenges for Successful Aging, social workers **Lesley Patterson, Sorel Urman**.

Wednesday, May 26 – Wellness Education Group presents 55 Alive Driver Refresher Course for Seniors, **Teddy Kellen,** Canada Safety Council, 1:30-2:30 p.m.

Monday weekly games – bridge, Scrabble, cards. 1:30-3 p.m.

Wagman Bereavement Group, support group for older adults who have recently lost a spouse, meets alternate Friday mornings. **Paula David** ext. 2271.

Second Generation Group: Aging Parents, Aging Children, mutual aid group for adult children of Holocaust survivors. **Paula David.**

BATHURST JC

Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. 636-1880.

A freilach time, music, dancing, with **Michael Khinkis**, Tuesday, May 18, 1 p.m., Leah Posluns Studio Theatre. **Teme** ext. 364 or **Janet** ext. 259.

Plan your next Stress Free Birthday Party in the Children's Jewish Discovery Museum. Party includes instructors, food, cake, loot bags. ext. 248.

St. John's Ambulance Babysitting Course at BJC, Sunday, June 6, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. $30 plus GST. For teens 12-17. Register, ext. 229.

Song of Songs: multifaith celebration, music, drama, dance, three performances: Wednesday, May 26, 8 p.m., and Sunday, May 30, 3:30 p.m. at Trinity-St. Paul's United Church, 427 Bloor St. W.; Wednesday, June 2, 8 p.m., Leah Posluns Theatre. Information/tickets BJC ext. 0 or Bloor JCC 924-6211.

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave., 924-6211

The Aquatic Education Swim School (AQUAED) Red Cross infant, children, adult programs and Lifesaving Leadership programs run Saturday mornings May 8-June 26 at the Bloor JCC. Registration/information, **Kerry Powers,** director, ext. 318.

Seniors Club, Thursday, May 13, 2 p.m., The Jews of Egypt, history and personal memories. Includes an introduction to belly-dancing.

SINGLES EVENTS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 22

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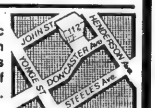

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Beth Tikvah Synagogue
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Invites the community to

"THE DEATH OF DEATH:
Resurrection and Immortality in Jewish Thought"

Rabbi Neil Gillman, Scholar in Residence
(Professor of philosophy at the Jewish Theological Seminary)

In his book, *"The Death of Death"*, Rabbi Gillman makes an original and compelling argument that Judaism, a religion often thought to pay little attention to the after life, not only offers us rich ideas on this subject - but delivers a deathblow to death itself.

SATURDAY, MAY 29, 1999

Rabbi Gillman will speak at our Shabbat Services where he will combine astute scholarship and historical, theological and liturgical insights while outlining the evolution of Jewish thought about bodily resurrection and spiritual immortality.

Rabbi Gillman will be our guest speaker during Shabbat Luncheon and then lead our studying during Se'udah Shlisheet.

SUNDAY, MAY 30, 1999

Rabbi Gillman will share some wisdom with us during breakfast following services at 9:00 a.m.
This will be co-sponsored by the Friendship Group.

This program will prove to be insightful to those interested in exploring the meaning of life, as well as the meaning of death.

This program is sponsored in part by the Morris and Sally Justein Endowment Fund and offered by the Adult Learning and Hesed Committees.

Shabbat Lunch $15.00/person. Sunday Breakfast $5.00/person
Reservations required by May 25 for lunch and breakfast
Call 221-3433 ext. (0)

Reform launches outreach

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A practical demonstration of the meaning of mitzvah by hundreds of members of Reform temples in Toronto and Hamilton resulted in their performing diverse acts of kindness last week.

Members of all ages took part in an outreach effort to encourage mitzvah and volunteering in the community.

Families from Temple Anshe Shalom in Hamilton collected trash from the trails in the Royal Botanical Gardens, while families from Temple Sinai in Toronto helped clean up Moore Park and planted shrubs and trees there.

Some volunteers from Temple Sinai gave clothing, food and baked goods to Friends of the Shopping Bag Lady, while others prepared meals for Eva's Place, an emergency youth shelter.

Members of Anshe Shalom prepared meals for Wesley Centre, a shelter for the homeless in downtown Hamilton.

The senior youth group at Holy Blossom Temple washed car windows to raise funds for and awareness of youth poverty.

With 14 projects on the go, Anshe Shalom extended its mitzvah project for a week.

About 65 children, ranging in age from four to 13, heard a speech about needs of senior citizens in the former Soviet Union and then created a banner with messages of greeting to residents of Kiev. One of the messages read: "We care about Jews."

The same children devoted a portion of their own allowance to tzedakah.

The Hamilton temple members visited Shalom Village, a Jewish home for seniors, and helped paint picture frames.

The theme of mitzvah day at Temple Emanu-El was child poverty, but there was concern shown for adults as well. A highlight was a presentation to volunteer of the year Dolores Wallis by Renee Bouthot, social action committee chair.

Ten organizations representing children and adults set up their own booths and benefited from members who signed up as volunteers and contributed gifts of clothing and bedding.

Those helped in this way were Campaign Against Child Poverty, Second Harvest, Delta Child Care, National Council of Jewish Women, Shalom Food Project, Jessie's Centre, Big Brothers/Sisters Associations, Kids Help Foundation and Eva's Place.

Parents and children attended a breakfast meeting at Temple Emanu-El to hear an address by June Callwood urging them to volunteer.

Children in the religious school made water color greeting cards, which they packaged and sold, donating the proceeds to Mazon Canada. Senior students in grades 7, 8 and 9 heard a talk on the Kids Help Foundation.

About 30 members of Temple Sinai did painting and wallpapering, and planted flowers at Juliette's Place for battered women.

Another 15 went to the Humane Society office on Lakeshore Road to stuff envelopes for a fund drive. Students in the religious school made greeting cards for Jewish Immigrant Aid Services, while a group of adults took 15 Reena members on a bowling outing.

Renee Bouthot (left), chair of Temple Emanu-El's social action committee, presents the Volunteer of the Year award to Dolores Wallis.

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The Canadian Jewish News
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The CJN encourages readers to direct any queries they may have on an upcoming event to the event's organizers.

Canadian Friends of Ezrath Nashim - Herzog Hospital presents An Evening of stand-up comedy, **"AS FUNNY AS IT GETS II,"** Thursday, May 27, 1999 at 7:30pm, Leah Posluns Theatre. Reception to follow. All proceeds to support Alzheimers Research. $25 in adv., $30-door. **Tickets: 416-256-4222.**

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Quebec school system

Continued from page 3

basis for public debate. The National Assembly is expected to shortly launch public hearings on the issue.

"If the government extends the notwithstanding clauses, it will have to provide new, credible reasons, in both moral and political terms, for continuing to grant priority to the rights and privileges of Catholics and Protestants over fundamental freedoms and the right to equality," the report states.

The task force believes that the current obligatory choice between Catholic, Protestant or secular moral instruction is discriminatory because it tends to marginalize students who are neither Catholic nor Protestant and to deprive them of instruction in any religion.

The task force rejected the model of offering all religious groups the equal right to have their own schools, or at least "specific-project" schools, within a neutral public system, if a majority of parents at a school wishes – a recommendation made by Canadian Jewish Congress in its brief.

Its reasons were that such a system would be "incompatible" with the goal of "promoting social cohesion by teaching students to live together" and would pose major administrative problems. Furthermore, the legality of such schools is "debatable" in light of the charters.

The task force also rejected making all schools completely secular, that is, offering no instruction on religion, and only moral education, because it feels religion is part of a well-rounded education and the preparation for good citizenship.

Greater Toronto Area

Advanced Torah study program for women planned

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Advanced Torah study for women will take a giant leap forward in Toronto with the establishment of Mekorot Institute of Torah Study for Women.

Mekorot will be launched officially on May 16, with a lecture for men and women by Arna Poupko, Judaic consultant of FEDERATION CJA of Montreal, entitled, Free to Choose? Submission vs. Personal Responsibility in Jewish Law.

The event, which is free of charge, will be held at Baycrest Terrace, at 8 p.m.

The mission statement says that the institute will offer "a program of serious Jewish learning...with the goal of making accessible to its students the full range of traditional Jewish texts.."

Toronto is not the first place to develop such a program, said Nadler, citing, for instance Drisha in New York, Mayan in Boston, and one in Silver Springs.

Board member Rebecca Nadler told *The CJN* that "as women are taking on more leadership and community roles, Jewish women have to be articulate and knowledgeable about Judaism. They become like that by mastering the texts."

Courses will be intended both for young women in the community who have been through day school and a year's study in Israel, for mature women and for women who have never studied Torah, and want to learn now.

Lecture courses

"University-educated professional women want learning at the same level [as they have experienced in other fields]" Nadler added.

There will be both full-term courses, and short, one-or-two lecture courses offered. The first full courses will be in Gemarah, Bible, philosophy and Navi (Prophets).

The shorter courses might deal with holidays or midrash, she said.

Nadler said that classes will be held both during the day and at night at different locations along the Bathurst corridor, to make the classes accessible to the greatest number of women. Courses will be suited to students with varying backgrounds, and taught in both Hebrew and English.

Many classes will include a *chevruta* component, where participants will study the texts in pairs, followed by a combination of lecture and interactive discussion with the instructor.

While the institute intends to be supported by tuition fees, it is actively fundraising, as well. Recently appointed executive director Roberta Newman announced that Mekorot has also received a grant from the Action Committee for Jewish Continuity of UJA Federation of Greater Toronto.

While the cost per semester will be $125, Nadler said that no one will be turned away.

The faculty will include Shoshana Zolty, Shoshana Kurtz, Rabbi Pinchas Brumer, Rabbi Yigal Gurevitz from CHAT, and Rabbi Moshe Shulman, of Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. Officers are Nadler, Kurtz, Rachel Weinstock, and Janice Rotman-Goldstein.

מזל טוב Mazel Tov

We cannot guarantee the date a picture will appear. Please limit all greetings to 25 typewritten words. We reserve the right to edit all items and condense any that are longer than that.

Label the back of all photos and enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope for return. Send all your photos to *The CJN*, Mazel Tov, 1500 Don Mills Rd., Suite 205, North York, Ont., M3B 3K4.

Adam Meitz was born March 30. Proud family includes parents Kathy & Wayne, brothers Andrew and Michael, and grandparents Keith & Sheila Edwards, Patricia Meitz.

Welcome Jaime! Daughter of Elisa & Rafi Bisgould-Menendian, granddaughter of Elaine & Harvey Bisgould and Arsha Menendian, fifth great-grandchild of Mickey Bisgould.

Happy first birthday to a special little girl, Samara Tova Bell. Love from Mommy & Daddy, proud grandparents, aunts and uncles.

Tamara, Aaron, Nicole and Paula Libfeld performed in the Orange Bowl Parade Dec. 31, in Miami, Fla.

Mazel tov Lisa Sherman & Steve Kruger on your engagement. Love, Elaine, Arnie, Nikki, Hylton, Max, Bubbie Sarah & Zayde Al.

Lorene & Bill Sweigman announce the engagement of their son Jordan to Rachael, daughter of Abbe & Edward Nelson. A summer 2000 wedding is planned.

Mazel tov to Jeri & Sid Teplitz on their 35th wedding anniversary. From Dana, Michelle and Kevin.

Mazel tov to my parents Susan & Tom Molnar on their 40th wedding anniversary. Love, Katherine and family.

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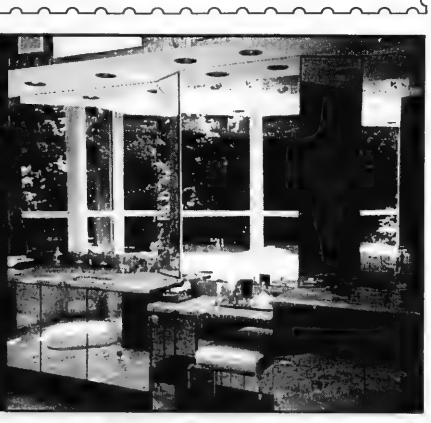

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'Today, the world is no longer silent': Wiesel

Continued from page 1

He recently agreed to an exclusive interview with *The CJN*.

Canadian Jewish News: *Do you believe the military intervention of the 19 member countries of NATO will ultimately put an end to the murderous folly of Slobodan Milosevic?*

Elie Wiesel: This is certainly a major change. In my day, the world was silent. Today, the world is no longer silent. If we had been able, in 1938-39, to count on the support of such an incredible alliance as the one established by NATO, we would certainly have prevented the angel of death from holding sway

I don't like war, and I have always been fiercely opposed to any sort of violence; nevertheless, I am in favor of the military campaign NATO is conducting against the Belgrade regime. It is essential that the democracies of the free world put an end to Milosevic's aggressive folly. Deporting a million innocent human beings, evicting them from their homes, burning their villages, destroying their hopes, these are crimes against humanity that we cannot continue to tolerate.

I am absolutely convinced that this coalition of democratic nations will succeed in forcing Milosevic to give in to the humanitarian demands dictated by the civilized world. At any price, the hundreds of thousands of persecuted Kosovar refugees must return home, and the western democracies must help them rebuild their ruined homes.

CJN: *Since the beginning of the war in Kosovo, the State of Israel and many of the Jewish communities in the Diaspora have mobilized to offer humanitarian assistance to the victims of this tragedy. Did you expect such a show of solidarity?*

E.W.: Since the beginning of the conflict, the Israelis and the Jews in the Diaspora have behaved admirably with respect to humanitarian aid for the Kosovars. The State of Israel dispatched medical teams to the area and sent medications, food, clothing... Israel even welcomed several hundred Muslim Kosovar refugees. It was symbolic perhaps, but it had to be done.

President Clinton recently told me at the White House how much he appreciated the remarkable cooperation and humanitarian solidarity of the activities undertaken by the Jewish community on behalf of the Albanian Kosovars, from the beginning of the conflict. Numerous fundraising activities to aid the crowds of refugees who have lost everything are currently taking place in the Jewish communities of the Diaspora. It's marvellous. It was necessary for us, the people of memory to do this. We have remained faithful to one of the primary requirements of the moral Jewish ethic.

CJN: *More and more, we get the impression that becoming a nation means, above all, war and hateful inter-ethnic confrontation. Isn't this ancient lesson being forcefully taught again with the tragedy building up in the Balkans?*

E.W.: Nationalism is synonymous with fanaticism. I believe nationalism is the scourge that will threaten the next century and the next millennium. Fanaticism and power together can become the most lethal of combinations. We see it today in the war in the Balkans.

It is true that each human being loves his native land. But patriotism pushed to the extreme and to excess often emerges as ruthless fanaticism. To express one's attachment to one's country is laudable. However, things begin to turn sour as soon as a nation adopts a condescending attitude to the other nations that surround it.

Patriotism can become ruthless fanaticism

When one nation considers itself as the most important nation in history, it tends to grant itself all rights, including the most despicable, such as that of occupying with impunity the territory of a neighboring country. Even nationalist claims of minorities within democratic countries, as in the case of the Irish and the Basques... can sink into violence and the murderous logic of terrorism. I believe, however, that we are moving towards internationalism and the disappearance of borders between countries.

CJN: *Last November in Washington, you gave the inaugural address for the international conference on property stolen from the Jews during the Nazi era. You stressed the intellectual and moral dimensions of the work we must undertake to perpetuate the memory of the victims of the Shoah. Don't you have the impression that the financial dimensions of that horrible time are undermining that necessary duty of memory?*

E.W.: Last year, I was asked to chair a commission to restore, to those eligible, the funds held in Swiss banks belonging to the Jewish victims of Nazism. I refused because I believe that it is not through financial compensation that we will restore the honor and the dignity of the Jews exterminated in the death camps. The real issue here is not money, but memory.

The steps being taken to restore the property taken from the Jews are an integral part of a major oeuvre of memory that is so important to the Jews. There is much misunderstanding in this affair. There is a lot of talk about the hundreds of millions of dollars and the large Jewish fortunes appropriated by the Nazis and their henchmen. But people forget that 99 percent of the Jewish victims of Nazism were poor. The rich families were only a small minority.

By speaking only of money, we are going to end up believing that all the European Jews were millionaires in the '40s, which was not at all true. It was not only the riches of the rich that were stolen, but also the poverty of the poor. They stole from the poor, their bodies and their most personal possessions, especially their hair. That is what we have to think about when we refer to memory, not to the millions of dollars of a few fortunate families.

But, at the same time, it is essential that the money belonging to the despoiled Jewish families be restored to their direct heirs or to the Jewish communities that are also their heirs. On the other hand, these financial claims must be made with sobriety and grace.

CJN: *In Canada, the plan to build a museum dedicated to the memory of Jewish Holocaust victims recently gave rise to controversy. Several community groups – Armenians, Arabs, Vietnamese – wanted the memorial to honor the memory of the victims of all the genocides perpetrated throughout history. Doesn't such a request risk trivializing the unique nature of the Shoah?*

E.W.: I hope that the Canadian Holocaust museum will be built. We must put an end to the current confusion. These comparisons undermine the singularity and the authenticity of the memory of the Jewish victims of Nazism.

The Holocaust is a Jewish tragedy with universal implications. Its universality rests in its uniqueness. Any attempt to dilute it or to extrapolate from it can only falsify its meaning. It is above all as a Jew that I remember that horrible tragedy. It is my duty. By doing this, I make others remember the drama of their own families.

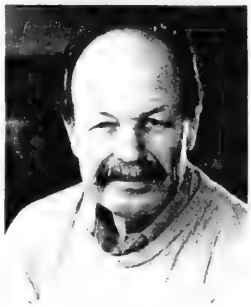
For me, memory is not an instrument of exclusion and reduction, but rather one of openness and inclusion. Memory can only enrich by becoming deeper. In other words, the more the memory of a Jew is Jewish, the more it transcends in order to attain the universal.

This interview appears in full in French in the Montreal edition of CJN. *Translation by Carolan Halpern.*

On Campus

Archeologist scours biblical ruins

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter



Eliezer Oren

TORONTO — In a major excavation at a place in the western Negev Desert called Tel Haror, an Israeli archeologist is scouring the ruins of Gerar, the biblical site linked with the founding fathers of the Jewish people, Abraham and Isaac.

Eliezer Oren, holder of the Canada Chair in Near Eastern archeology at Ben-Gurion University in Beersheva, has been digging at Tel Haror since 1981.

Gerar, he said in an interview to mark the 10th anniversary of the Canada Chair, is closely identified with the Israelites, as well as with the Canaanites and the Philistines

At Tel Haror, which is midway between Beersheva and the Gaza Strip, Oren has found the remains of a settlement 16 hectares in size. It is from the Patriarchal epoch, and by archeological standards, is a huge town site.

The dig, which encompasses 4,500 years of history, is significant. "Tel Haror illuminates the early history of Israel and makes it real," explained Oren, founder of Ben-Gurion University's archeology division.

"Projects like this provide us with an indirect link to the past. It's a unique opportunity to touch the roots of early Jewish history."

Information about this era was, until recently, derived from biblical sources, which are not necessarily historically accurate, Oren said. But with the Tel Haror dig, new light has been and will be shed on the period, a prosperous and enlightened one, during which the alphabet emerged.

Oren and his team, consisting in part of students from North America, Europe and Australia, have found Israelite building materials, pottery and the bones of animals used in sacrificial rituals. "But no pig bones," he said. "It was already taboo."

They have also uncovered Philistine objects, and currently, they are poring over a large Canaanite temple which is yielding valuable clues about the Canaanites' religious beliefs.

The Tel Haror dig will go on for many years to come, said Oren, a graduate of the Hebrew University, University of Pennsylvania and the University of London.

A Sabra born in 1938, Oren wrote his PhD thesis on an ancient cemetery in the Israeli town of Beit Shean. This enabled him to study the burial customs of Semitic peoples such as the Canaanites and the Philistines.

From 1972 to 1978, he directed the Tel Sera excavation in the Negev. It is identified with the biblical settlement of Ziklag and with King David.

Oren was also in charge of a dig in the northern Sinai Peninsula from 1972 to 1982.

There, amid sand dunes, shifting sands and swamps, he dug up 1,300 settlement sites dating back to the Stone Age, including a fourth-century Roman-Jewish site which yielded coins bearing Hebrew letters.

He focused on this particular area because it was an important land bridge, a corridor joining Africa with Asia. "There was an open frontier between Canaan and Egypt."

In 1992, under the terms of Israel's 1979 peace treaty with Egypt, Oren returned nine truck loads of objects from Sinai numbering in the millions.

"I was criticized for returning them to Egypt, but I was in favor of it," he said. "We had to fulfill our treaty obligations, and we were interested in forming a collaborative relationship with Egypt."

Oren acknowledged that Israel's cultural relations with Egypt are skimpy. "But you never know. It could change in the future."

On May 6, the Canada Chair – which was funded by a group of Torontonians – plans to host a conference on current archeological developments in the Nile delta. Oren said that Egyptian archeologists were expected to attend the meeting.

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On Campus

Jewish community leader new U of M law dean

By MYRON LOVE
Prairies Correspondent

WINNIPEG — Jewish community leader Harvey Secter has been appointed the new dean of law at the University of Manitoba.

When he takes up the post on July 1, Secter, 54, will bring a unique perspective to his new position. He has a business rather than a traditional academic or legal background. The law is a second career for the former businessman.

The Secter name is well known in Winnipeg's Jewish community. Harvey's late parents, Joe and Gwen (after whom the National Council of Jewish Women named its seniors' centre in north Winnipeg) were philanthropists and community leaders, a path that Harvey and his wife, Sondra, have also followed.

Harvey currently sits on the board of the Jewish Foundation of Manitoba and the Kanee Centre of the Sharon Home as well as on the boards of numerous other non-profit institutions in the general community.

Secter inherited the family business, Ricki's Canada, from his father. In partnership with his brother-in-law, Sam Guralnick, he built Ricki's from a local chain of 10 ladies' retail fashion stores into a 150-store national operation. He was also part of the ownership group of the Winnipeg Jets.

In 1988, he walked away from it all. "Twenty years seemed to be an awfully long time," he recalls. "It was time to move on, although I wasn't sure what I was moving on to. I decided to try law, not because I wanted to practise necessarily, but because it seemed to be an interesting diversion from commercial activity."

Harvey Secter excelled as a law student. Upon graduation in 1992, he won the Gold Medal. After articling and being called to the bar, he promptly retired as a practising lawyer. He went back to school, to Harvard, where he earned a master's degree in law, specializing in negotiation. He stayed at Harvard for an extra year as a visiting researcher in dispute resolution.

Since he and Sondra returned to Winnipeg in 1995, Secter has been teaching part time at the University of Manitoba Law School.

He has also been providing advice and training to public and private sector clients in conflict management and negotiation, through his company, Resolution Processes Inc.

The university first approached Secter, a popular teacher, last fall, about assuming the dean's post.

"I know I am still the new kid on the block," he says. "I bring the perspective of client, student and scholar to this role. I hope I am bringing a fresh outlook. I am looking forward to seeing where improvements can be made and what we can do differently. My approach though will be evolutionary, not revolutionary. There are a lot of talented and experienced people here. I look forward to working with them."

TORONTO HAS STRONG KOACH CONTINGENT

Tamara Kochberg (front, second from right) and 16 students from Toronto formed the largest contingent of any city at the Koach Kallah held recently in New Brunswick, N.J. Koach is the campus outreach department for the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism. The four-day conference, with scholars-in-residence Rabbis Neil Gillman and Joel Roth of the Jewish Theological Seminary, was attended by 115 students from across North America. Participants dealt with issues such as egalitarianism and the state of the Conservative (Masorti) movement in Israel, and took part in social action events such as helping at a soup kitchen or running an Oneg Shabbat for seniors.

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Scene in Ottawa

By G.K. SIMCOE

Perhaps some significant but unnoticed magnetic surge accounts for it, but Ottawa observers are re-calibrating their Global Positioning System units as they track the positions of various federal politicians on the ongoing crisis in the Balkans.

Less than 10 years ago, Lloyd Axworthy led the campaign of opposition to a military response to Saddam Hussein. He persuaded the Liberal party to oppose the Mulroney government's intention to join the Gulf War coalition. Axworthy's stand was echoed by Svend Robinson.

A decade later, one can scarcely recognize the two. As foreign minister, Lloyd Axworthy serves as the point man on Team Canada. Defending the military option in Yugoslavia, he has rejected all calls to pursue diplomacy or the more passive route of sanctions.

For his part, Robinson has, in the main, supported Canadian participation in the NATO bombing. Certainly he has been one of the more vocal defenders of the Kosovo Albanians for many months.

If we accept their current positions as sincere, how do we account for their extraordinary volte-face?

In the case of Svend Robinson, there has not been any change. He has always situated himself as the champion for and defender of human rights. For Robinson there has always been only one test. If a government's actions compromise a group's civil and human rights, he will oppose that regime. If military action represents the only way to protect those rights, he will endorse a military operation. It may be a simplistic approach, but at least it has been a consistent one.

Axworthy's is a little more complicated. Although he spent money and political capital to get a seat on the Security Council, he is frustrated with its impotence. Despite an inherent antipathy for the United States, he recognizes that Canada could not credibly choose a different path on this issue. Realpolitik has gotten in the way!

Like Robinson, though, Axworthy has really not changed. The difference is that with Robinson, the anchor has always been a concept – human rights. With Axworthy, the anchor relates to the approach. That means we can anticipate an effort by the foreign minister to reassert his left-of-centre leanings. What are the odds that they will find expression in Canada's position on the Israel-Palestinian peace process?

Ottawa Jews celebrate Israel's 51st anniversary

By DIANE KOVEN
Ottawa Correspondent

OTTAWA — Celebrations for Israel's 51st anniversary should be every bit as enthusiastic as those for the 50th anniversary, says the president of the Jewish Community Council of Ottawa/Vaad Ha'Ir.

"We must celebrate every day, every month and every year, not just the milestone occasions," Barbara Farber said at the conclusion of the Yom Hazikaron ceremony held recently at Machzikei Hadas synagogue.

Immediately following the Yom Hazikaron commemoration, hundreds of people danced and ate Israeli food, in celebration of Yom Ha'atzmaut.

The annual, community-wide event rotates among the city's largest synagogues, and is co-organized with the Soloway JCC.

The following morning, a flag-raising ceremony, attended by local politicians, representatives of various Jewish organizations, students from Hillel Academy and members of the public, was held outside the Joseph and Rose Ages Building.

In his welcoming remarks, Jeff Gould, president of the Soloway JCC said, "Today is indeed a time to rejoice, and we are happy to be here to do so."

"A flag is a symbol. In this specific case, besides referring to a sovereign country, it symbolizes the unity of the Jewish people, because long before it was adopted as the flag of the State of Israel, it was the flag uniting the Jewish people around the world," said Israel Ambassador David Sultan.

Deputy Prime Minister Herb Gray brought greetings from the government.

Musical selections by the Hillel Academy Choir concluded the event.

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Coast to Coast

CJC statement on Kosovo sparks internal debate

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — To what extent, if any, should Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) be endorsing NATO's bombing of Yugoslavia?

At a recent meeting of CJC's national executive committee, there were no ready answers, given the context of a tragedy rife with complexities, where there are not necessarily obvious "good guys" and "bad guys," and where people have been at each other's throats for centuries.

The question arose, because on April 5, CJC issued a strong statement deploring the suffering that has resulted from Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic's policies concerning ethnic Albanians in Kosovo.

That was the easy part. But Congress went further, commending the Canadian government "for acting in concert through NATO" to end the ethnic cleansing, in effect endorsing NATO's tactics of bombing Yugoslavia.

"We stand in solidarity with the efforts of the brave men and women of the Canadian Armed Forces and we pray for their safe and speedy return," CJC president Moshe Ronen said in the statement.

By using such words, and thus taking an outright political position, the statement appeared to be a departure from CJC's traditional approach of addressing itself solely to the humanitarian concerns involved.

While there seemed to be a strong consensus at the meeting that they should deplore the ethnic cleansing and the suffering, and hope for a diplomatic resolution, there was no unanimity on the prudence of Congress' having adopted a "political" position.

One member warned that the Kosovar refugees might be compared to Palestinians.

Ronen noted that Belgrade Jews had condemned NATO's actions.

Others stressed that, notwithstanding the actions of Milosevic, this is not an ethnic conflict with an obvious right side and wrong side. Serbs, one executive member noted, had helped Jews during World War II, while Albanians had not.

Another member, Tom Kuttner, said a distinction had to be made between ethnic cleansing and population transfer.

"What's wrong," Kuttner said, "is the criminal way it is being carried out."

B.J. Finestone, a veteran both of the executive and of World War II, said, "We should speak out against abuses, but there's no right or wrong here. Everybody's wrong. We do not have to put ourselves in the position of being geo-politicians."

Still another member, Robert Presser, suggested that Congress had to be careful about "commenting on each NATO initiative."

He warned that if the situation evolved to the point of bringing in ground troops, which he believes is inevitable, it will produce a quick drop-off in public support.

Defenders of CJC's position on NATO noted that the issue of ethnic cleansing resonated with Jews for obvious reasons, and that, while Kosovo was no Holocaust, with no genocide taking place, now was not the time for CJC to be reticent, given the way the world stood idly by while Jews were being persecuted and slaughtered.

"If we had had NATO in 1933 or 1934," said national executive committee chair Manuel Schacter, "who knows how many human lives would have been saved?

"I would be appalled if Congress felt reluctant to intervene when there's a violation of human rights," he said.

Similarly, executive member Manuel Prutschi said that if CJC addressed itself only to the issue of humanitarian relief, it would be the "easy way out and the coward's way out.

"We have an obligation more than other people to speak out against crimes against humanity," he said.

Ronen said he believes the CJC response to the crisis in Kosovo has been "measured, unequivocal, and appropriate."

CJC, he indicated, would continue to denounce the policies of ethnic cleansing, while taking part in the efforts of world Jewry to provide humanitarian relief.

At the same time, he said, the organization would continue to emphasize the distinction between "ethnic cleansing" –a crime against humanity – and outright genocide, such as that perpetrated against the Jews.

"There's been brutal suffering, but we have to be careful about the language that's allowed to be used," he said.

"There was no refugee crisis during the Holocaust. The objectives and the means were the same: to kill people for the sake of killing people."

DAN HONORED BY BOYS TOWN

Boys Town Jerusalem's recent 50th anniversary dinner at Beth Tzedec Congregation paid tribute to Leslie Dan (left), who received a special anniversary award from Rabbi Ronald Gray, executive vice-president of Boys Town Jerusalem Foundation.

Yiddish Corner

יידיש ווינקל

רעדאגירט פון ש. ליפשיץ

פאַרשאַפט זיך אַ ביסל גייסטיקן פאַרגעניגן

פון אַלעק סילווער

(סוף פון פריערדיקן נומער)

איך געדענק נאָך, אַז איך מיינע יונגע יאָרן האָט די פיעסע „גרינע פעלדער" געמאכט אַ גרויסן אינדרוק אויף מיר. איך בין אַ געבוירענער אין קליינעם שטעטל סטאַפּנין, וואָס איז אַרומגע-רינגלט מיט פוירישע דערפלעך, מיט וועלכע מיר זיינען געקומען אין כסדר־דיקער באַרירונג. אין אַ צאָל דערפער האָט מען פון אונדזער שטעטל געקענט מאַכן אַ שפּאַציר. דערצו נאָך איז מיין פאַטער ע"ה געווען אַ קאָוואַל און די אַרומיקע פויערים זיינען געווען זייער פרנסה־גיבעריס.

אין די חדשים פון די זומער וואַקאַציעס פלעגט מיין מאַמע ע"ה דינגען דאַרט אַ „זומער־וואינונג", וואו זי, מיין שוועסטער און איך פלעגן פאַרבענגען עטלעכע וואָכן. עס זיינען דאַרט אויך געווען אַנדערע ידישע משפחות פון שטעטל, ווי זי קופּטשיקס, נימאַנס און נאָך. די טאַטעס פלעגן אַרויסקומען פריטיק פאַרנאַכט און שטיין דאַרט ביז מאַנטיק אינדערפרי. שבת נאַכמיטאָג פלעגן אויך אַרויסקומען יונגעלייט און מיידלעך אין דאַרט פאַרברענגן.

איך געדענק נאָך גוט, ווי דאָס לעבן אויפן פאַרם האָט אונדז, יונגע קינדער, שטאַרק אימפּאָנירט. מיר זיינען געווען גלייקלעך, וויל דער פאַרמער האָט אונדז מיטגענומען פאַרטאָגס אין פעלד אַריין אין גאַלאָזט אונדז מיטאַרבעטן ביים אינזאַמלען די תבואה. אַדער וויל די פויערטע האָט אונדז דערלויבט איר צו העלפן ביים פאַשען די עופות, מעלקן די קי, שלאָגן פוטער, מאַכן קעז און אַנדערע טעגלעכע נויטיקע אַרבעטן אויף דער פאַרם. מיר האָבן אַפילו גע-גענען עטלעכע גראָשנס צו דעם פויערס קינדער, זיי זאָלן אונדז געבן די מעגלעכקייט צו טאָן זייער אַרבעט.

האָט דערציבער דאָס לעבן פון די ידישע „פויערים" אויפן דאָרף, וויי עס באַשריבט פרץ הירשביין אין זיינע „גרינע פעלדער", מיך צוגעצויגן און די פאַנטאַזיע האָט זיך דעמאָלט צעשפּילט. לייענענדיק איצט ווידער אַמאָל די פיעסע האָט מיך צוריקגע-ברענגט צו די ציימן פון מיין יוגנט, וועו איך האָב דאָס ממש מיט-געלעבט. ווידער אַמאָל האָב איך געזען דאָס שטעטל, די דערפער, די פויערים אַרבעטן אויף די פעלדער, די ידישע איינוואוינער פון שטעטל, וואָס האָבן געשעפט חיונה פון די פויערים.

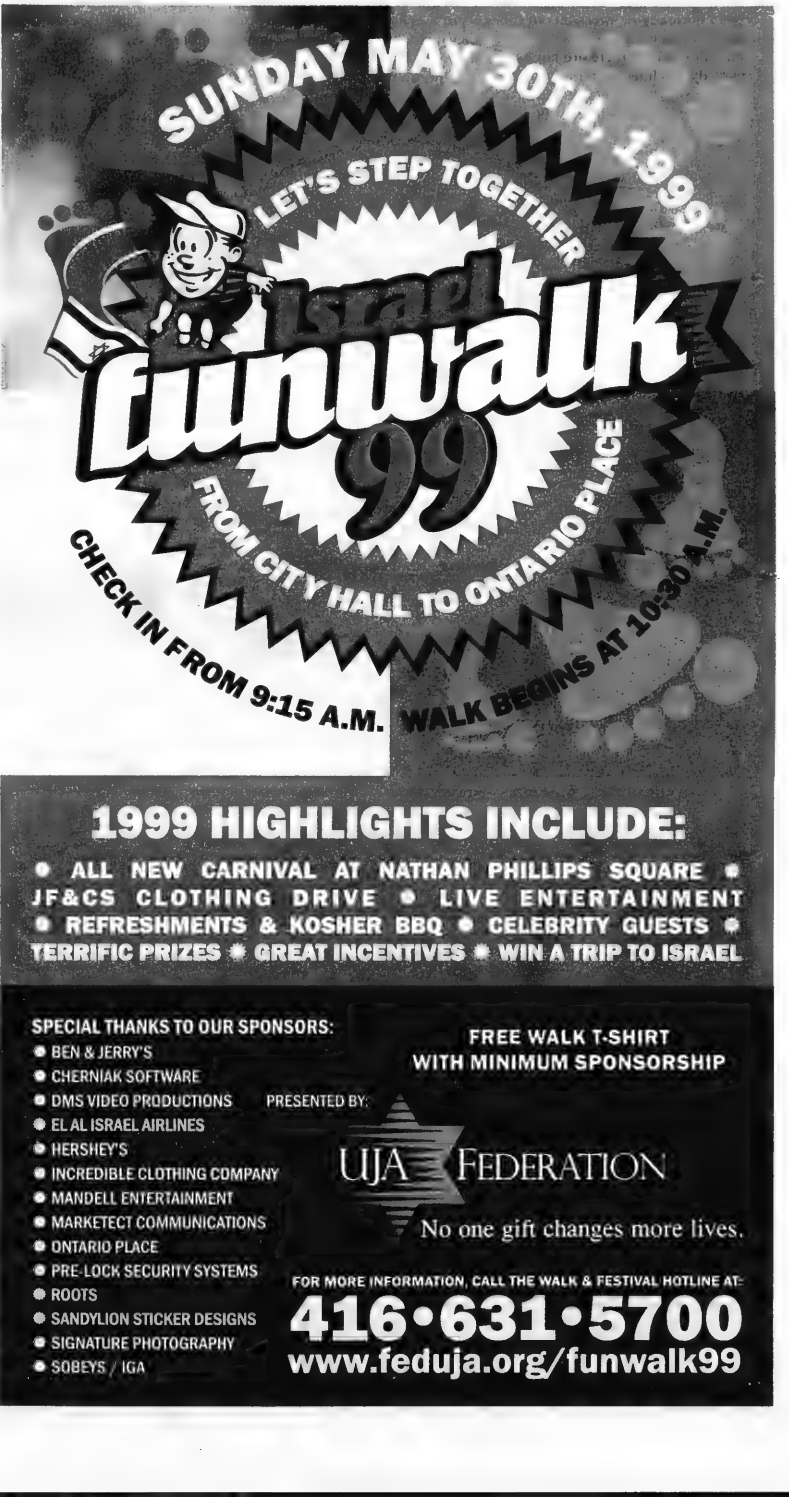
איך האָב געזען די גרינע לאַנקעס, וואו מיר האָבן זיך גע-שפּילט; די טאַטעס־מאַמעס, וואָס האָבן געזוכט אַ מלמד פאַר זייערע קינדער, כדי דער יונגער דור זאָל אויפוואַקסן אַ ביסל מער געלערנט ווי זיידע־באָבע; געזען די קנאה פון טייל וויבער, וועו זיי האָבן געזען אַ ביסל מער קינדער־נחת ביי די שכנים; דאָס האַלטן זיך אין גרויסן פון יידן, וועמען דאָס מזל האָט בעסער אָפּגעגלויקט. און אַזוי זיינען די געשטאַלטן פון „גרינע פעלדער" געוואָרן אַלץ מער און מער לעבעדיקער אין מיין זכרון.

וועו די צוויי מאַמעס: רחל און גיטל צעווערטלען זיך, האָב איך ממש געזען פאַר מיינע אויגן מיין באָבע ע"ה מיט איר שכנה אין דער זעלבער קריגערי. וועו צינע פאַרליבט זיך אין לוי יצחק, דעם ישיבה בחור/מלמד, האָב איך געזען ענלעכע פאַרליבטע פאַרלעך פון אונדזער שטעטל, וואָס פלעגן שטילערהייט זיך דערקלערן אין ליבע, טיילמאָל קעגן דער צושטימונג פון טאַטן. די דאַרפישע יידן, דוד נח און אלקנה, דערמאָנען די זיידעס, פעטערס, די באַלעגאַלעס און סתם יידן מיט בערד, וועלכע האָבן שווער „געפּראָצעווענט" צו קענען באַשפּיזן זייער הויגעזינד.

כ'זויל צוגעבן, אַז די ידישע שפּראַך אין די אַלטע ביכלעך איז נישט די בעסטע. מיר זיינען היינט שוין צוגעוואוינט צו אַ בעסערן ידיש מיט גראַמאַטישע אויסלייגן, בעסערע אויסדרוקן און זאַצ-קאַנסטרוקציעס. אָבער דער סיפור המעשה איז צוצייענדיק. איך האָב דאָס ביכל נישט אַוועקגעלייגט ביז איך האָב עס געענדיקט. אויב איר גדעדענקט נאָך די פיעסע, וועט איר עס זיכער פאַרשטיין.

דאָס ליינען „גרינע פעלדער" האָט מיר שטאַרק הנאה געטאָן און כדי צו פאַרגעסערן מיין פאַרגעניגן, האָב איך נאָכן ליינען אַראָפגענומען פון דער פאַליצע דעם אַלטן ידישן פילם „גרינע פעלדער", באַזוכט אויף דער פיעסע פון פּרץ הירשביין. זעענדיק די געשטאַלטן פון בוך קומען צום לעבן אויפן עקראַן, איז דאָס-טאַלגיע נאָך דער אַלטער היים שטאַרקער געוואָרן.

צום סוף וויל איך נאָך אַמאָל אונטערשטרייכן מיין גרויסן פאַר-געניגן. איך האָב בלויז „מקריב געווען", אַזוי צו זאָגן, איין טאָג פון מיין לעבן. דאָס האָט מיר צוריקגעגעבן אַ סך יאָרן פון מיין יוגנט. און עס איז ווערט געווען. איך האָב באַשלאָסן איבערצוחזרן אַזאַ טאָג איך דער נאָענטער צוקונפט. טוט דאָס אויך, חשובער לייענער, איר. וועט אַליין זען, אַז איך בין געווען גערעכט און איר וועט זיך אַליין פּראָשאָפן אַ ביסל גייסטיקן פאַרגעניגן.



Jewish life after bar/bat mitzvah

On Oct. 27, we inaugurated *The CJN* Roundtable Discussion Series.

These discussions are an attempt to create an additional forum for the free-wheeling exchange of ideas on contemporary issues of importance to the Jewish community, locally, nationally and abroad. The proceedings of that initial roundtable, on the subject of The Jews of Toronto: Who we are and what we can be, were published in *The CJN* issue of Dec. 10, 1998.

We are pleased to publish in this issue, the proceedings of our second Roundtable, After Bar and Bat Mitzvah: Developing a Jewish life.

This discussion was held on March 9 at the Sephardic Kehila Centre in Thornhill. The panelists were: Rebecca Greenstein, OAC student, School of Liberal Arts; Susan Jackson, director of continuity, UJA Federation of Greater Toronto; and Richard Stoll, educator, Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto.

It attempted to arrive at answers to the question of how to reach out and "touch" our Jewish youth who, for various reasons, happen not to be part of, or even want to be part of the Jewish milieu.

By the end of the evening, it was clear to all participants that there were no clear-cut, neat, easily-implementable solutions to the many complex aspects of Jewish identity and Jewish involvement among our youth.

* * *

There will be more *CJN* Roundtable Discussions in the future. It is our hope that, with time, they will become a deeply-embedded and highly-anticipated part of the intellectual life of the community.

MBD

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — If there is a term used in Jewish communal life more often than continuity, then it must be the crisis of Jewish continuity.

With assimilation levels south of the border at all time highs, and with Canadian Jewry historically a generation behind the United States in sociological trends, Jewish leaders and laymen are increasingly viewing the future of the Jewish people with concern.

The teenage years, in particular, are seen as a key period in young peoples' lives during which an affiliation to Jewish life – or a distance from it – are often formed.

Will they stay connected to their Jewish heritage or will they drift away to other things?

Three speakers recently brought their unique perspectives to that troubling issue. Susan Jackson is director of continuity for the United Jewish Appeal, the community's main fundraising arm; Richard Stoll is teacher and assistant principal at CHAT; and Rebecca Greenstein is an OAC student at the School of Liberal Arts (SOLA).

They recently addressed *The CJN*'s Roundtable on the topic: After Bar and Bat Mitzvah; Developing Jewish Life.

For Susan Jackson, a humorous story involving bats in a belfry – and in a shul – illustrates the difficulty in keeping young people committed to Jewish life.

A priest and minister were faced with the problem of ridding their churches' belfries of bats. After failing at every turn to get rid of the pesky rodents, a rabbi came up with a novel suggestion.

The shul also had a problem with a bat infestation, he told the Christian clergymen, so to get rid of them, he gave them a Jewish education and bar mitzvahed them all. As soon as that was over, they were gone, never to return.

With that little vignette, Jackson introduced two suggestions she believed could be useful in keeping the "bats," make that teenage Jews, linked to Jewish life after their bnei/bnot mitzvah.

Role modeling and exploring new aspects of Judaism are two key ingredients in keeping people interested in Jewish culture, she suggested.

"I'm a big proponent of what we all call role modeling. I think it isn't just parents role modeling for children, but children [or peers], role modeling for each other." That can be as simple as telling friends they will be attending an evening in which Jewish issues are discussed, she said.

Jackson pointed to her own life as an example. She got her start in community activities as an 8-year-old in Montreal, collecting UJA pledges door to door. Her whole family was involved in the project, and her father later served as a synagogue president.

"Role modeling was there. It was something that we did, something that we constantly saw. And we have to remember...it's not just our parents or our kids. It's our peers too [who can serve as role models], because that's an important part of the world."

Some role modeling can be acquired by "osmosis," like the child who emulates her mother blessing the Sabbath candles because that is something she was repeatedly exposed to, she continued.

"It is important to take what you got and things [you don't realize] you got, and pass them to the next generation," Jackson said. "Things do come down sometimes, even when we don't realize it. So our actions, in some cases, are even more important than words.

'Positive Judaism' essential

"You never know the things that stay with you, from your parents or your friends," she said. "So our behaviors and our actions sometimes are as important, or more important, than our words."

Jackson also referred to the importance of "positive Judaism," emphasizing that the celebration of Judaism should be presented to youngsters as a positive experience, with celebrations, holidays, places to go and things to see.

"Judaism is not a litany of mourning or a litany of Kaddish," she said.

She also suggested young people sometimes need a "kick in the rear end...to help teach them not to be afraid to try new things."

CHAT teacher Richard Stoll said it is only recently that the bar or bat mitzvah has been considered a retirement from active Jewish life, rather than a step toward further education and responsibility.

"Parents must put their children in situations where they develop an emotional response [to Jewish practice], he said, adding that the emotional response is what leads to continued commitment.

Stoll, a chaperon on the 1998 March of the Living, employed the acronym SIMPLE as a guide for maintaining Jewish life: Shabbat, Israel, March of the Living, Programming, Language study (Hebrew) and Education.

He quoted the Jewish writer Achad HaAm, who said that "more than Jews have kept Shabbat, Shabbat has kept the Jews." He stressed the importance of creating meaningful and appealing Shabbat experiences.

It is "indescribable" how a tour, a summer camp or time spent in an Israeli school can develop positive and lasting feelings toward the land and the people of Israel, he continued.

Stoll decried the attitude of some that the March of the Living is a misguided attempt to turn unconnected kids unto Judaism through negative means.

The March was "the most emotionally charged experience of my life," Stoll said. The trip was a window into the "past vibrant life" of European Jewry, and it provided lessons about the abiding significance of Israel.

He encouraged the development of programs that children and adults can enjoy together.

Turning to religious texts, Stoll said they encourage ongoing learning and are "best understood in the original language...Imagine the feeling someone has when they realize that they are asking the same question as Rashi did," he said.

Finally, said Stoll, education must be continual and ongoing – and not only in a formal, institutional setting. "Why not send your kids to Jewish camp instead of to a camp that Jews go to?" Kids in camp learn in a "social and fun way," he said.

Sending children to a Jewish high school is vital, said Stoll. "High school is where children develop critical thinking. They enter as children and leave as adults."

He quoted a recent study of Jewish young people which said "there is a [correlation] between [being a] day school graduate and having negative feelings towards intermarriage and positive ones toward involvement with the Jewish community."

At the beginning of his speech, he told the old story about an elderly lady who went on a pilgrimage to see a famous guru in India. After overcoming many hardships, she was told she could say three words to him. The words she chose? "Come home Sheldon!"

"Let us hope that our kids will identify with the mother, rather than with Sheldon," he concluded.

For OAC student Rebecca Greenstein, the terms secular and Reform have "often been perceived as somehow undercutting my commitment to Judaism.

"Secularized Jews such as myself," she said, "are as valid a modern Jewish phenomenon as any other member of our increasingly diverse faith."

Greenstein believes that the future of Judaism lies in the hands of the individual. Her personal contribution lies in faith and spirituality, rather than observance, she said.

Participating in the 1998 March of the Living was a turning point for her. "I built connections with people with whom my only link was Judaism," she said.

"After my return from that unbelievable odyssey into my past, I learned to fight any apathy or sadness in my life with the knowledge that the Jewish chain is only as strong as its weakest link, and that I didn't feel that as a promising young woman, I of all people should be the source of weakness."

With files from Leila Speisman and Frances Kraft.

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Panel responds to concerns about youth

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — As with most matters spiritual, there were more questions than answers at the recent *CJN* Roundtable, but panelists did their best to reassure Jewish youth of their place in the community.

To the broad query of how does Jewish youth know what it wants, Richard Stoll said a vacuum often appears in young people naturally, when the time is right in a person's development.

It's hoped, he said, that a young person in search of religious fulfillment would find what he or she wants amid the myriad of services, organizations and outreach groups in Toronto.

Susan Jackson said she has noted that many young Jews are "hopping on the bandwagon of Jewish education." But, she cautioned, there is an invisible layer of young Jews, unexposed to Judaism, unaffiliated and unattracted to current programming.

"It's hard to target people when you don't know where they are. It's hard for kids to learn something they have never seen," she said.

Rebecca Greenstein admitted what many parents know: Teenagers lead full lives and their priorities lean toward self-fulfillment.

"Often, we're so self-absorbed that we have no need for spirituality. [But] one day you wake up and you start wondering about life." Judaism, she said, can give someone "a reason to get out of bed in the morning."

One questioner wondered about young people who have had bad experiences with Jewish programs, and how that could turn someone off for years.

Panelists agreed the issue goes back to Jewish education. A solid foundation, they said, can prepare and help shield a person from a bad experience. But maturity of years can also soften bad memories.

Greenstein offered: "When you're younger, religion is brought to you. When you're older, you have to go to religion. When the time is right, you go back to religion."

One audience member, an Orthodox teen, who said she was turned off by religious fanaticism, suggested that young people should be exposed to Judaism a little at a time, or else they could be lost for good.

Stoll agreed, saying "anything that is acquired suddenly can be lost as suddenly."

Greenstein, who had spoken about her experiences on the March of the Living, was asked about programs on a smaller, less dramatic and less intense level.

Organizations like B'nai Brith Youth Organization (BBYO); North Eastern Lakes Federation of Temple Youth (NELFTY), campus groups and other synagogue-affiliated groups offer a wide cross-section of programs, Greenstein noted.

One questioner wondered why Sunday Hebrew classes for kids often end with their bnei mitzvah.

Jackson stated the problem could lie with the paucity of afternoon and Sunday classes. She said there is a "huge" movement in Toronto to start a community-supported afternoon school for teens.

In response to one young woman's query about those kids who don't attend day or afternoon classes, or go on the March of the Living, Stoll said that "in many ways, Israel is the answer" for those who have little or no exposure to Judaism.

Unaffiliated young adults can also take advantage of classes and programs at the Bathurst Jewish Centre, Aish HaTorah and Kolel: a Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning and other outreach organizations, the panel noted.

Panelists Richard Stoll, Rebecca Greenstein and Susan Jackson. [Ron Csillag photo]

One young man said he finds there is too much emphasis in the community on the various streams of Judaism, and their differences.

Stoll said it's important not to follow dogma blindly. "Sometimes, doing what's counter-intuitive can reap rewards," he said. "We have to do away with labels and categories."

Change, panelists agreed, is a slow process and comes in small increments.

Greenstein perhaps best summed it up: "One day, something will hit you and make a personal connection."

Jewish groups for youth

• B'nai Brith Youth Organization (BBYO)
1118 Centre St.,
Thornhill, L4J 7R9
905-707-9907
Co-ed youth group, 14 to 18 years old, encompasses B'nai Brith Girls and AZA for boys.

• Bnei Akiva of Toronto
296 Wilson Ave.,
Toronto, M3H 1S8
630-7634
Religious Zionist, Orthodox, co-ed, ages eight and up.

• Canadian Young Judaea
788 Marlee Ave.,
Toronto, M6B 3K1
781-5156
Zionist youth group for boys and girls aged 8 to 21.

• Habonim Dror
272 Codsell Ave.,
Toronto, M3H 3X2
633-2511
Worldwide Zionist youth movement inspired by kibbutz ideals and values.

• Hashomer Hatzair
1111 Finch Ave. W., suite 456
Toronto, M3J 2E5
736-1339
Co-ed, Zionist youth group affiliated with Friends of Pioneering Israel-Mapam.

• Jewish Campus Services of Greater Toronto
3101 Bathurst St.,
Toronto, M6A 2A6
785-1465
Provides programming and services to Jewish students at university and college campuses.

• National Conference of Synagogue Youth (NCSY)
3524 Bathurst St.,
Toronto, M6A 2C6
782-4426
Orthodox group stressing Torah Judaism.

• North Eastern Lakes Federation of Temple Youth (NELFTY)
36 Atkinson Ave.,
Thornhill, L4J 8C9
905-709-2275
For teens affiliated with Reform congregations.

• United Synagogue Youth (USY)
1520 Steeles Ave. W., suite 112
Concord, L4K 3B9
905-738-1717
For youth groups affiliated with Conservative congregations.

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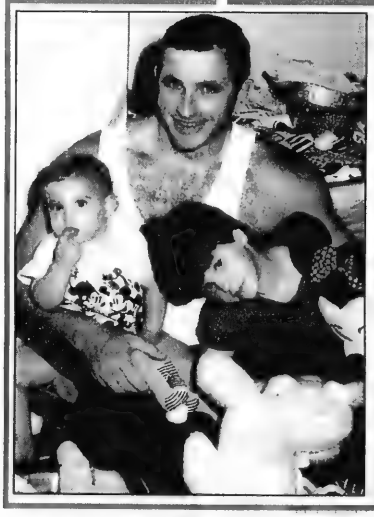

Shmuel Carmeli: Making the Grade

At age 19, a commander in the tank corps during the Yom Kippur war, Shmuel Carmeli's life took a tragic turn.

As he was moving towards the Suez, unfazed by an earlier attack on his tank, an anti-tank missile found its mark. It left Shmuel unconscious and paralyzed.

Encouraged by two successful surgeries to remove shrapnel from his spine, Shmuel was told that he would again have use of his legs. Hope however faded as days in a wheelchair turned into months. Determined, with the aid of braces and Beit Halochem, it took three long and painful years to Shmuel to walk again.

Plenty of available time and limited career choices enabled Shmuel to earn his Ph.D. in chemistry and he is now a senior lecturer at Tel Aviv University. Shmuel, a married father of three, is a fine example of Beit Halochem's success.

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Coast to Coast

Prof. Raymond Lemieux (left) with David Sultan, Israel's Ambassador to Canada. [Sam Garcia photo]

Canadian professor awarded Wolf Prize in chemistry

By DIANE KOVEN
Ottawa Correspondent

OTTAWA — Raymond Lemieux, a professor emeritus at the University of Alberta, is no stranger to accolades and awards.

This week, Lemieux was to be presented with the prestigious Wolf Prize in chemistry by Israeli President Ezer Weizman, at a special ceremony at the Knesset.

Lemieux was also honored at a recent luncheon hosted by David Sultan, the Israeli ambassador to Canada, and Henri Rothschild, president of the Canada-Israel Research and Development Foundation.

The luncheon, attended by senior public servants, scientists and academics, members of Parliament and the Senate, as well as representatives of various Jewish organizations, was an opportunity for the Canadian diplomatic and scientific communities to pay tribute to Lemieux.

"Not only has he honored himself, but through him we are all honored as Canadians," Deputy Prime Minister Herb Gray said of Lemieux. "We appreciate, as Canadians, the honor given to a fellow citizen by the Wolf Foundation."

The Wolf Prize was established in 1978 by the late German-born Ricardo Wolf, who served for many years as the Cuban ambassador to Israel. The prize is awarded annually to outstanding scientists and artists.

Work has had important medical applications

In a career spanning half a century, Lemieux has contributed significantly to the study of the chemistry of carbohydrates. Some of his work, including fundamental studies on complex carbohydrate-protein interactions and molecular recognition, has important medical and medicinal applications.

In his remarks at the luncheon, Lemieux, the recipient of the Canada Gold Medal for Science and Engineering and the Order of Canada, recalled the honor of being named Man of the Year by B'nai Brith in Saskatoon for his work on the synthesis of sugar. "I am now going to the very heart of the Jewish world to be honored again," he said.

This trip to Israel will be Lemieux's second. In 1982, while serving on the Canadian advisory board of the Weizmann Institute for Science, he was invited to spend two weeks at the institute as a visiting scientist.

A native of Lac La Biche, Alta., Lemieux held positions at the National Research Council and the universities of Saskatchewan and Ottawa, before chairing the organic chemistry division of the University of Alberta. He retired 14 years ago.

Dr. Moshe Schnitzer, a recent recipient of the Wolf Prize for his work in soil chemistry, was also recognized by Rothschild at the luncheon.

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Coast to Coast

Gerald Rose was a leader in Saskatchewan community

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

Gerald Rose, a powerhouse volunteer and leader of Saskatchewan's Jewish community, died in Saskatoon recently of cancer. He was 78.

Obituary

Rose died just three weeks before he was to be invested into the Order of Canada for his 50 years of communal service. The honor was picked up at the Ottawa ceremony on his behalf by his wife of 53 years, Gladys.

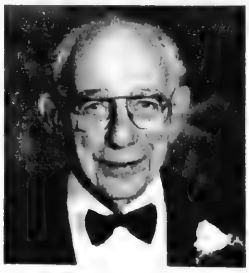
Rose was involved in a myriad of community activities, including Saskatoon's B'nai Brith lodge, the Rotary Club, the Heart and Stroke Foundation and St. Paul's Hospital's board of management. Following his death, the flag at St. Paul's flew at half-mast in his honor.

Helped launch foundation

But one of his proudest achievements, says his family, was establishing the Saskatoon Jewish Foundation in 1986, inspired, in part, by a *CJN* article on the Jewish community in Quebec City, which had dwindled to the point where remaining members were forced to sell their synagogue.

Determined that Saskatoon's 170 Jewish families would not meet the same fate, Rose set up the foundation to ensure the community's financial viability. It has helped Jewish youth, for example, attend summer camps and other activities.

He was regarded as one of Saskatoon's most visible boosters. His administrative skills were tapped when he served as vice-president for the 1979 Western Canada Summer Games, the 1989 Canada Games and the 1992 Canadian Special Olympics Winter Games.



Gerald Rose

Rose was born in Saskatoon to parents who had migrated north from Duluth, Minn. His father, who was born in Romania, started a dry-cleaning and fur business, Arthur Rose Ltd., which Gerald joined following his World War II service in the Royal Canadian Signal Corps, stationed in Aldershot, England.

By then, he had graduated from the University of Saskatchewan with a degree in chemistry. He married Gladys Sarlin in 1946 and they raised three daughters and a son.

Rose ran the family business until retiring in 1985.

He believed strongly in tzedakah, said his wife, who served two terms as president of Saskatoon's Congregation Agudas Israel, which the couple joined the year they were married.

Gladys Rose was also chair of Canadian Jewish Congress's Saskatchewan region.

So numerous were her husband's volunteer activities that he rarely had time for his hobbies, bridge and golf. "He played golf for 50 years and he used to say that his game never improved in all that time," she said.

Over the years, Rose donated time to several home and school associations, the Saskatoon Economic Development Board, and the St. Thomas Moore College Corp.

He was awarded with his B'nai Brith lodge's We Are Proud of You citation, and twice with the City of Saskatoon's Certificate of Distinguished Community Service.

In 1988, he was inducted into the Saskatoon Business Hall of Fame.

Rose was eulogized by Sidney Buckwold of Saskatoon, also an Order of Canada inductee, and by Grant Scharfstein, president of Congregation Agudas Israel.

Rose is survived by his wife, daughters Kathryn Cooper, Toby and Naomi, and son David, all of Toronto, as well as 13 grandchildren.

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Family Matters

by

John Syrtash, B.A. (Hon.), LL.B.

Good news for divorcing women (or is it?) *Part 1 of 2*

As we approach Mother's Day, it's appropriate that we reflect on recent trends in the law that appear to give women greater economic security. In the very recent Supreme Court of Canada decision of *Bracklow*, the Court formally extended the ability of a spouse to claim spousal support, *even where a woman's financial needs and plight did not arise from the marriage.* (Lawyers can find this case on *Quicklaw* at [1999] S.C.J. No. 14.)

The Bracklows lived together for about seven years and were married only for the last three. They had no children, and had both been previously married. Mrs. Bracklow had her own career. Prior to the marriage, Mrs. Bracklow was sick with psychological and other medical problems that became progressively worse — and finally work-disabling — at the end of their relationship.

The British Columbia Court of Appeal ruled that since the marriage did not cause Mrs. Bracklow's financial problems or have any connection to them, the husband was not obliged to "compensate" Mrs. Bracklow with spousal support. For instance, had Mrs. Bracklow worked to raise children and clean toilets while her husband was improving his ability to earn money from year to year, it would have been unfair *not* to compensate her for being out of the work force by reason of the marriage. The Appeal Court therefore denied Mrs. Bracklow an entitlement to support.

Relationship alone deemed grounds for support if spouse in need

However, Madame Justice McLaughlin of the Supreme Court of Canada overruled the British Columbia Court of Appeal. In a lengthy and philosophical decision, she clarified the law by ruling that although the mere fact of marriage itself does not entitle a spouse to support, *the relationship does if a spouse is in need and the partner spouse is able to pay.*

The Court ruled that there are three ways in which a spouse can claim support:

(a) By express or implied contract — i.e. a prenuptial agreement or understanding that support will be paid in the event of a breakdown in the marriage;

(b) Compensatory support (where compensation is paid for "services rendered" and lost opportunity in the work force. Justice McLaughlin called this the "clean break" model or theory of marriage, where each party is independent, not interdependent, but on marriage breakdown the spouse disadvantaged by the relationship needs to be compensated; and

(c) non-compensatory support.

The Court awarded support to Mrs. Bracklow under the umbrella of non-compensatory support since the couple had become interdependent during the course of their relationship, even though they kept separate bank accounts and had separate careers until the last part of the marriage, when Mrs. Bracklow's medical condition deteriorated.

When asking for spousal support, Mrs. Bracklow now also was able to rely on the existence of the relationship in and of itself and the history of interdependency. She did *not* have to prove that her disability or inability to work or financial need related to the marriage.

Non-support agreements can be superseded

In light of this decision, it is hard to imagine when a spouse in need will not be entitled to spousal support, irrespective of the length of their marriage or pre-marital state. Even in the face of a prenuptial contract where a spouse has agreed never to seek such support, several cases have now ruled that such contracts are but one factor the Courts consider when ruling on the issue. If a spouse is in need, particularly on public assistance, *it can still order support even with an agreement to the contrary in place.*

The Court refused to determine the quantity of support for the Bracklows, and sent the case back to the trial judge to arrive at a figure. The Court did, however, make some related determinations — one of which has far-reaching repercussions — that we'll examine in the May 27 issue of the *CJN*.

John Syrtash is a partner and family law lawyer with the Toronto firm of Basman Smith. Neither B'nai Brith Canada, Basman Smith or John Syrtash is liable for any consequences arising from anyone's reliance on this material, which is presented as general information and not as a legal opinion. John Syrtash can be reached at (416) 860-1942.

Material supplied and space sponsored as a public service by the Field Services Department of B'nai Brith Canada.

Health

Koren takes new post at Hospital for Sick Children

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Babies born to mothers that are addicted to alcohol or cocaine can now be identified and helped to better health.

This is one of the reasons Israeli-born Dr. Gideon Koren took on the job of heading Canada's first chair in health research at the Hospital for Sick Children (HSC).

The CIBC Wood Gundy Children's Miracle Foundation Chair was set up, thanks to a $2 million gift from the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce (CIBC).

Koren, head of clinical pharmacology and toxicology at HSC, told *The CJN* that even if the mother denies she is addicted to alcohol or cocaine, medical examination of the baby's hair will tell whether the newborn is affected.

In some cases, he said, these babies must be taken over by the Children's Aid Society, the Catholic Children's Aid or the Jewish Family and Child Service.

But all these babies can be helped in their first or second year of life by a special stimulation program to activate their brain cells.

"In early life, we find that their brains are so plastic that they can be helped," he said.

Even when such children are older and in a special education program at school, they can be helped to overcome the disabilities which are passed on by the mother's addiction.

Koren doubts that an education program will do much to end the addiction of mothers to alcohol or other drugs.

He puts more faith in a contraceptive, implanted under the skin of a woman at risk, that can last up to five years and be removed at the woman's option.

Too many drugs are being given to children today, Koren said. "Remember, these drugs were developed for adults in the first place. Of course, there is a tendency to see if they will help children, but there is a risk attached."

"We used to ask whether a child would be cured of his cancer. Now we also ask what the quality of life will be for the child after having been treated with very toxic medications."

The new chair will enable researchers to use evidence-based medicine in evaluating children's health, as is done with adults.

Practices will be considered from a clinical, fiscal, ethical and social point of view.

"We've already been able to recruit new child heath researchers because of the chair," Dr. Koren said. "These [include] a specialist in health services research, and a health economist who is investigating the cost of health and disease in children."

At the ceremony inaugurating the chair, Al Flood, chair and CEO of CIBC, said it is hoped that it will produce benefits for child health.

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Plastic surgery can mask hidden problems

TORONTO — Plastic surgery, the modern route to the fountain of youth, can sometimes mask problems, warns Dr. Allan Peterkin, a psychiatrist at Mount Sinai Hospital.

To Your Health

"There are a lot of good reasons to have esthetic changes done, to produce a more confident image, an expression of healthy self esteem.

"But sometimes the person contemplating such procedures has profound inner self-esteem issues. They think a procedure will remedy that. But it's not the cure of the problem."

Peterkin says there are warning signs which potential patients, their families and friends should be aware of, and try to resolve, before a procedure is undertaken.

He advises patients to discuss the advantages and pitfalls of such procedures beforehand.

He notes that some people arrange to have the procedure at a bad time in their life, ignoring other health concerns or financial problems. Others have unrealistic expectations of what change the surgery can achieve, or they are having it for the benefit or at the request of someone else.

He says individuals who act in a compulsive nature and subscribe to numerous procedures are also a source of concern.

He recommends that those with alcohol or drug problems, or who suffer from depression, seek other forms of assistance before considering a permanent, altering procedure.

Symposium planned

These kinds of issues are often identified by plastic surgeons before procedures take place; surgeries are delayed or postponed until the issues are dealt with, says Peterkin.

"I think the plastic surgeons are good at getting a sense of the patient's reasons [for plastic surgery]. If they think there's a problem they might suggest the patient have a psychiatric consultation first. The surgeons are good at determining who's a good candidate [for surgery]."

As for new trends in the field, Peterkin says he believes more men are having procedures done.

"Businessmen are having more procedures for competitive reasons, to reflect a successful man on the rise. They covet an energetic, healthy image, they're active socially or in their careers and want the outside appearance to reflect that."

Peterkin is one of the keynote speakers at Mount Sinai Hospital Auxiliary's Eighth Symposium on Women and Health, which takes place May 6, at the St. Lawrence Centre.

Other speakers include Dr. Alastair Carruthers, a dermatologist; Victoria Sutherland, founder of Victoria Spa; Dr. Marla Shapiro, a family physician; Dr. Michael Kreidstein, a plastic surgeon; and Alysse Fogel, a consulting dietician and dietician/nutritionist.

Tickets for the event can be obtained through the Auxiliary by calling 586-8290.

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London Jews on alert after bombings

By SHARON SADEH
Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

LONDON — Police have warned all Londoners to be on the alert for bombs after a murderous attack on a gay pub in central London, the third bombing aimed at minorities in less than three weeks.

Security experts said there had been a significant increase in the Jewish community's state of alert, including the enlistment of volunteers to stand guard at Jewish establishments in the city.

Last Friday's explosion in the Admiral Duncan pub in the heart of Soho, London's restaurant district, killed two people and injured at least 70 others. Twenty people remained hospitalized Saturday morning, at least four in critical condition.

"This is a time for calm. It is a time for vigilance. It is a time for the community [to be] working together to defeat these cowards," said Police Chief Paul Condon hours after the device went off at about 6:35 p.m. Police said they believed the blast was linked to two other nail bombs that injured dozens in minority neighborhoods in the past two weeks.

Scotland Yard arrested a man in Cove, southwest of London, early yesterday, in connection with the bomb attacks, but refused to provide any further details. It was unclear if the arrest was directly connected to Friday's attack or if police believe the man may be linked to all three bombings. Two other men were arrested Friday in connection with the first bombing attack in Brixton, a largely black community. A third man was also arrested Friday in connection with the attacks, police revealed yesterday.

The latest bombing occurred in Soho, which is especially busy on Friday nights. Last Friday, the area was even more crowded, as thousands enjoyed the balmy start of a three-day weekend. Many were maimed, and scores of injured filled the glass-strewn streets as sirens wailed and ambulances threaded their way through traffic trying to reach the scene, which adjoins Chinatown and the theatre district.

The White Wolves, a racist group that has threatened Jews and blacks, claimed responsibility in a phone call to the BBC two hours after the blast.

Combat 18, a right-wing extremist group, claimed responsibility for the previous bombs on April 17 and 24, which targeted a largely black and a Bangladeshi neighborhood.

"Clearly, they are linked. Clearly, they are hate devices," Condon said. "It is an attack on us all, and we must work together to catch these people as soon as possible."

Since the attackers appear to be making their way through London's minorities, the Jewish community acknowledged their fears. "We are concerned, but I hope that the precautions we have put into effect will stop anything from happening," said Mike Whine, a security expert for the British Board of Jewish Deputies.

The British police increased cooperation with Jewish organizations two weeks ago, warning prominent Jewish figures in the United Kingdom to be on the alert.

So far, some 25 complaints have come in from Jewish community leaders reporting threats. "As a minority, we live under a constant threat, and if nothing happens in the next few days that doesn't mean we should relax our vigilance," a spokesperson for the London Board of Deputies said.

Palestinians delay statehood declaration

BY NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — PLO leaders last week voted unilaterally to delay the declaration of a Palestinian state, amid heavy international pressure to put off the move.

On the third day of deliberations in Gaza, the Palestinian Central Council, the mini-parliament of the PLO, overwhelmingly voted to put off the declaration until after Israel's elections.

At the same time, it arranged for subcommittees to work on various aspects of statehood, including drawing up a draft constitution. Salim Za'anoun, chair of the council, said the body would reconvene at the beginning of June.

The U.S. State Department welcomed the decision. "We have said that we think it is very important for neither the Palestinians, nor the Israelis, to pursue unilateral acts or declarations," James Rubin said. "The only realistic way for the Palestinians to achieve their aspirations is through a negotiated outcome."

Palestinian Authority leader Yasser Arafat had long pledged to declare an independent state on May 4, 1999, the date interim peace accords expire under the terms of the Oslo accords, if no final-status arrangement with Israel was concluded by then.

The United States, Europe and Arab states had strongly urged Arafat to delay a declaration because it could harm efforts to resume peace negotiations that have been faltering since December.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu had suspended implementation of the U.S.-brokered Wye memorandum, including all further troop redeployments, claiming the Palestinians were violating the accords.

Netanyahu had warned the Palestinians that Israel would respond to a statehood declaration by annexing parts of the West Bank.

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Israel Election Notebook
May 17

By SHAHAR ILAN
Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

JERUSALEM — Shas leader Aryeh Deri yesterday apologized for implying in a video released last week that the Jerusalem District Court treated him like a Nazi. .

Deri, speaking at a Jerusalem press conference, said his comparison of his trial to that of Adolf Eichmann and John Demjanjuk related only to the live broadcast of the verdict.

"If, God forbid, someone understood me to mean that the court judged me like a Nazi, I apologize," he said. "The court judged me as Aryeh Deri, the Moroccan – not as a Nazi."

Deri then proceeded to launch a renewed attack on both the courts and large swaths of Israel's political spectrum as if to imply that being treated as a Moroccan was not much better.

However, "[the courts] are conducting religious and sectoral persecution against us, and the combination is fatal, because those who fear the spread of religion in the country know that the only movement capable of reaching every place in Israel is Shas," he said.

Deri also attacked the Labor party, for its belated response to actress Tikki Dayan's insulting remarks about Likud supporters on Friday.

"If [party leader Ehud] Barak took 24 hours to apologize for Tikki Dayan's statements, I have no doubt that this is what they really think – that Shas represents 'a rabble' and 'a separate nation,' and they have an argument with the culture of this 'rabble' and this 'separate nation.'

"I understand that they asked forgiveness... [but] they are asking for pardon, because they think [Dayan's statements] will cause them political harm."

He also disparaged Dayan, by saying: "There is always one token Sephardi adopted [by the establishment] who tries to find favor with the gang. Apparently, she has an inferiority complex."

Yisrael b'Aliyah was the next political party on the hit list. Its campaign broadcasts – most have attacked the Shas-run Interior Ministry – are "a mark of shame on the party's leaders," Deri said.

"They are inciting the Russian community against the Sephardim. They have taken the great risk of [creating] a rift in the nation and even civil war.

"For Shas, this is a gift from heaven, because it has united the Sephardi public... Every time someone mentions Yisrael b'Aliyah or [party leader Natan] Sharansky at one of our rallies, there is fire in the room."

Deri also had harsh words for several senior Likud MKs who had criticized Shas' "bear hug" of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

"If the Likud doesn't want us to support Netanyahu, they should tell us," he said. "It would save us a lot of work."

Finally, Deri lashed out at President Ezer Weizman and State Comptroller Eliezer Goldberg for criticizing his video without even seeing it.

Drafted by the IDF

By AMOS HAREL
Ha'aretz Military Correspondent

JERUSALEM — Of those Israelis who are of draft age, 80 percent of the men and 62 percent of the women will serve in the IDF this year, the head of the army's human resources branch said recently.

The percentages are about the same as those of last year, said Major General Yehuda Segev, adding that he expects the figures and the reasons for the exemptions to "remain stable" over the next two years as well.

Eight percent of the men were exempted from service because they are yeshiva students "whose occupation is Torah study," and three percent each were exempted due to medical, psychological and "substandard profile" reasons. Those with substandard profiles usually have a criminal record or an inadequate education.

Another three percent of the potential draftees have emigrated or are abroad.

Of the women, 26 percent received exemptions for religious reasons, four percent due to a substandard profile, four percent because they are abroad and two percent each for medical reasons or because they are married.

The motivation factor – referring to the proportion of draftees who are ready to serve in combat units – also remained stable following the large decrease from 1994 to 1996. In 1996, only 49 percent of twelfth-grade students who were fit for combat service, said that they had a desire to serve in combat units. By 1998, this number had risen to 59 percent.

Seventy-five percent of the soldiers who were assigned to combat service in March 1999 said it was what they wanted, the same as in the past two years, but up from 68 percent in 1996. Segev said that the IDF cannot be satisfied with this level of motivation, and if the drive to enhance the draftees' motivation is not intensified, "We could find ourselves back in the situation of 1996."

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Arab candidate may be a spoiler

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

Israeli Arabs, comprising 20 percent of Israel's population and upwards of 500,000 of its eligible voters, might play a decisive role in the May 17 election. They could determine who will be Israel's next prime minister.

Mideast Analysis

Almost two months ago, Azmi Bishara, a Christian Arab from Nazareth, announced his intention to challenge Benjamin Netanyahu and Ehud Barak, the two main contenders in the race for prime minister. An academic, Bishara is the first Israeli Arab to run for that position.

Azmi Bishara

Though realistically not expected to win, Bishara believes that he can make a difference by endorsing the candidate who sincerely commits himself to improving the lot of Israeli Arabs.

Leaders of the two main Israeli Arab parties – Hadash and the United Arab List – have implored Bishara to drop out. So has Yasser Arafat, the president of the Palestinian Authority.

They fear that his candidacy may rob Barak of the chance to beat Netanyahu in the first or second round. In the 1996 election, Netanyahu squeaked through by a razor-thin margin of 29,457. But Bishara, a member of the Knesset who ran on an independent ticket, has so far rejected the entreaties.

One can understand why Bishara could be a spoiler. In the last election, 95 percent of the Israeli Arab electorate cast their ballots for Shimon Peres, the Labor party candidate, while five percent voted for Netanyahu, the Likud candidate. But if Bishara remains in the race, he could easily siphon away votes from Barak.

It is already an exceedingly tight contest, all the more so since two other politicians have thrown their hats into the ring: the Centre party's Yitzhak Mordechai, Netanyahu's former defence minister, and the far right's Ze'ev Begin, his former science minister.

A Dahaf/Yediot Achronot poll released on April 30 found that 39 percent of the electorate would vote for Barak, 36 percent for Netanyahu, eight percent for Mordechai, three percent for Begin and three percent for Bishara. Eleven percent were undecided.

It's clear what this arithmetic means. In all probability, no single candidate will triumph in the first round on May 17. Yet, if Bishara rallies unequivocably behind Barak, he could theoretically tip the balance in his favor, particularly if there is a runoff on June 1.

Cognizant of this dynamic, all the candidates have appealed directly to Israeli Arabs, grandiloquently promising to improve conditions in the Arab sector. (At present, 10 Israeli Arabs sit in the Knesset. Three MKs represent Zionist parties – Labor, Likud and Meretz – and the remainder are divided between two non-Zionist coalitions: the United Arab List and the Democratic Front for Peace and Equality, which is otherwise known as Hadash).

Though equal under the law, Israeli Arabs are second class citizens because they do not have access to the same privileges, services and opportunities as Jews.

Bishara's platform calls for increased budgets to Arab municipalities and schools, the supply of public services to Arab hamlets which lack electricity, water and sewers, the appointment of Arabs to the boards of major state corporations, and a halt to land expropriation.

In theory, the top three candidates – Barak, Netanyahu and Mordechai – have no problem with these demands.

Barak has acknowledged the existence of "deep inequality in the country." Netanyahu has committed himself to creating "equal opportunity and closing the gap." Mordechai has promised to draw up a five-year plan to upgrade roads and sewage systems in Arab communities and to appoint an Israeli Arab minister to the cabinet.

Arab voters have heard all this before in previous campaigns, and precious little was done after the election, causing deep-seated resentment and discontent.

This time, given Bishara's leverage, meaningful improvements could be in the offing. And if they do materialize, Bishara will rightly be able to take some of the credit.

The Canadian Jewish news

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The Week in Israel

April 26

• Israel and China have made "remarkable achievements" in bilateral economic, agricultural and technological exchanges, China's president said during a meeting in Beijing with visiting Israeli President Ezer Weizman. Jiang Zemin also spoke of the "long history of friendship" between the Chinese and the Jewish people. *(Members of the Israeli delegation subsequently signed business deals worth a reported $95 million US.)*

April 27

• Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat freed from jail three Islamic militants involved in a series of suicide bus bombings in Israel.

April 28

• Palestinian police wounded an Israeli soldier near Jenin. Witnesses said the shooting occurred after the car they were travelling in entered the Palestinian self-rule area accidentally.

• Israel categorically rejected a UN committee resolution calling for Palestinian self-determination based on 1947 General Assembly Resolution 181 that called for the division of Jerusalem. The United States was the only country on the human rights committee to oppose the decision. Canada abstained.

April 29

• Israeli prosecutors are considering opening a criminal investigation into those responsible for producing a videotape in which convicted politician Aryeh Deri compares the treatment he received during this trial to that of Nazi criminals. Deri was sentenced earlier this month to four years in jail for bribe-taking, fraud and breach of trust.

• Defence Minister Moshe Arens told a think tank in Washington he holds little hope for rapid progress in Israeli-Palestinian talks.

April 30

• Unemployment rose by one percent in February to 198,000 people, the Central Bureau of Statistics reported. The jobless rate climbed to 8.7 percent after remaining at about 8.5 percent through the second half of 1998.

Files from JTA and Ha'aretz.

'Thinking about the future for our children'

Serbian Jews find temporary refuge in Budapest

By EDWARD SEROTTA
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

BUDAPEST — On March 22, Aca Singer, 70, thin and silver-haired, picked up the telephone in his Belgrade office and dialed a number in Budapest, where he was connected with Gusztav Zoltai, a man 10 years his junior.

Speaking in Hungarian, Singer told Zoltai that the plan they had laid out the previous October was ready to be implemented. Zoltai jotted down a few details, hung up the phone, and set the plan in motion.

When the history of the war in Kosovo is written, the plan these two men initiated will barely earn a footnote. Still, Singer and Zoltai have written a short, remarkable chapter in post-Holocaust Jewish history.

For the first time in half a century, a central European Jewish community has taken the lead in helping to rescue a neighboring Jewish community in desperate need.

The work was spearheaded by two Holocaust survivors, both of whom had lost their entire families. These men wanted to be sure the words "never again" had meaning in their communities.

The first bus rented by the Serb Jewish community pulled up to the Hungarian border at Szeged just after noon on March 23 and found a representative from the Budapest community waiting for them. More buses came in the days to follow, bringing a total of 160 Jews by week's end. By mid-April, that number had doubled again.

Jews say they are not fleeing Serbia because of anti-Semitism. They say it is simply a matter of self-preservation during the constant NATO bombings.

In Budapest, the entire Balint Jewish Community Centre on Revai Street had been turned into makeshift dorm rooms, a soup kitchen and lounges in anticipation of the Serbian Jews' arrival.

But as the numbers grew, the facilities were strained and a hotel on the outskirts of town was used. It too, proved inadequate. Now the Serbian Jews, most of whom are children, women and elderly, are being housed in the Park Hotel in the central part of the city.

The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC) has been working with the Hungarian community and the Yugoslav Jewish Federation to care for the Serbian Jews.

"We've set up kindergarten and school classes for around 50 children," Israel Sela, the JDC's country director for Hungary, said. "Many of them – especially from border cities like Subotica and Novi Sad – already speak Hungarian, so they fit in rather easily.

"Two of these parents are teachers from Serbia, and they are creating a curriculum that will keep these children current at home, as well as translate for them on a daily basis." Jewish youth in Budapest who speak Serbo-Croatian are volunteering to take families for shopping and visits to doctors.

B'nai B'rith International is providing fresh fruit every day, along with city transport and telephone cards.

British Jewish organizations such as World Jewish Relief and Connections have also made substantial contributions, much of it earmarked for health insurance and health care. The European Council of Jewish Communities is also helping, and the European Jewish Congress transferred $20,000 to the Hungarian community to help.

While the younger children are settling into their temporary living arrangements, the college-age youth are having a more difficult time.

"I was three weeks away from my degree in theatre," said Stefi, a Belgrade university student, as she sat softly playing jazz on the piano in the Balint centre.

"Now I'm considering my options. It isn't likely that I'll be going home."

Whether Stefi will go to Israel remains open. The Jewish Agency for Israel has quickly processed between 15 and 20 Jews who have already emigrated to Israel, said Joszi Croitoru, a Jewish Agency representative.

He said 80 young Serbian Jews are taking a complimentary 12-day "pilot trip" to Israel and another 80 have signed up.

Still, many of these university students are anguishing about their choices.

Students like Olga Izrael said, "Don't call us refugees. We are just here visiting." She paused. "And thinking about our future."

While they're thinking, they watch CNN's coverage of NATO's bombing runs. They wring their hands while they lie awake at night and try to come to terms with the fact that for many of them, the lives they led in Serbia are over.

Milica Afar and her sister-in-law, Lydia Afar – they married brothers – sat calmly as their children, David, Sara, Theo and Michael scrambled around them, playing.

"My husband is a biochemist and Milica's is a property manager for a film production company," Lydia said. "But thinking about the future for our children, I think Israel becomes more and more attractive."

A week later, the two women and their families had already left for Israel.

All this began to take place in Budapest during the first days of Passover. In 1992, several of these Jews had opened the Belgrade community centre's seder to Sarajevo's Jews fleeing that war. Now they themselves are on the run, or at least waiting out what history will bring them.

One thing is clear: The post-Holocaust Jewish community of the former Yugoslavia was small and poor, yet these 6,500 Jews created one of the most lively small communities in Europe.

Beginning with the war in Croatia in 1991 and the war in Bosnia in 1992, many of the younger Jews in each of these communities made their way to the United States, Canada, Israel and elsewhere. Sarajevo's Jewish youth will never return.

Now it appears as though Belgrade's Jewish community is beginning to empty out as well.

Community thrived in pre-WWII Belgrade

By EDWARD SEROTTA
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

BUDAPEST — Before the Holocaust, Serbia served as a European crossroads, and its Jewish population, with a mix of Sephardim and Ashkenazim, reflected this fact.

Belgrade's community swelled to nearly 11,000 in the 1930s – about five percent of them refugees from Germany, Austria and Czechoslovakia.

Serbia's Jews were found in the cities. In a country where 40 percent of the population lived in small villages or on farms, more than 70 percent of the Jews lived in major cities.

Jews gravitated toward the professions in Serbia and made up a large percentage of Belgrade's intellectual elite.

During World War II, Yugoslavia was overrun by the Germans. Croatia became a Nazi puppet state, set up its own concentration camps and killed a great many Jews as well as Serbs.

The vast majority of Serbia's Jews were killed by Germans, even though the Germans found no friends in the Serb government of Gen. Milan Nedic.

After the Holocaust, 15,000 Jews were left in all of Yugoslavia from a pre-war total of 76,000. Many who survived left after the establishment of Marshal Tito's one-party state, leaving some 6,500.

The community was not particularly religious, but after the 1967 Six Day War, many younger Jews reclaimed their Jewish connections and communities.

When Yugoslavia disintegrated in war in the 1990s, the Jewish communities in the successor states remained in contact as best they could.

Serbia's Jewish community had long had a reputation for generosity – having helped German Jews in the 1930s and Sarajevo's Jews in the 1990s – and worked hard to stay out of politics.

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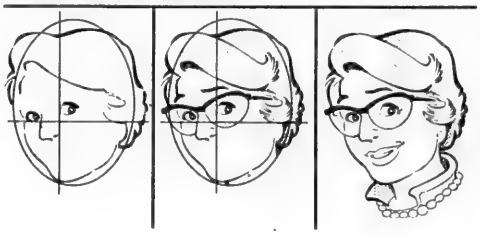

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CJ Kids

The world according to Hershel

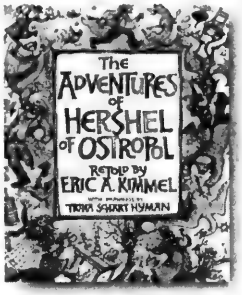
By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

People all over the world tell stories about a person who is very poor, but is also very smart. He manages to get along in the world by tricking other people, playing jokes on them, and inventing all sorts of stories.

Because he is always telling jokes and playing the fool, people often don't realize how intelligent he is, and the lessons people can learn from him.

(I say "him," by the way, because nearly all of these people are men. Maybe the women were too busy looking after their homes and their children to bother with this kind of thing.)

One of the most famous Jewish tricksters is Hershel of Ostropol. He actually was a real person, who lived in Ukraine in the early 1800s. Over the years, so many stories have been told about him, that it sometimes seems as if he must be completely made up.



Eric A. Kimmel tells about Hershel in his book of short stories *The Adventures of Hershel of Ostropol*, (Holiday House, 1995, with drawings by Trina Schart Hyman.)

Hershel of Ostropol was always planning schemes to support his wife and large family. Once he pretended that his wife had died. The community gave him money for funeral expenses, which he used for food. When the burial society came to bury her, she "miraculously" came back to life.

Another time, he went for help to his rich, but very stingy uncle Zalman. When his uncle refused to help him, he asked to borrow a serving spoon. When Hershel returned it, he also brought a little spoon, explaining that the big spoon had given birth. He did this several times. Finally, he borrowed his uncle's candlesticks, but didn't return them, claiming that they had died. When his uncle protested that candlesticks couldn't die, Hershel demanded to know why not, if spoons could have babies.

My favorite story is about Hershel looking for a place to stay and some food, from a stingy innkeeper and his wife. When he was refused, Hershel threatened to do what his father did. The innkeepers got so scared that they plied him with a whole banquet. When they timidly asked him what his father had done, well – you will have to read the story for yourself.

It is important to remember that Hershel and others like him, didn't take advantage of honest and decent people. Their prey was the person who was arrogant, stingy, bad tempered or overconfident.

At the end of the book is a collection of Hershel's sayings, which illustrate his philosophy of life. While most of them are funny – God must love poor people. Why else would He make so many of them? – they all illustrate universal truths: Better to eat black bread than to dream of challah; it's easy to practice barbering on somebody else's beard.

You might enjoy trying to prove that Hershel's sayings are true or not true, and making up your own philosophical statements.

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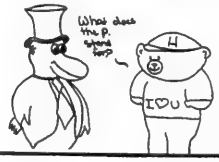

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Business Profile

Entrepreneur a major backer of Israel's Technion

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

Peter Munk, one of Canada's most successful entrepreneurs, has come full circle.

Fifty-five years ago, when the Holocaust was devouring the Jews of Hungary, he and his family fled Budapest on the so-called Kasztner train, filled with 1,684 Hungarian Jews who had bought their way to freedom.

"There were payments to the Germans involved," recalled Munk matter of factly.

The Munk family, which had grown wealthy in banking, stock brokerage and investments, secured places on the train by giving up gold in their possession. But the Munks' passage out of war-torn Hungary would not have been possible without the machinations of Rudolf Kasztner, a shadowy fixer and Jewish communal activist who was later accused of collaborating with the Germans.

The train, a Noah's Ark of Hungarian Jewry, steamed out of Budapest on June 30, 1944. It reached the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp – which SS chieftain Heinrich Himmler had transformed into a transit and exchange camp for Jews – on July 8. Eventually, the Munks found refuge in Switzerland.

Five decades on, Munk, an electrical engineer by training but a businessman by instinct, heads up a multi-billion dollar empire whose wealth is generated in part by gold.

Munk, 71, is founder and chair of Barrick Gold Corporartion, the world's second-largest producer, with a market capitalization of $8 billion (US). Barrick, Munk's most professionally satisfying venture, has mines in North and South America. In 1998, the firm produced 3.2 million ounces of gold at a cash-operating cost of $160 (US) per ounce.

Munk, as well, is chair and chief executive officer of TrizecHahn Corporation, North America's second largest public real estate company, with a market capitalization of $3 billion (US). TrizecHahn, which has more than $7 billion (US) in assets, owns and manages a portfolio of 119 properties in Canada and the United States, comprising 65 million square feet. Among its assets are the CN Tower in Toronto, Place Ville Marie in Montreal, the Sears Tower in Chicago and the Grace Building in Manhattan. By a quirk of fate, Munk is also *The Canadian Jewish News'* landlord.

Peter Newman, the business writer, has enormous respect for Munk. In his recently published book, *The Titans*, he gushed: "He operates at the very top levels of the international business world with the skill of a champion swordsman, a Zorro who knows precisely when to feint and when to thrust."

Munk, who was inducted into the Canadian Business Hall of Fame in 1997, is generously compensated for his labors. Last year, according to *The Globe and Mail*, he was the highest paid executive in Canada, with a salary of $38.9 million (US). By all accounts, Munk's personal fortune ranges from $250 million to $400 million, a sum which enables him and his wife Melanie to maintain a house in Toronto's Forest Hill Village, a farm in the Caledon Hills, a summer home on Georgian Bay, a chalet in Klosters, Switzerland, and an apartment in Paris.

But Munk, who has five children, believes that wealth should not only benefit himself and his family, but the community at large.

On May 16, at a Canadian Technion Society dinner in Toronto, he will officially present a major gift to the Technion, Israel's technical university. "My donation will be substantial," he said. "The evening could be the most successful fund-raising dinner in Canadian history."

A member of Beth Tzedec Synagogue, Munk has great respect for the Technion, whose current president, Amos Lapidot, was commander of the Israeli air force from 1982 until 1987.

"The Technion, in my view, is the foremost institute of learning as far as sciences and engineering – the fields in which I am interested – are concerned. Its contribution is very material, since Israel's economic progress has been technology based. The Technion can contribute enormously by upgrading the educational standards of young Israelis in all fields of technology."

Asked whether he has an emotional attachment to Israel, Munk replied, "My commitment is demonstrated by my support of the Technion. This is based on meeting a concrete need – not an emotion."

Peter Munk (far right) seen with his wife, Melanie, and their children (from left), Anthony, Nina, Natalie, Cheyne and Marc-David.

Arnie Recht, national president of the Canadian Technion Society, explained that Munk's uncle, Nick, one of the original founders of the organization, brought the Technion to his nephew's attention. "He left an indelible mark on Peter regarding the Technion's importance to Israel."

But Nick Munk and his wife Hedy, were also instrumental in bringing him to Canada so that he could pursue his studies at the University of Toronto.

Peter Munk, who has no business interests in Israel, was born on Nov. 8, 1927, the only child of Louis and Katharine. (His half-brother, Paul, is a Toronto physician).

When Munk was 11 years old, the Hungarian government passed the first of what would be a slew of anti-Semitic edicts. "I was not touched by the official anti-Semitism," he said.

With the German invasion of Hungary in March 1944, the situation deteriorated rapidly. Within weeks, the Nazis, assisted by Hungarian collaborators, began deporting Jews to death camps in Poland.

The Munks, who never had contact with Raoul Wallenberg, the Swedish diplomat who saved upwards of 100,000 Hungarian Jews, were extremely fortunate to obtain tickets for the Kasztner train. Apart from Munk and his parents, several of his relatives, including his grandparents, uncles and aunts, boarded the train.

Munk spent the duration of World War II in Zurich, a neutral capital, and arrived to Toronto in 1948, after the Polytechnical University rejected his application for admission. Supporting himself by picking tobacco in southwestern Ontario and selling Christmas trees, he graduated from the University in Toronto in 1952.

Bored by jobs with Canadian National Telegraphs and Atlas Radio, Munk struck out on his own. He and a friend, David Gilmour, started a number of businesses. In 1958, with borrowed funds, they formed Clairtone Sound Corporation, North America's first manufacturer of top-quality, solid-state radio/record player consoles.

Initially, Clairtone achieved considerable success. But an ill-timed venture into color televisions caused the company to falter. Unbowed, he and Gilmour went on to establish Southern Pacific Hotel Corporation, a huge hotel and resort chain in Australasia, which they ultimately sold for $130 million in 1981.

During this period, Munk tried but failed to build a resort in Cairo, near the pyramids. For apparently political reasons, Anwar Sadat, the president of Egypt, cancelled the project. Years later, Munk won a hefty settlement from the Egyptian government for out-of-pocket expenses. "Negotiating with the Arabs is an art that tests western values to their outer limits," Munk told his biographer, Donald Rumball.

Currently, Munk has no business interests in the Arab world. Nor is he "sour" on Egypt.

Munk, the recipient of the Order of Canada, formed Barrick in 1983, hitting the "motherlode" in 1987 when it acquired the Goldstrike mine in Nevada, a property most experts believed to be limited in potential. Today, Goldstrike ranks as one of the biggest producing, lowest cost gold properties in the world.

TrizecHahn, formed in 1996 by the merger of the Trizec Corporation with the Horsham Corporation, a management company Munk

Continued on page 46

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Folk choir to perform beloved melodies by Varshovsky

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

M.M. (Mark) Varshovsky

TORONTO — M.M. (Mark) Varshovsky, who wrote and sang *Oifn Pripechik*, never lived to know how famous he and his songs would become.

He died destitute in 1907, leaving a widow and daughter. But the folk songs he wrote in Yiddish became known the world over. One of his dreams was that he and his writer friend Shalom Aleichem would perform together in North America, but Varshovsky's death intervened.

Fifteen of his songs, including *Der Becher*, *Di Mezinke Oisgegebn* and *Dem Milner's Trern*, will be heard at the annual Toronto Jewish Folk Choir concert May 16 at Walter Hall, University of Toronto.

The choir is combining with the Chutzpah! klezmer band to perform *Der Bobes Cholem*, a selection of Varshovsky's beloved melodies arranged by Chutzpah! leader, clarinetist Martin Van de Ven.

The concert is a tribute to the Yiddish folksinger whose work became known throughout the Pale of Settlement.

Though they both lived in Kiev, Shalom Aleichem and Varshovsky did not meet until, by chance, the writer heard about the singer on a train trip.

Shalom Aleichem was so impressed by Varshovsky's performance when they finally did meet, that the writer leaped from his seat to kiss the singer.

These and other details are in an introduction that Shalom Aleichem wrote for the second edition of Varshovsky's songs, published by the singer's friends.

The writer described the singer-composer as a near-sighted, rosy-cheeked short man so poor that his clothes were full of holes.

The two men did team up for a few joint recitals, but they never made it to North America.

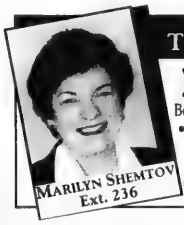
A lawyer by profession, Varshovsky nearly starved because he refused cases that did not meet his ethical standards. He finally gained a good legal post for an iron company, but shortly thereafter, he became ill and died.

Featured soloists in *Der Bobes Cholem* are soprano Miriam Eskin, tenor Benjamin Stein and baritone Marat Maxutov.

Under the direction of Yiddish music specialist Esther Ghan Firestone, and with pianist Lina Zemelman, the 35-voice choir also perform a group of Yiddish workers' songs from the sweatshop era, arranged by Zalmen Mlotek. They will also do two excerpts from Toronto composer Srul Irving Glick's *First Yiddish Suite*, set to poems by Peretz Miransky and I.I. Segal.

Milton Barnes' *Sefarad* is set to 500 year-old Judeo-Spanish texts. *Miriam's Song of Triumph* by Schubert showcases soprano Renee Bouthot as guest soloist in this choral work about the biblical exodus.

Tickets are $16, $13 for students and seniors. For information call 489-7681.



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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

SALINGER LOVE LETTERS GO ON AUCTION BLOCK

Remember Joyce Maynard? She's the California-based author of *At Home in the World*, an autobiography published last year, which made headlines because of its description of a May-October affair between Maynard and reclusive American writer J.D. Salinger. (Their respective ages at the time were 18 and 53.)

Maynard, now 44, is the sister of Rona Maynard, editor of the Canadian women's magazine, *Chatelaine*. Their father was Max Maynard, a landscape artist from British Columbia. The late writer-broadcaster Fredelle Maynard, who wrote *Raisins and Almonds*, a memoir about growing up Jewish on the Prairies, was their mother.

Having milked the publicity value from a series of letters that Salinger sent her, Maynard now goes one step further by offering them for public sale through Sotheby's auction house in New York. Viewing dates of the 14 letters are June 17 to 21.

"The 37 pages of Salinger's letters to Joyce constitute the most complete picture of the famous author's life during this period," according to a Sotheby's promotional release. "By turns tender and paternal, the letters document his growing attachment to Joyce, detailing his sense of her unique gifts as a writer, (and) his sense that they are soul mates ....

"Throughout, the reclusive Salinger registers his concerns with the necessity of guarding and protecting the writer's source of creativity from the invasive glare of the outside world."

How ironic that these very letters may now be the agent that helps to bring the invasive glare of publicity upon the New Hampshire-based Salinger, who is so wary of media attention that he is reportedly delaying publication of numerous completed works of fiction until after his death.

Maynard, meanwhile, is not the least bit publicity-shy, as evidenced by her personal web site at www.joycemaynard.com/home/html

***

Performing Arts Briefs

• On May 30, Toronto Yiddish folk-singer Faye Kellerstein is scheduled to appear in Mameloshen 99, a Yiddish cultural weekend at Cooks Campus in New Jersey. In a day of classes, lectures, debates and demonstrations, Kellerstein is one of a few performers to provide musical interludes. She performs a concert on the theme of Broadway's Jewish roots.

• *Purim Day*, by R.M.M. Munoz, is a retelling of the classical story of a nation's peril in ancient Persia through the medium of a pop musical. The staging is by PM Productions. Adults $20. Trinity Basement Theatre. 410-5455.

• The Civic Light Opera Company presents *Damn Yankees*, a musical about a die-hard baseball fan who sells his soul to the devil. Fairview Library Theatre, North York. May 20 to 30. Adults $15. 421-1267.

***

Visual Arts Briefs

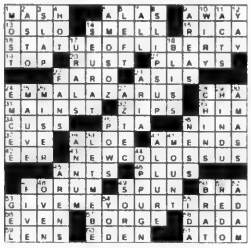
• Two collections of new photographs by Beverley Abramson go on display this week. Roots is on view from May 6 to June 17 at Roots Home, 195 Avenue Rd. 927-8585. Disclosure is on view from May 8 to July 5 at the Cineplex Odeon Carlton, 20 Carlton St. 598-2197.

• A photographic exhibit entitled Encounters, The Vernacular Paradox of Israeli Architecture, is on view at the Design Exchange, Exhibition Hall, third floor, 234 Bay St., from May 6 to 23. Admission free. For details, call 640-8522.

• The Sculptor's Society of Canada presents Images Within, a showing of sculpture by Susan Stromberg. May 4 to 28. 130 King St. W.

• The Thornhill Artists Group Third Annual Studio Tour and Sale takes place May 8 to 9 at the homes of 11 artists. For studio locations, please call Heather Cullity at 905-889-1165.

ANSWERS TO THIS WEEK'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE.



TrizecHahn expanding

Continued from page 44

founded some years earlier, is in an expansionist mode.

It is building Hollywood and Highland, a $430 million retail/entertainment complex in Los Angeles which will host the Oscars; Desert Passage at Aladdin, part of a $1.3 billion hotel/casino/retail and entertainment redevelopment in Las Vegas; and the 50-storey Bankers Hall West Tower in Calgary.

In Europe, where Munk has lately spent a good deal of his time, he is constructing a 900,000 square foot office, hotel and conference complex in Budapest.

He professes to have no bitter feelings about Hungary. As he put it: "Hungary is no different than any other country either occupied or allied with Germany during World War II, and there is nothing to forgive, since today's generation had nothing to do with what happened there in 1944 and before."

Asked whether he has drawn any lessons from the Holocaust, he said, "We must always be vigilant."

Munk, too, is building supermarkets in the Czech Republic, retail/entertainment facilities in Spain, pursuing projects in Italy, Poland and Slovakia, and assessing opportunities in Romania and Turkey.

Munk, who is said to be undaunted by the size and scope of any project, claims that the secret of his success lies in a few maxims he has adhered to assiduously.

"Ensure you have a clear, focused strategy. Be innovative, and challenge accepted thinking. Recruit excellent partners and align your interests with shareholders. Take advantage of the forces of change and build on opportunities. Be conservatively financed."

According to his biographer, Munk's "golden rules" encompass the following principles:

• Raise money when financial markets are buoyant. Invest it when markets are depressed.

• Work with people whom you respect and who have characteristics you don't have.

• If an acquisition is strategically right, don't worry about price.

• Don't stop dreaming.

• Trust is the foundation. Trust means you can say the truth.

• You don't need to know the industry you're going into. If you apply yourself, you can always find the experts.

Surprisingly enough, Munk is not a workaholic, and always allots sufficient leisure time for sailing, tennis and skiing.

None of his children, Cheyne, Natalie, Anthony, Nina and Marc David, presently work for him. But Anthony sits on Barrick's board of directors.

Despite his age, he has no intention of retiring. "Not as long as I can contribute to creating shareholders' wealth effectively," he said, consigning the issue to oblivion.

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Historic Cairo synagogue still serves small community

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

CAIRO, Egypt — A renovated synagogue in old Cairo, shaded by six mature trees, is one of the fruits of Israel's 20-year-old peace treaty with Egypt.

Once woefully dilapidated, the Ben Ezra Synagogue – one of the oldest in Egypt and the repository of the famous Cairo Geniza – was restored to its former grandeur under the direction of Phyllis Lambert, a Montreal architect and conservationist.

Set in a quiet courtyard close to the Church of St. Barbara, in a shabby Coptic Christian neighborhood frequented by insistent hawkers selling cheap Egyptian souvenirs, the shul was in dismal condition when the Ben Ezra Synagogue Restoration Project got underway in January 1988.

Anwar Sadat, the late president of Egypt, conceived the project as an adjunct of Egypt's peace accord with Israel, signed in Washington on March 26, 1979.

In 1980, Lambert – founder and director of Montreal's Canadian Centre for Architecture – was appointed director of the Ben Ezra Synagogue Restoration Project, a unique undertaking in the Arab world.

By 1987, an international team of architects, conservationists, archeologists, surveyors and historians had been assembled.

It consisted of, among others, Johan Bellaert, a Belgian architect who had been employed by Oman's ministry of national heritage and culture; John Stewart, a University of Chicago conservator who had worked on temples in Luxor; and Joseph Hacker, a Hebrew University historian familiar with the medieval and modern history of the synagogue.

They finished their work in August 1991, a year after the crisis over Iraq's invasion of Kuwait flared. Through a spokesperson, Lambert, the editor of a book about the project entitled *Fortifications and the Synagogue*, said that she was exceedingly pleased with the results of the renovation.

By all accounts, the original synagogue – named in honor of a 12th century Jerusalem rabbi, Abraham Ben Ezra – was built more than 1,000 years ago, supposedly on the site of a church.

Rebuilt in 1892, following the collapse of its roof, the shul became a centre of Jewish communal life in Cairo.

In the late 19th century, when Egypt was a British protectorate, the centuries-old Jewish community was still growing, drawing new blood from the Middle East and Europe. On the eve of the 1948 Arab-Israeli war, Egypt was home to about 75,000 Jews, the majority of whom resided in Cairo.

It was a prosperous, sophisticated community, and Jews played a prominent role in commerce, banking, culture and politics.

From the mid-1860s, an extraordinary body of discarded writings, universally known as the Cairo Geniza, turned up. The documents offered fresh, startling insights into the daily life of the Jewish community from the 10th to the 14th centuries and its interaction with other Mediterranean communities.

According to Lambert, the inspiration to search for ancient documents in the synagogue may have come from an 18th century scholar named Simon van Geldern, who recalled having rummaged for "Hebrew books and writings which had become unusable."

In his wake, arrived many more collectors and scholars, most of whom represented British, American and Russian centres of learning. Notable among them were Abraham Firkovitch and Solomon Schechter.

It is estimated that upwards of 200,000 fragments of vellum, parchment and paper were removed from Ben Ezra's storeroom. No expense was spared to buy them.

Today, the majority of these precious documents are found in collections at Cambridge University Library, the Jewish Theological Seminary in Manhattan, the Saltykov-Schedrin Library in St. Petersburg, Oxford's Bodleian Library, the British Library and the Alliance Israelite Universelle in Paris.

Generations of scholars have pored over the documents, but the definitive study based on the Cairo Geniza was produced by an Israeli, Shlomo Dov Goitein, author of *A Mediterranean Society*, a five-volume tour de force of medieval Jewry.

Surprisingly enough, fragments from the Cairo Geniza are not on display at the Ben Ezra Synagogue's Library of the Jewish Heritage in Egypt. It was inaugurated by President Hosni Mubarak on Nov. 25, 1997, exactly a week after Islamic terrorists shot and killed 58 foreign tourists in Luxor.

The synagogue itself, surrounded by high walls and adjacent to a Christian cemetery sprouting crosses, is modest in size yet esthetically impressive.

The floor is made of white, black-flecked marble, and 10 stately white columns on each side rise to the ceiling. On the wooden walls are intricate carvings studded with ivory. Above the roped-off bimah are two stained glass windows.

Worshippers sit on benches running vertically along the length of the building. The second-storey gallery is currently closed due to renovations.

This is a functioning synagogue, but the last rabbi left long ago. According to Lonely Planet's guidebook, *Egypt* (Raincoast), approximately 40 Jewish families live near the shul. The Jewish community's administrative building lies near the synagogue.

Throughout Egypt, there are no more than several hundred Jews. Waves of emigration since 1948, sparked by political and economic uncertainty and Muslim suspicion of Jews, have reduced the community to a virtual hollow shell.

During the 1967 Six Day War, when Egypt went down to ignominious defeat at the hands of Israel, the synagogue was attacked by mobs and badly damaged, touching off yet another exodus of Jews.

No such attacks occurred during the 1973 Yom Kippur War.

A tourist attraction for years now, the synagogue is looked after by two plain clothes attendants, a Muslim and a Copt. They guard it zealously, acutely aware that foreigners in Egypt have fallen prey to homegrown terrorism since 1992.

Its former caretaker, Natan Abraham Moses, whom I met during my first visit to the synagogue in 1975, died some years ago. It was he who showed me the mikvah, the supposed spring where a pharaoh's daughter found Moses in a maze of reeds.

It seems clear that the synagogue is in need of funds. A sign in English at the entrance reads: "Your contribution will help towards the maintenance and upkeep of this synagogue. Give generously."

Cairo's Ben Ezra Synagogue [Sheldon Kirshner photo]

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Marketing rules entertainment business

By LARRY ANKLEWICZ
Special to The CJN

The video market in North America offers a fascinating insight into the way marketing rules the entertainment business.

In the ordinary course of events, a film is released in a blaze of publicity into hundreds of theatres on the same day. The film has its run, earns its money and about six months later, it appears in thousands of video stores throughout the continent.

Initially most videos are released with the intention that they will be rented by the public. Therefore, they are sold to the stores at a relatively prohibitive price for the every-day consumer – usually in excess of $100.

But about six months after that initial video release, when rentals have begun to flag, the video is re-released at a sell-through price of about $20 to $30. It then becomes completely accessible to the millions of film fans and video collectors throughout North America.

At various times during the ensuing years, the video is re-released several more times, with prices usually being reduced until it can be purchased for $10 to $20.

There are exceptions to these rules, but having observed the video market for some 20 years now, I believe the script is fairly predictable.

In my previous articles, I have written mainly about new releases and titles that may be relatively obscure. Today I want to address a number of re-releases that have made a lot of titles easily available at a price that makes them affordable to most of us.

Since the year 1999 began, the video companies have been re-releasing a large number of titles. If these are not available at your favorite store, the manager or owner should be able to order them from his distributor.

Driving Miss Daisy

Alliance Home Video has re-released such titles of "Jewish" interest as *The Music Box*, the story of an elderly Hungarian immigrant (Armin Mueller-Stahl) to the United States who is accused of being a war criminal, and his lawyer-daughter (Jessica Lange) who undertakes to defend him.

Also recently reduced in price by Alliance are *The Nasty Girl*, a true story centring around a German woman who tries to learn the truth about what her town did during the war; *Shine*, the story of a Jewish Australian piano prodigy; and *Deconstructing Harry*, Woody Allen's film of self-exploration and discovery.

Universal Pictures Home Video has also recently re-released the classic Holocaust film, *Schindler's List*.

Warner Home Video has joined the re-release craze with *Driving Miss Daisy*, the story of a Jewish southern lady and her black chauffeur; the brilliant Bob Fosse production of *Cabaret*; and the heart warming tale of love in *Crossing Delancey*.

Other recent re-releases include *Jonah Who Lived In The Whale*, the tender story of a child surviving the concentration camps during the Holocaust; Woody Allen's classic, *Annie Hall*; the humorous *Cemetery Club*; and the controversial *A Price Above Rubies*.

For a real tear jerker, Columbia Tristar just released the 25th anniversary edition of *The Way We Were*, and Behavior has re-released a fascinating film about the Mossad, *Les Patriotes*.

In addition, MGM is re-releasing the 1975 comedy, *The Sunshine Boys*, starring Walter Matthau and George Burns, and Artisan is releasing the 1995 television version of the same film, but starring Woody Allen and Peter Falk.

So for those who are anxious to obtain their favorite films, the thing to be remembered is that most videos will be reduced in price, given enough time and patience.

For those interested in what to look for in the weeks and months to come, we can expect *Life Is Beautiful* and *Prince of Egypt* to arrive on video in the near future, with *The Harmonists*, *The Last Days* and *A Walk On The Moon* to follow shortly, although at the time of writing no release dates had been announced as yet.

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'Sheer luck' saved survivor

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Sheer luck is what brought writer Jack Kuper through the Holocaust, he recently told the Medina Theatre Ensemble.

Along with writer/playwrights Howard Engel and Judith Thompson, Kuper took part in an open discussion with members of the Jewish theatre group.

Author of *A Child of the Holocaust* and director of documentaries about life in the Warsaw Ghetto, Kuper said he now understands why people can go about their normal duties despite the horrors going on in Kosovo.

"It is amazing what the human being can do," he said. "When I first came to Halifax at the age of 15, a Jewish volunteer gave me a copy of the magazine *Life*. Everybody in it seemed happy. Didn't they know what had happened?"

When he came to Toronto, Kuper said, he was amazed to find that people were complaining in letters to the editor about barking dogs.

"I am much less critical today of people who go about their mundane duties while terrible things are happening."

A lot of the questioners asked Kuper how he had survived, when, as a boy of nine, he had to cope alone after most of his family was wiped out.

"A lot of it had to do with sheer luck," he said. "I could have turned left or right, but I made the right turn. I had a sort of sixth sense. I'm often asked by psychiatrists how I did it. I didn't ask for help. Instead, I asked if I could do any work for them, even changing diapers. I owe a lot to my father, who spent many years in Siberia, because I had many of his characteristics."

Kuper said he does not help people who beg on the streets in Toronto. "If they asked for work, I would do everything I could to help them."

Engel read *Three Wise Guys*, a short story in which a friend of Engel's private investigator character, Benny Cooperman, says: "You Jews don't celebrate Christmas, you just start'd it."

He said his 10th novel, titled *Benny Cooperma.' in Toronto* will be out this year.

Though he doesn't do any detective work himself, Engel said he once played detective in Ottawa to tell the National Gallery where to find a valuable missing painting he had seen in an Ottawa house.

Playwright Thompson, winner of many national awards, read three powerful excerpts from her plays, in each case speaking on behalf of people whose voices are usually silent. In one, a 10-year-old white girl, grieving at the coffin of the family's black domestic servant, pleads for forgiveness for the injustices of apartheid in South Africa.

Trudi Deacon, Medina president, was moderator, while the writers were introduced by Fran Elliot and thanked by Roselle Stone.

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TORONTO — A total of $29,000 has been raised so far, for the *Canadian Jewish Book of Remembrance*, honoring those who gave their lives while on active duty with Canadian military forces in the 20th century.

Among contributors are: Edward Bronfman Family Foundation, Toronto, $2,500; Isadore Sharp, Toronto, $2,000; Charles Bronfman, Montreal, $1,000; Issie Asper, Winnipeg, $1,000.

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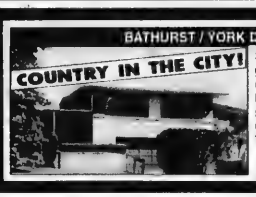

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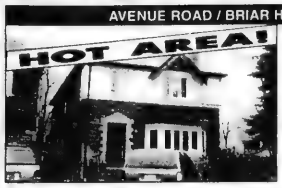

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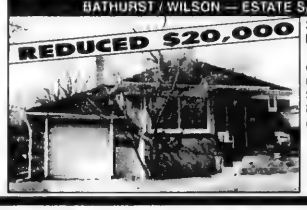

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60 ft. lot, 4 bedrooms, 3 baths. Close to Shuls, transportation & shops. Paula G. Bernstein*

ROSEDALE NORTH $334,900
The perfect family home on the best child safe court. Move right in! Call Corinne Kalles*

CHAPLIN CRES./EGLINTON $459,000
Belt line, 3 bedrooms, 4 baths, main floor den, priv. drive, fin. lower, $$$ spent. Bright & modern. Great value S. Solomon*

BATHURST/AVENUE/GLENCAIRN
Lot, location and price. 64 x 120 lot. Renovate or build. $599,000. Paula G. Bernstein*

FOREST HILL RECENT RENOVATION
$998,000 – on quiet Ava Road, 3 storey handsome English Tudor. Centre hall, huge family rm. Dbl. gar. Jeffrey Joseph**

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CENTRAL PROPERTIES

1ST AD! AVENUE RD./LAWRENCE
Total reno.-3 stry., 66.5' frontage, 3 car gar. G. Mitchell* 488-2875

VICTORIAN RENO. CABBAGETOWN!
Fabulous 3 bedrooms, hardwood floors. Oversized white kitchen. A must see! E. Lewis* 488-2875

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Original 5 bdrms., marble, gourmet kit. Julie Gofman* 488-2875

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Georgian facade, approx. 3,100 sq. ft. Gayle Mitchell* 488-2875

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Just $685K. Stone ext., 4 bdrms., 4 baths. F. Sversky** 488-2875

ARDWOLD GATE/CASA LOMA JUST $649,000
Georgian home on beautiful lot. Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

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Bathurst N./Sheppard! Luxury 3,800'! 4 bdrms., 4 baths, main fam. + lau.+ 2 pce.! Rare 56 x 132' lot! Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

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Wonderful bungalow with lower floor den & sunroom. 3 bedrooms, 3 baths. Act now! Rickey Fitzerman* 226-1987

YONGE/LAWRENCE - HOMES & GARDENS
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Build or add on 30 x 125'. Bonnie Singer** 488-2875

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3 unit income property $279,900. David Manuel* 488-2875

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BAYVIEW-YORK MILLS - NEWLY BUILT
Exquisitely fin. - fab. cul-de-sac, 4+ bdrms., cobblestone walk, circular dr., 100' frontage, landscaped, appl. L. Reitapple* 488-2875

BAYVIEW PROPERTIES Cont'd.

57 FIFESHIRE ROAD! NOW $1,079K
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Open concept, granite & hardwood flrs. Julie Gofman* 488-2875

568 CONACHER DRIVE! $685,000!
Stunning 4+2 bdrms., 5 baths, mn. fam.+lib.+lau.+2 pce.! 61 x 175' parklike setting! Immpecable! Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

255 PRINCESS AVENUE[SOLD] BEDROOMS, 7 BATHS
$679K! Bayview/Sheppard! Mn. fam.+lib.+lau.+2 pce.! W/o bsmnt.! Gorg'us. 50 x 133' lot. Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

NORTH PROPERTIES

RENAISSANCE COURT - $1,295,000
Grand 6,000 sq. ft.+finished basement. Gary Mitchell** 488-2874

KING CITY BUNGALOW SOLD
Approx. 5,000' of living sp[SOLD]. 3+2 bdrm. bungalow. On ½ acre lot. Shows like a model!! Call Anna Pollock* 226-1987

YONGE BLVD. & WILSON!!!
3 bedrooms + 3 baths, renovated. David Manuel* 488-2875

FABULOUS HOME - $269,900! 1ST AD!
Bathurst/Finch large semi. 3+ bedrooms. Renovated white kitchen. Double garage. Basement apartment. Rivy Blass* 226-1987

24 SPRINGHEAD GARDENS[SOLD]+1 BEDROOMS, 3 BATHS
$244,800! Richmond Hill G[SOLD] Main Family! Nanny suite! Fab. 37 x 120'! Move in condition. Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

CONDOMINIUMS

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Low floor, bright, spac., 2 bdrms., lux. fin. Lil Cooper* 488-2875

260 HEATH ST. W.! "VILLAGE TERRACES"!
$329K! Seldom available 2+1 bdrms., 3 bath townhome! Priv. prkg. + courtyard! Walk to subway! Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

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HOUSES FOR SALE

REAL ESTATE Section

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

Paul Slavens REAL ESTATE INC. REALTOR

RESULTS RESULTS RESULTS 483-4337

FINE HOMES

VERY SPECIAL - $1,268,000.
York Mills. Wonderful 5+ bdrm. Master w/sitting rm. + ensuite bath. Main floor library, family rm. + solarium. Approx. 5300 sq. ft. + finished lower level. Inground pool. *William Lipson.

• • •

ST. CLAIR/AVENUE RD. - $1,395,000.
Magnificent Tudor home + spectacular coach house on beautifully landscaped grounds. Totally renovated. Must see. *Edith Weiss/*Barbara Kaplan.

• • •

FIRST OFFERING - $579,000
Fabulous 3+ bdrms., 4 bath home in prime Forest Hill, overlooking the park. Main flr. family rm., granite kitchen, 3 fireplaces, fin. lower level. **Don Wagman/*Shawnee Slan.

• • •

LOWER VILLAGE - $898,000.
Executive 4 bdrm home on oversized lot. Elegant principal rms. Eat-in kitchen w/pantry. Main fl. family rm., powder rm. & laundry. Private drive, garage. *Betty Cohen.

• • •

LAWRENCE/AVENUE RD. - $369,900.
Charming centre hall bungalow on huge lot. Main fl. family rm. w/walkout overlooks garden. Multi fireplaces. Skylight. Fin. lower level. Private drive, attached garage. *Edith Weiss.

• • •

YONGE/DAVENPORT - $158,000.
Spacious corner suite w/balcony. Reno'd kitchen & bath. Panoramic city view. Steps to Yonge/Bloor & Yorkville shops. *Jacqueline Yaffe.

• • •

DENMARK CRES. - $399,000.
Inviting, updated sidesplit on fabulous lot (68 x 125 ft.). 3+ bdrm. Den. Finished lower level w/extra bdrm. + rec. rm. CAC. Private drive, attached garage. *Ruth Kaufman.

• • •

WILMINGTON/SHEPPARD - $349,000.
Beautiful 3 bdrm. sidesplit on large lot. Updated spacious kitchen. Lower level features huge rec. rm.+ furnace/laundry rm. w/ample storage. CAC. Dble. attached garage. *Lena Rauchwerger.

• • •

BAYVIEW BUNGALOW - $549,000
Spacious principal rms. 3 bdrms. Centre hall plan. Finished lower level w/extra bdrm.& large rec room. Double garage. *Marlene Federman

• • •

BAYVIEW - $649,000
Stately 4+ bdrm. home situated on 63 x 147 ft. lot. Main flr. family rm. + library. Finished lower level. Double garage. Backs onto park-like setting. *Lena Rauchwerger

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LOWER VILLAGE CONDO - $385,000
Rare offering - 2. bdrm. + SOLD no'd kitchen w/built-in desk. Central air. Balcony. Overlooks ravine & lake. 2 parking spaces. Terrific location. *Edie Winberg

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AVENUE RD/LAWRENCE - $419,000
Spacious townhome. 3 bdrm SOLD r level family rm. w/fireplace. Multi-level decks. Wonderful location. *Carol Cotton/*Donna Taylor.

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YORK MILLS/LESLIE - $539,000
Attractive 5+ bdrms. Main SOLD ily rm. w/walk-out to patio. Finished lower level. Landscaped grounds. Double garage. *Bobby Simpson.

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FAIRLAWN/AVENUE RD. - $270,000
Detached bungalow on dee SOLD eaded windows. Central air. Large deck. Fully fenced garden. *Edie Winberg.

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GREAT VALUE - $259,000
Spacious 3 bdrm. bungalow SOLD ed lower level. CAC. Private drive & garage. Terrific location. Close to all amenities. Call *Barbara Kaplan.

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BUILDING LOT 67' X 133'
Willowdale. Build or renovate existing home, great location.

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OVERBROOK WILMINGTON
Split lvl., 3 bdrms., 4 baths, liv. & din. combo, white mod. kit., fam. rm., fin. bsmnt., dble. gar.

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AVENUE RD. WILSON
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10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

Bath./Glencairn - Spac. 3 + 1 bdr, 4 bth, dble. gar., den, CAC, deck, 50' lot. $409K. 785-1347.

No agents please! Bathurst & Lawrence area, brick, 2 stry., 3,000 s.f., 4 bdrm., 2 car gar., fin. bsmt., CAC, huge kit., main flr fam. rm. $469,900. 783-8335

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

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35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

Bath./Steeles - Townsgate, lux. 2 bdrm., 2 bth., 5 appl., huge PH terrace, 2 pkg. $1,900/mo. inclusive. Call 905-882-1534.

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75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

90 Shelborne, (Bathurst & Lawrence) bsmt. apt., brand new, pkg., $700/mo. 416-789-0691.

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210 LAND/LOTS FOR SALE/LEASE

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220 INVESTMENT PROPERTIES

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HECHTNER, Olga - on Apr. 14, 1999, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
PETERSON, Gerald - on Apr. 14, 1999, late of 1035 Eglinton Ave. W.
GLASS, Bernard - on Apr. 15, 1999, late of 4350 Bathurst St.
AIN, Freda - on Apr. 16, 1999.
BRODMAN, George - on Apr. 16, 1999, late of 73 Dewlane Dr.
TRACK, Abraham - on Apr. 17, 1999, late of 6 Killarney Rd.
SUGAR, Albert - on Apr. 18, 1999.
HOFFMAN, Nathan - on Apr. 19, 1999, late of 7460 Bathurst St.
REITER, Edward - on Apr. 19, 1999, late of 47 Viewmount Ave.
RUBIN, Marta - on Apr. 19, 1999.
GULA, Rose - on Apr. 20, 1999, late of 1035 Eglinton Ave. W.
HIMELFARB, Ethel - on Apr. 21, 1999.
ISENBERG, Lyla - on Apr. 21, 1999, late of 21 Overlea Blvd.
MELUL, Simon - on Apr. 21, 1999, late of 35 Canyon Ave.
MORRIS, Florence Miriam - on Apr. 21, 1999, late of 90 Fisherville Rd.
POMERANZEV, Ilia - on Apr. 23, 1999, late of 101 Roehampton Ave.
SIMKHAEV, Eleonora - on Apr. 23, 1999, late of 80 Antibes Dr.
CHERNOFF, Samuel (Smitty) - on Apr. 24, 1999, late of 169 Clifton Ave.
ERDOS, Magda - on Apr. 25, 1999, late of 55 Skymark Dr.
SAJET, Chaja - on Apr. 25, 1999, late of 5935 Bathurst St.
KINRYS, Regina - on Apr. 26, 1999, late of 5935 Bathurst St.
POLLAK, Susanne Schleinnee: Sole - on Apr. 26, 1999, late of 80 Antibes Dr.
GASTER, Enosh - on Apr. 27, 1999, late of 175 Ashdale Ave.
DANZIGER, Samuel - on Apr. 28, 1999, late of 7 Broadway Ave.
ROTHSCHILD, Edie - on Apr. 28, 1999.
WISE, Tillie - on Apr. 29, 1999, late of 5935 Bathurst St.

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EISEN, Helen - on Apr. 17, 1999, late of 429 Walmer Rd.
GREEN, Sam - on Apr. 18, 1999, late of 310 Spadina Rd.
GREEN, Louis - on Apr. 19, 1999, late of 3705 Bathurst St.
GREENBERG, Rebecca - on Apr. 19, 1999, late of 148 Dewbourne Ave.
PAPERNICK, Ann - on Apr. 20, 1999, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
FILLINGHAM, Barbara - on Apr. 21, 1999, late of 51 Gossamer Ave.
GOODMAN, Lou - on Apr. 22, 1999, late of 3900 Yonge St., #715.
PAULIN, Arthur - on Apr. 22, 1999, late of 7 High Point Rd.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

HOFFMAN, Evelyn - on Apr. 17, 1999, late of 370 Ridelle Ave., #2503.
ROSS, Gayla - on Apr. 19, 1999, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
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Relatives and friends are invited to attend

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Pardes Shalom
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Community Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

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Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
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Israel & the Jewish World

Sharon, Pope hold talks

By RUTH E. GRUBER
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

ROME — Israeli Foreign Minister Ariel Sharon has met with Pope John Paul II and other top church officials for more than two hours, on what Vatican insiders termed "cordial but difficult" talks on issues largely relating to the millennium.

However, no agreement from the meeting emerged on a papal trip to the Holy Land, a potentially explosive dispute over plans to build a mosque in Nazareth or other Middle East issues, including the status of Jerusalem.

"I want to be very clear, and I said this today" at the meeting, Sharon told a news conference. "Jerusalem has been the capital of the Jewish people for 3,000 years and the capital of the state of Israel for 51. It will never be divided. It will always be the only and indivisible capital of Israel."

In the past, the Vatican has suggested that Jerusalem become either an internationally mandated holy city or the capital of both Israel and an eventual Palestinian state. Vatican officials have called the Israeli occupation of eastern Jerusalem "illegal."

Sharon had a 30-minute private audience with the Pope followed by what the Vatican called a more-than-90-minute "working meeting" with Vatican Secretary of State Cardinal Angelo Sodano and other senior Vatican officials.

A Vatican statement said talks centred on "the tormented peace process in the Middle East, on the conditions of the presence and activity of the Catholic church in the country, as well as on the necessary co-operation in view of the celebration" of the millennium.

Sharon renewed Israel's long-standing invitation for the Pope to visit the Holy Land, saying he hoped he would realize his dream of visiting sites during the millennium year.

"He wants to come, and we want him to come," he said. "We hope it happens. We want him to be the first pilgrim, first in every way."

He also guaranteed safety and freedom of movement for Christians pilgrims to all Holy Land sites under Israeli jurisdiction.

The tense situation in Nazareth, he said, was high on the agenda. "I came to hear the position of the Catholic Church," he said. "I am convinced that a solution will be found. We have discussed the issue."

Nazareth, revered by Christians as the boyhood home of Jesus, is Israel's largest Arab city.

Ariel Sharon

Muslims want to build a large mosque in Nazareth, near the Church of the Annunciation, the site where Christians believe the angel Gabriel announced to Mary that she would give birth.

Christians oppose this plan, and with the Vatican's backing, Christian churches in the region have threatened to close their doors if Israel approves construction of the mosque.

Violent clashes broke out over the affair during Easter. The dispute is threatening to disrupt millennium celebrations there.

Police consider charges

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — Israeli police have recommended that Foreign Minister Ariel Sharon and a business associate be charged with alleged bribery, fraud, breach of trust and obstruction of justice, Israeli media reported last week.

Sharon, who denied the allegations against him, called on the state attorney to decide before the May 17 elections whether to indict him.

Sharon's lawyer, Ya'acov Weinrot, said that from his discussions with the state attorney, Edna Arbel, it did not appear that the recommendation for charges to be filed was unequivocal.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who submitted testimony to police as part of the inquiry, said he had full confidence in Sharon and in his innocence, Israel Television reported.

The police probe was launched last summer at the request of the Israeli daily newspaper *Ha'aretz*. The paper claimed that Sharon had bribed a witness in an unsuccessful libel suit the minister had brought against *Ha'aretz* over an article it published regarding Sharon's role in the 1982 Lebanon War.

Sharon had included the business associate, Avigdor Ben Gal, in a delegation he led as minister of infrastructure to Russia in June 1997.

According to the allegations, Sharon promised to include Ben Gal in a lucrative natural gas deal under consideration in exchange for his altering his testimony.

Ben Gal was called as a witness because he is a retired general who was a senior commander during the war.

Two weeks after returning from Russia, Ben Gal testified in court.

His testimony contradicted remarks which he had made in a university lecture a decade earlier, that Sharon, as defence minister in 1982, had concealed from then-prime minister Menachem Begin plans he had for a far-reaching military operation into Lebanon. Ben Gal also did not disclose that his last contact with Sharon had been during the business trip to Russia.

Israel Radio, citing sources close to the police investigation, reported that the probe had uncovered evidence substantiating some of the allegations.

Arbel said that it was possible no decision would be made until after the May 17 elections.

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Single Jewish female, professional, 40, non-smoker, fun loving, down to earth, attractive, compassionate, enjoy outdoor activities, movies, dancing, theater. Seeking a kind and gentle spirited male, who is true, honest, bright, romantic at heart. AD#2020

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Divorced female, early 50's, blond hair, blue eyes, non-smoker & drinker, enjoy travelling, long walks, quiet times, romantic, compassionate, kind, good values. Seeking a male, down to earth, kind, compassionate, single, 47-60, for serious relationship leading to marriage. AD#2024

TRYING NEW THINGS
Jewish female, 20, college student, enjoys movies, dining out, willing to try new things. Seeking a Jewish male, 21-26, with similar interests. AD#2022

LIFE IS WHAT YOU MAKE IT
Divorced mom of 2, early 30's, fit, playful, witty, goal oriented, opinionated, caring, sensitive, with a sense of humour, enjoy theater, music, ballet, hiking, tennis. Seeking a Jewish male, 30-45, fit, educated, self assured, financially secure, spontaneous, passionate, adventurous. AD#2018

A MAN FOR ALL TIMES
Single female, late 40's, professional, fit, blond hair, blue eyes, Ribinesk. Seeking a male, educated, a mench, good character, good personality. AD#2016

TRADITIONAL VALUES
Single Jewish female, professional, petite, 5'2", blue eyes, blond hair, attractive, attentive, affectionate, enjoy reading, movies, relaxing at home, evenings in or out. Seeking a male, caring, considerate, kind, honest, with traditional values. AD#2015

DANCE DOUBLES AND LIFE PARTNER
Single female, Jewish, 36, 5', dark hair, dynamic, employed, fit, enjoy sports, travelling, financially stable. Seeking a male, Jewish, single dads, Latin or European, mature, intelligent. AD#2019

INNER & OUTER BEAUTY
Single female, slim, fit, 37, attractive, bright, sincere, outgoing. Seeking a male, 35-42, with similar interests, for a fun loving times, possibly more. AD#2009

BRIGHT & UNIQUE
Attractive Jewish female, bright, slim, professional, passionate, athletic, enjoy9by the outdoors. Seeking a Jewish male in his 40's, who is sincere, athletic, no dependents, for a vibrant, long term relationship. AD#2010

LIFE IS BEST SHARED
Single Jewish female, 45, with a positive attitude and a great sense of humour, know how to enjoy life. Seeking a male, who is fun, honest, intelligent, affectionate, for a committed relationship. AD#2116

LET'S CONNECT
Single female, 20, student, enjoy movies, dining & dancing, trying new things. Seeking a male, 21-26, for a meaningful relationship. AD#2013

LET'S CHAT
Single Jewish female, 41, seeking a male, 35-43, who is warm, considerate, understanding, easy to be with, for a long term relationship. AD#2001

HIGH MORAL STANDARDS
Single Jewish female, intelligent, love to dance, seeking a Jewish male, under 50 yrs, who is intelligent, honest, strong eagle with high moral standards, positive attitude, who stands up for what he believes in. AD#2004

NICE GUY WANTED
Single Jewish female, 38, 5'5", brown hair & eyes, attractive, honest, caring, down to earth, fit, enjoy movies, dining out, dancing. Seeking a Jewish male, 35-45, who is active, non smoker, honest, caring, down to earth. AD#2005

SINCERELY YOURS
Very attractive, intelligent female, with varied interests, seeking a male, who is unattached, established, intelligent, kind, honest, affectionate gentleman, non smoker, 55-65. AD#2007

ROMANTIC AT HEART
Single Jewish female, 36, cute, petite, long brown hair, hazel eyes, smoker, sincere, down to earth, enjoy movies, cooking, dining, dancing. Seeking a single Jewish male, 35-40, spontaneous, ambitious, for long term relationship, possible marriage & family. AD#1991

To renew your ad call 416-236-6644

Men seeking Women
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BEST IS YET TO COME
Single Jewish male, 53, 5'9", professional, successful, healthy, handsome, traditional, enjoy dining and dancing, long walks. Seeking a female with similar interests and qualities for long term relationship. AD#2017

FUN LOVING
Single male, 33, 6', blue-green eyes, slim, attractive, financially secure, fun loving, enjoy dining out, movies, dancing. Seeking a Jewish female, 28-35, tall, attractive, with similar interests. AD#2008

MARRIAGE MINDED
Single Jewish male, 46, fit, easy going, sincere, hard working, enjoy art, music, movies, long walks. Seeking a female, 25-35, for marriage minded, serious relationship. AD#2086

WHAT A CATCH!
Single Jewish male, 36, 5'10", 190lbs, enjoy tennis, squash, reading, movies, dining & dancing, TV. Seeking a Jewish female, 28-47, fit, outgoing, personality is a plus. AD#2014

ATTENTION LADIES!
Single male, reformed, 40, tall, slim, handsome, fair hair, hazel eyes, non smoker, social drinker, medical specialist, enjoy movies, blading, the outdoors, trying new foods. Seeking a slim, educated, fit, employed female, with a car and blue jeans, no kids or cats. AD#2000

WHO'S YOUR FAVORITE TELATUBBIE
Single dad of 2 little girls, 5'10", 190lbs, 41, fit, athletic, Health Care professional, enjoy sports, movies, dining & dancing, extensive knowledge of Barney and telatubbies. Seeking a female, 34-42, easy to look at, proud of her looks, smart, fun loving. AD#2003

ATTENTION LADIES!
Single white male, 56, self employed, romantic, warm caring, enjoy travelling, movies, quiet times, good conversation. Seeking a female with similar interests and qualities. AD#1996

LET'S CHAT
Single male, employed, tired of the bar scene, seeking a fun loving female, with wide variety of interests, for friends first relationship. AD#2056

SHARING HIS LIFE
Attractive, athletic male, 5'9", brown hair & eyes, employed, no children, enjoy reading, foreign movies, tennis, basketball, weight lifting. Seeking a female, honest, open minded, compassionate, with a great sense of humour. AD#1957

HIGH QUALITY
Divorced male, mid 50's, 3 grown children, well educated, tall, slim, life in British Columbia, enjoy the outdoors, travelling, camping. Seeking a female, warm sensitive, serious, and ready for intense relationship. AD#1962

ROMANTIC AT HEART
Single male, Jewish, 26, handsome, non smoker, enjoy long conversations, movies, music, animals, camping. Seeking an attractive, single female, non smoker, with similar interests. AD#1964

GOING OUT FOR COFFEE
Single Jewish male, 5'8", 180lbs, easy going, healthy, down to earth, old fashioned, kind, man of many talents, enjoy art, sports. Seeking a single Jewish female with similar interests. AD#1937

WARM AND CARING
Single white male, 56, self employed, romantic, enjoy travelling, movies, quiet times, good conversations. Seeking a female with similar interests. AD#1933

EASY GOING
Single Jewish male, 41, fun loving, easy going, great sense of humour, enjoy movies, theater, long walks, skiing, skating. Seeking a female, 34-43, with similar interests. AD#1939

SERIOUS RELATIONSHIP
Single male, Jewish, professional, late 40's, handsome, intelligent, good sense of humour, caring, sincere, enjoy dining & dancing, movies, good conversation. Seeking a warm hearted female for serious relationship. AD#1945

SEEKING SOULMATE
Single white male, professional, Jewish, computer engineer, good sense of humour, outgoing, gourmet cook, enjoy outdoor activities. Seeking a female for long term, lasting relationship. AD#1944

SENSE OF VALUES
Single Jewish male, smart, intelligent, strong, outgoing, with strong sense of values. Seeking a female, who is fun, trustworthy, 25-32. AD#1921

COLLEGE STUDENT
Single Jewish male, 22, 6'2", college student, enjoy sports, golf,baseball, movies, dining out, dancing.Seeking a female, 18-23, similar interests. AD#1922

LOVING
Single male, 5'10", black hair, green eyes, non smoker or drinker, happy going person, enjoy cooking, dancing, dining out, movies, caring, loving. Seeking a very nice and sincere female with similar interests. AD#1923

LATIN MUSIC
Single Jewish male, 5'6", 147lbs, healthy in body and mind, enjoy Latin music, great outdoors, tennis and fine dining. Seeking an attractive, slim female, with similar interests. AD#1906

ATTENTION LADIES!
Single male, professional, mid 50's, israeli-European background, enjoy walks, movies, dining, dancing.Seeking a female, attractive, petite, down to earth. AD#1470

LONG DISTANCE RELATIONSHIP
Single Jewish male, 36, tall, fit, professional, easy going, live in Western Canada, enjoy travelling, movies, weekends at the lake. Seeking a Jewish female, sincere, outgoing, 25-40, willing to relocate or have a long distance relationship. AD#1886

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The Canadian Jewish news

Competes against athletes twice his age

Talented teenager a natural at wheelchair tennis

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — From the moment Frank Peter saw Joel Dembe on the tennis court, he knew he was watching someone special.

The youngster was a natural when it came to wheelchair tennis.

"I saw incredible hand-eye coordination, and his chair movement was just great," Peter said.

For his part, Dembe loved his first try at the sport. "I hit it off right away," he said. "I was okay at the start and then I got better."

It was a match made in heaven – or at least at the Stoney Creek Tennis Club – for the up-and-coming 15-year-old tennis player and the 32-year-old coach. Since that auspicious day two years ago, Dembe has improved considerably, testing himself against players twice his age and five times his experience – and more than holding his own.

At the Windsor Indoor Games last March, he finished second in the second-tier "A Division" after posting a 2-1 record. "At his age, he was great," said Peter, who's ranked number 6 in Canada. "In two matches I watched, he beat guys with five to six years of experience."

Last December, at a tournament in Montreal, Dembe teamed up with Norman Jean Preire to take the A Division doubles championship. In singles, he lost a hard-fought match to a 30-year-old player in three sets on a tie-breaker (8-5). "It was a really good game," he says. "I just got tired at the end. It was a three-hour game."

In Ottawa last July, Dembe finished second in the junior (18 and under) division, while a month before at the Ontario Open, he lost two games, to a 34- and a 30-year-old player.

"Every tournament I've played in, I've been the youngest. The next youngest player was 18, and I beat him," Dembe said.

Because there are just a handful of wheelchair players of his age in Canada, Dembe must practice against athletes much older than himself, but the skills and the intangibles that make for good athletes keep him competitive, Peter said.

"His determination, his will and his talent give him the right stuff," he said.

Peter believes Dembe has tremendous potential in the world of competitive wheelchair tennis. "He could be in the top five in Canada within eight years, perhaps even the top player," said Peter, who is a contender for the Canadian Paralympics team.

That would suit Dembe just fine.

Joel Dembe

"Right now my goal is to be number 1 in Ontario, but my coach would have to retire for that to happen. He can smoke my socks right now."

Unlike other kids his own age, Dembe has the right temperament to succeed at the sport. Other teens get frustrated and lose their cool when things don't go well. Not Dembe.

"His attitude is really good," said Peter, who trains with Dembe once a week. "If he misses a shot, he wants to get back out there again until he gets it right."

For his part, Dembe displays the kind of mental rigor that most top athletes possess: "I've learned to focus more and to concentrate. If I lose a point, I stay calm and don't think about what I missed, but about the shot I'm going to make next," he said.

His mother Cheryl, loves what the sport has given her son – and the family. "Our whole family plays tennis now because of Joel," she said.

"It's been great for him and it's given him confidence. It's opened up the world to him."

From his home in Orkney, Ont., a small, rural community outside Hamilton, Dembe has travelled across the province to play tennis, and he's met other wheelchair athletes from across the country. He's planning to travel to Pittsburgh later this summer to test himself in a tournament against American players in his age group.

Prior to his interest in tennis, Dembe played sledge hockey, baseball and he remains an avid golfer. Having tried team and individual sports, he's found he prefers individual sports. Golf is similar to tennis in that both require good hand-eye coordination and every success you achieve is personal, he said.

"I like how golf is your game. The only person who can control the game is you. It's such a mental game," he said.

Although he plays tennis in a wheelchair, Dembe can get around with the aid of crutches. For golf, his father Steven, drives him to the ball in a golf cart. Using a single crutch, Dembe positions himself over the ball. He then drops the crutch, gets balanced and takes a swing with a special, shortened club. He's able to drive the ball 100 yards, "but my putting is better," he said.

Dembe was born with teratoma, a benign tumor in the abdomen that migrated to the spine, compressing it and causing nerve damage. He's a partial paraplegic but an ultra-light, highly maneuverable, three-wheeled wheelchair makes him mobile for tennis.

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AEROBICS IN SPANDEX

The Bathurst Jewish Centre was the scene of a recent CHAT Aerobithon in which 75 high school students jumped, pumped, sweated and strained in support of the Canadian Cancer Association. The students raised more than $4,000 to go to the Association's Joan Blidner Memorial Fund. The fund was established by the school in memory of a staff member who died of cancer last year.

The Inside Back

When we really count...

Last Laugh

At this time of year, it seems no matter which way you turn, you just can't seem to avoid some type of counting, whether it was the income tax filing deadline, the start of baseball season, the approaching end of the school year, or even the next hockey season (particularly true for teams which don't even make the playoffs).

Whether you consider these things as positive or negative, really depends on which side of the issue you're on. For example, on the income tax issue, if you're a tax auditor, I suppose you look forward with breathless anticipation to the big day in April. On the other hand, if you're a taxpayer, the opposite feeling probably holds true. So are all these countings at this time of year mere coincidence?

I firmly believe that one day, geneticists will discover the Sfirah gene, named for the mitzvah of Sfirah, the 49-day counting of the Omer, done from Pesach through to Shavuot. In doing the counting, we make an annual effort to mark our movement away from Mitzrayim (as represented gastronomically by matzah and macaroons), and spiritually upward towards receiving the Torah at Mount Sinai (as represented by blintzes and chocolate cheesecake).

Now, for most people, thinking about the next chag at this point in time ranks right up there with nostalgically remembering one's last root canal. Aren't we all just a little bit "chagged out", secretly relieved that another year's Pesach cleaning, cooking, late night seders, matzah consumption and box shlepping are behind us? Surely only obsessive-compulsive types and masochists would be looking forward to the next chag's cooking and other preparations, not to mention the lost sleep during the Shavuot all-nighter learnathon.

Around our house, while awaiting Shavuot, we concurrently experience the annual great birthday party countdown. Our oldest son, who was born during Pesach, has his party sometime after Pesach, when his parents have (somewhat) recovered their sanity.

This year, we initially thought of having his party during Chol hamo'ed, but reconsidered after he informed us that if we served a matzah pizza he would personally boycott his party, stage a protest and invite the national media. We backed down, and so his party was held two Sundays after Pesach.

Our second son, who was born just before Shavuot, usually doesn't have to wait quite as long for his party after his actual birth date. Our daughter, born the day before Yom Kippur, is virtually guaranteed not to have her party until at least chol hamo'ed Sukkot, and usually after Simchat Torah.

Either way, there is much anticipation of these three annual events. Of course, it's real easy for the kids; all they have to really do is count. They don't have to drive themselves a little meshuge with all the preparations. They don't have to worry about trying to come up with yet another idea that jaded classmates haven't done yet.

Yet, they want to micro-manage the whole affair, from who's invited (or definitely, positively not invited) to exactly what goes on the birthday cake, to who sits beside who, to what goes in the loot bags. However, they don't lose sleep planning for rainy day activities for easily bored party guests. They just show up.

Nonetheless, they do have to count to the big day. Boy, do they count. The chant of "How many days til my birthday?" is uttered several times a day, from sunrise (and earlier) until bedtime. I never knew my kids could count quite so high (up to 250 days).

So, I think we can learn a lesson from our kids about the importance of counting the Omer, especially when it's something of value we're looking forward to. It's largely a matter of perspective. On Shavuot, we are supposed to renew our dedication to receiving the Torah, our road map to life. Oh, yes, let's not forget about the massive consumption of blintzes and cheesecake. So, to all those eagerly (and perhaps not so eagerly) waiting for Shavuot, relax and enjoy. Hey, it's only a two-day yom tov.

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ROASTED GARLIC TOMATO BISQUE

1 large onion, peeled, quartered
8 medium plum tomatoes, cored
1 bulb elephant garlic, roasted, mashed
1 can (28 oz) undrained plum tomatoes, chopped
6 fresh basil leaves, thinly sliced
olive oil
2 tblsp. brown sugar
1/2 cup broth
salt
pepper

Preheat broiler or bbq. Brush onion lightly with oil & grill until golden & slightly blackened on edges, remove and set aside. Grill tomatoes until skin blisters. Remove from heat, peel off skin. In med. saucepan, heat 1 tblsp. olive oil over med. heat. Add charred onion, tomatoes & roasted garlic cloves removed from bulb. (To roast garlic, trim top, brush with oil & bake 45-60 mins. @ 350°F.) Cook tomato mixture 2-3 mins. Add brown sugar, being careful not to scorch as it caramelizes. Stir & scrape bottom & sides of pan, then add canned tomatoes & broth. Stir occasionally, allowing soup to simmer on med.-low heat. Reduce by half. Using blender, purée hot soup, season with salt & pepper. Pour into bowl & garnish with basil. Makes 4 cups.

About Teens

Dear Karilani,

I always thought that I was reasonably popular with the other girls in my grade. I'm in Grade 6, and there seem to be more parties this year than ever before. I am usually invited to all the parties except for one girl's party. She never invites me. I went to ask her why she wouldn't invite me and she said she didn't have enough room, but I know that she is lying. I know she has the right to invite whoever she wants, but it makes me feel very sad and left out. What do you think I should do?

Popular Paranoia

Dear Popular Paranoia,

Grade 6 is the beginning of your senior elementary years of school. During this period, socially, things begin to change and develop differently. When a situation similar to yours arises, it is important to remember that you must never doubt yourself and your social skills and standings. Simply because you were not invited to one party, does not mean you are, or will be, looked upon differently by your peers. You must feel secure about your social status and not worry about how others view you.

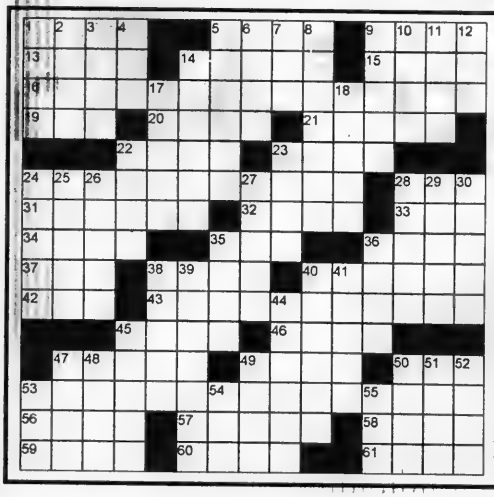
As for the specific issues concerning your classmate who did not invite you to her party, do not jump to conclusions and immediately assume the worst. You must try to believe the girl when she said that she could not invite you, and trust what she said to you.

Furthermore, you have many parties to look forward to. Everyone, at some point, will feel similar to the way you feel. People go to different parties at different times, usually based on personal preferences. Just as no one looks at them differently, no one will look at or judge you differently.

Another factor that you must keep in mind is the close unit of friends which you have already established. These friends are the most important, and can be counted on. The most enjoyable parties that you will attend will most likely be theirs, for they are who matter.

Remember, being invited to one party is not what is important or what determines popularity. Be confident with yourself and feel comfortable with those around you. That is true importance.

Karilani is a composite name for three girls, who are close friends and in Grade 11 in Toronto.



The Canadian Jewish News

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Mother of Exiles

By Matt Gaffney and David Bianco (QSyndicate@aol.com)

Across

1 Larry Gelbart's TV show
5 Shakespeare's "shucks!"
9 Not at home
13 Where Schweitzer picked up his Nobel
14 Use one's schnozz
15 Costa ____
16 Where 43-across appears
19 Mountain follower
20 Junkyard car's feature
21 Simon output
22 Monte Carlo game
23 Sale condition
24 Author of 43-across
28 Half a dance
31 Common address, for short
32 Moves apace
33 Yonder fella
34 Say "!@#$%"
35 School grp.
36 Journalist Totenberg
37 52-down counterpart
38 Soothing plant
40 Changes, as a bill
42 Ending for racket or pamphlet
43 With "The", poem from which this puzzle's title is taken
45 Picnic trouble
46 Good thing
47 Certain Sondheim setting
49 Played roulette
50 Bikini half
53 Noted phrase from 43-across
56 Like 56
57 Jewish-Danish comedian Victor
58 Duchamp's movement
59 Alfred Stieglitz concern
60 Where 37-across and 52-down lived
61 Unit for Oppenheimer

Down

1 The majority
2 Regarding
3 Three Stooges laugh-getter
4 Negev-esque
5 *"Don't Call It Night"* author
6 The Labor Party, in Israel
7 The whole schmeer
8 Makes a boo-boo
9 Zones
10 Skinny but strong
11 Emulates Hoffman
12 "Mazel tov!"
14 Patinkin role in "Sunday in the Park with George"
17 Europe-Asia divider
18 Ignorance, supposedly
22 Streisand's millions
23 Beverly Sills piece
24 Billy Crystal at the Oscars, often
25 Purple shade
26 Overly-frugal sort
27 Worshipper of Quetzalcoatl
28 They can be double or cleft
29 Nehru, for one
30 Hoard
35 Cartoon punches
36 Noted Scottish Loch
38 Per ____ (yearly)
39 Bothered one's plea
40 Draw
41 Dimona or Scopus
44 Criticize
45 Moshe of Israeli politics
47 Number of *Megillot*
48 Where to cook your kugel
49 Aching
50 Bart Simpson, maybe
51 Try again
52 37-across counterpart
53 Mousse alternative
54 Tenth letter
55 Muckraker Tarbell

(This week's answers are on page 46.)

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This Week

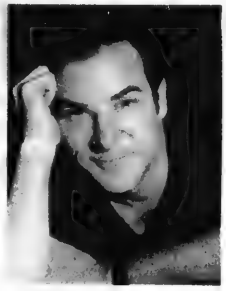
National

Education funding rally draws over 3,000 *Page 3*

Ontarians face old issues and new ridings in election. *Page 5*

Filmmaker describes experience in Albania. *Page 27*

Arts



Yiddish music energizes Mandy Patinkin. *Page 37*

Health

Orthodox address problems of eating disorders. *Page 40*

Sports

Israel posts best results ever at international hockey tournament. *Page 46*

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Flashpoint in Jerusalem

Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

JERUSALEM — As the controversy over the closure of three Palestinian offices in the Orient House threatened to lurch out of control, U.S. peace envoy Dennis Ross phoned Public Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani on the weekend to try and defuse tensions.

According to a senior U.S. official, "the gaps are bridgeable." The official expressed the hope that the Israeli government would provide more time for the negotiations to continue.

"The gaps are more about form than about substance," the official said.

The inner cabinet met in special session Sunday night to discuss the issue.

The U.S. official noted that the Palestinians believe that Kahalani is personally negotiating in good faith. The United States believes that both sides want the issue to be resolved peacefully, the official said.

The problem is that the Palestinians do not want to be seen as pawns in the hands of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, whom they think is determined to provoke an eve-of-elections crisis. However, the Palestinians are also under countervailing pressure from their own constituency not to be seen as buckling under to Israeli pressure.

Continued on page 31

'VOYAGE OF THE DAMNED' REMEMBERED

Sixty years ago on May 13, the St. Louis set sail from Hamburg on its way to Cuba. Its passengers, however, two of whom are seen here peering longingly from a porthole on the ship, were turned away and forced to return to Europe. In this issue of *The CJN* we recall that 'voyage of the damned'. **Please see page 9.** *[U.S. Holocaust Museum photo]*

'Holocaust imaging disturbing'

IRWIN COTLER

By IRWIN COTLER
Special to The CJN

One of the more disturbing and misleading aspects of the Kosovo tragedy, is the invocation of Holocaust imaging – replete with manipulative symbolism, false equivalencies, and failed memory – by protagonists and perpetrators, victims and bystanders, commentators and critics.

For NATO, the post-Holocaust cry of "never again" is invoked to justify the use of sustained bombing to "prevent another Holocaust" in Kosovo. Yet, this manipulative symbolism belies the numerous non-interventions by the international community in the post-Holocaust "yet agains" in Cambodia, Iraq, Bosnia, and Rwanda, not to mention the near decade-long silence of NATO over Kosovo.

Slobodan Milosevic is demonized as a "Hitler" by NATO leaders, to justify bombing him, a metaphor for radical evil. But these same leaders are still prepared "to do business with him" while avoiding his indictment as a war criminal, then or now. The appeasement of Hitler in Munich is invoked; the appeasement of Milosovic in Bosnia and Kosovo is ignored.

Milosevic himself, plays and replays on Serbian state-controlled television, images of Nazi bombing of Belgrade during World War II. In this manipulative false equivalence, NATO becomes the "Nazis", President Clinton is "Bill Hitler", and the Serbs are the "victims" of these "neo-Nazis."

Continued on page 34

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Remember Jerusalem on Yom Yerushalayim.
Please see page 4.

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Moscow mayor target of anti-Semitic campaign — please see page 31

The News in Brief

CANADA

CJC Meets Manning

OTTAWA — Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) president Moshe Ronen led a recent delegation to meet with Reform party leader Preston Manning. Issues discussed included the crisis in Kosovo; international terrorism and Canadian security; immigration and refugee policy; Nazi war criminals in Canada; hate on the Internet; and the bond between Israel and Canada. Also on the agenda was the establishment of a Holocaust museum in Ottawa.

School Gets Green Light

VANCOUVER — A new Jewish high school has been approved for this September. The community has raised about 80 percent of the funds needed, but still needs $1 million to meet the projected capital budget. The first year of the school will be held at the current Maimonides school site. Plans call for a new building in September 2000.

Observers In Balkans

TORONTO — Leo Goldhar, past campaign chair of UJA Federation, is Canada's representative among a group of North American UJA leaders currently on a fact-finding trip to the Balkans. The mission will allow communal leaders to witness relief efforts, visit refugee camps and meet Jews from Belgrade now living in Budapest. The trip will conclude with visits to Muslim and Jewish refugees now in Israel.

Grossman Named To Bench

TORONTO — Jack Grossman, immediate past president of Beth Tzedec Congregation, has been appointed to the Ontario Court of Justice (formerly the Ontario Court, Provincial Division). Grossman has been a lawyer for the past 27 years, with emphasis in criminal law.

ISRAEL

Soldiers Killed, Wounded

JERUSALEM — An Israeli soldier was killed and another was wounded earlier this month in the southern Lebanon security zone by a roadside bomb planted by Hezbollah gunmen. Nine Israeli soldiers have been killed in the region this year. On the same day, Hezbollah gunmen wounded three soldiers, one of them seriously, during an attack on an Israeli army base in southern Lebanon.

Landmine Conference

JERUSALEM — Israeli representatives are expected to participate in an upcoming international conference on the banning of anti-personnel mines, despite Israel's refusal to sign a treaty on the matter. The conference, which will take place in Mozambique next month, will attempt to expedite implementation of the Canadian-led landmine agreement and provide aid to countries seeking to dismantle the mines. Some 135 countries have signed the treaty, which took effect in March.

WORLD

Neo-Nazis March

HAMBURG — About 350 neo-Nazis recently marched through the centre of a small German town near here. Demonstrators reportedly arrived in Ahrensburg in five buses and carried Nazi flags and banners attacking foreigners.

General's Jewish Roots

NEW YORK — The American general leading the NATO military operation against Yugoslavia discovered his Jewish roots as an adult, the *New York Times* reported. Gen. Wesley Kanne Clark, who was raised a Protestant in Little Rock, Ark., embraced his background when he learned of it in his 20s, according to several family members. His grandfather, Jacob Nemerovsky, fled Russia in the 1890s during a pogrom, the paper said.

Question Of Gay Rabbis

NEW YORK — The Conservative movement's rabbinical arm ended its 99th annual convention this month without a formal discussion of its stance on the placement and ordination of openly gay and lesbian rabbis. In a closed-door session, the executive vice-president of the Rabbinical Assembly (RA), Rabbi Joel Meyers, clarified the group's policy that all members in good standing are entitled to placement in a congregation. The RA's executive council is expected to address the issue at a meeting in June.

Moroccan Jews Lobby

RABAT — Moroccan Jews have announced the creation of a group to lobby for Middle East peace. The announcement came during a recent meeting of the World Rally for Moroccan Jews, held in Marrakesh. The biggest delegation to the conference came from Israel, which has some 600,000 Jews of Moroccan origin.

Family Demands Albright Return 'War Booty'

VIENNA — A wealthy Austrian family has demanded that U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and her family return millions of dollars worth of "war booty" allegedly taken from their apartment in Prague after World War II.

Philip Harmer, head of a family of former Austrian industrialists and landowners, alleges that Albright's father, Josef Korbel, took 20 17th-century Dutch paintings, antique furniture and silver from his family's apartment in Prague.

"I cannot believe that the secretary of state of the U.S. and her brother and sister enjoy eating with my family's silver, while surrounded by my family's paintings and furniture," said Harmer, now a management consultant in Vienna.

Albright, who was raised a Roman Catholic and later became an Episcopalian, said she first learned she had Jewish ancestors when it was reported by the *Washington Post* in 1997.

Harmer alleges that when Albright's family returned to Prague after World War II, they took up residence in Harmer's vacated apartment, and demanded that a housekeeper tell them where priceless paintings had been hidden.

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Education funding rally draws over 3,000 people

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — An estimated 3,000 students, parents and teachers rallied at Queen's Park last week to call on the provincial government to fund independent religious schools.

Rabbi Pachino's Opinion
see page 24

The mood was festive, but the message was all business as speaker after speaker criticized the Ontario government for failing to support Jewish and Protestant schools while fully funding Roman Catholic educational institutions.

That situation smacks of discrimination and is contrary to the provincial government's own boast that its goal is to provide fair funding to all Ontario students, said Wayne Levin, a representative of Parents for Educational Choice (PEC), the grassroots group that organized the rally.

Fairness requires that independent religious schools receive the same financial backing as Roman Catholic schools, he said. "We ask for no special treatment."

More than 2,000 Jewish students and parents and about 1,000 students and parents from independent Christian schools attended the rally.

"I think it's a great show of unity," said Tina Van Beveren, the Ancaster, Ont.-based chair of PEC. "The purpose was to put a face to the children who are left out of funding, so we can say to the government, these kids are not part of the students who appear in government ads."

(In advance of the upcoming election, the provincial government embarked on a public relations campaign touting a basic universal grant for all Ontario students.)

Speaker after speaker challenged the provincial government to live up to its own policies of fair funding, with the mostly youthful crowd frequently breaking into chants of "fair funding for all," and "we are students too."

Human rights lawyer Irwin Cotler told the rally that the right to equal benefits and equal treatment under the law are basic principles of any free and democratic society. Withholding benefits to any segment of the population based on their religious affiliation violates those principles, he said.

"There's a name for that. It's called discrimination," Cotler said.

Frank Swoboda, a parent of five children in the Strathroy Community Christian School, told the crowd, "You have to pay for an education

Continued on page 25

Students from across southern Ontario rallied for provincial funding for independent religious schools. [Paul Lungen photo]

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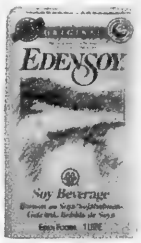

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4. People forget about hidden government taxes.

When governments cut back or charge more for services, this is really a form of hidden taxation. Smart investors realize that they need to rethink their goals and to make sure their "nest egg" will be sufficient to cover these additional costs. Seniors are particularly vulnerable, as healthcare cutbacks effect the people who use the medical system the most.

... to be continued

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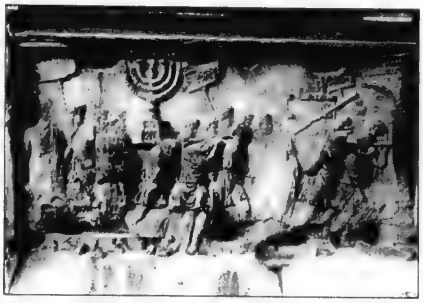
From the editor's desk

Remember Jerusalem

In 71 CE, following the Roman victory over the stubborn monotheists in Judea a year earlier, a victory procession was held in Rome in which the "spoils" from the temple in Jerusalem were paraded throughout the city.

The photo in this column is a depiction of that victory procession.

This depiction was engraved into the stone of the arch of Titus in Rome shortly after the conquering Roman legions returned home.



The Judeans' temple lay in ruins; the holy vessels were stolen; the people were slaughtered. Of those who survived, most were subjugated by the Roman oppressor, dragged off into captivity, far away from their homes.

In 65 years, the entire city would lay in ruins and Judeans (Jews) forbidden, at the point of the pagans' sword, from returning to their holy city and to their holy temple.

Dispersed to the far corners of the ancient world, and powerless against the rising forces of history, the Jews seared the memory of that city and that temple into the very marrow and substance of their collective identity.

They sang the songs of the city that their forebears had written some 600 years earlier. The poetry in those songs accompanied them through all the years and the places of their dispersion, and like the invisible magnetic undertow that directs a compass, steered their hearts unswervingly towards Jerusalem.

"How shall we sing the Lord's song in a strange land?

If I forget thee O Jerusalem, Let my right hand lose its strength..."

Of course, the Jews did return approximately 300 years later, only to be expelled again and to return again. Never, in the 1,900 years after the fall of the temple in 70 C.E. did Jews cease to travel to Jerusalem.

Never, in the 1,900 years after the fall of the temple in 70 CE did Jews cease to dream of returning to, resettling in, and rebuilding Jerusalem.

By the mid-19th century, Jews were the first to build new quarters outside the wall of the Old City. From then on, the population of Jerusalem, and in particular, that of the Jews of Jerusalem rose rapidly.

More than 100 years ago, the Jews became the majority in Jerusalem and have remained so ever since.

In 1948, no longer powerless against the rising forces of history, the Jews (Judeans) proclaimed and fought for a sovereign Jewish state. Once again, after the passage of nearly 1,900 years, Jerusalem became the capital of a sovereign Jewish state.

Nineteen years later, on the 28th day of Iyar, 5727, Wednesday, June 7, 1967, Jerusalem was restored to being a single, undivided, unified city. Except under the 19-year-rule of eastern Jerusalem by the Jordanians, the city had never in its history been divided.

Israel, and it is safe to say, almost all of the Jewish world, are determined that it will never be divided again.

Thus, on the 28 day of Iyar, we celebrate Yom Yerushalayim, the day set aside to commemorate the reunification of the city.

It is important that we remember Jerusalem.

The Palestinian Authority claims Jerusalem as its own capital.

The Vatican and the European Union have recently declared their preference that the status of Jerusalem revert to a corpus separatum, a separate city, controlled by neither Israel nor the Palestinians.

Canada's views upon the status of reunifed Jerusalem are unclear. But, having repeatedly referred to eastern Jerusalem as occupied territory, one may presume the Canadian government's attitude to be inimical.

The attitude of the Americans appears to support Israel's claim that Jerusalem is eternally its undivided capital. However, the U.S. administration has never unambiguously said so.

In defiance of the facts, and in oblivious disregard of history, western journalists almost always refer to east Jerusalem as Arab East Jerusalem, or simply as Arab Jerusalem. It is important, therefore, that we, the Jews of the world, *remember* Jerusalem.

MBD

SEE JN

YOM YERUSHALAYIM

It was 32 years ago that the IDF reunited the old and the new parts of Jerusalem. Jews around the world celebrate that reunification on the 28th day of Iyar, which falls this year on May 14. This archival photo of the "three generals" is one of the most famous photos associated with the reunification. From left, Uzi Narkiss, Central Command officer, Moshe Dayan, defence minister, and Yitzhak Rabin, chief of staff, enter the Old City through the Lions Gate.

Greater Toronto Area

Ontarians face old issues, new ridings in election

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Ontario voters head to the polls June 3 facing old issues but new electoral boundaries.

Because Queen's Park has redrawn and reduced the number of ridings – from 130 to 103 – familiar Jewish electoral districts in the community, like Wilson Heights and Oriole, will be replaced by new boundaries that will conform in name and size to their federal counterparts.

Premier Mike Harris, a visible presence on the Jewish communal scene, will be tested in this vote, as polls show a tight race with Dalton McGuinty's Liberals. The NDP, led by Howard Hampton, trail with roughly 15 percent support.

The Ontario region of Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) has identified four key issues in the vote:

Premier Mike Harris
...June 3 vote

• Education: The community's major demand, for the past 14 years, is for government funding of Jewish day schools, arguing that funding Catholic schools but not other religious-based systems is discriminatory. Because Jewish day schools receive no public funds, their students cannot access health services that are free in the public and separate systems. These services include speech therapy, audiology and counselling. Congress says denying children in private schools these essential services goes beyond finances.

• Elder care: There's a higher proportion of Jewish elderly (at least 18 percent of all Jews) than in the general population (12 percent). CJC says that care for the aged has moved away from institutional to home and community care. It says care for the aged must be universal, and integrate various services.

• Social housing: CJC states the province has withdrawn from this area and passed it to municipalities. This should not be tolerated, it argues, without guarantees that cities and towns can absorb costs.

• Hate propaganda: Congress has set its sites on the Internet, which it says is "not sacrosanct." It also calls on provincial officials to work with their federal counterparts to enforce anti-hate laws in the Criminal Code.

Races to watch include:

• Thornhill, estimated to be at least one-third Jewish. Lawyer Dan Ronen, brother of Canadian Jewish Congress president Moshe Ronen, is the Liberal candidate. He's facing Conservative hopeful Tina Molinari and Nathan Rotman for the NDP.

Earlier this year, Molinari found herself on the defensive after a telephone poll asked residents whether they would be comfortable voting for a "member" of CJC, and whether they would vote for the son of a Holocaust survivor.

Ronen's father is an Auschwitz survivor who accompanied Prime Minister Jean Chrétien on a high-profile trip in January to the former death camp.

Ontario's Tories subsequently apologized for the questions and fired the pollster. Molinari insisted she did not commission the poll, but refused to say who did.

Last month, Ronen caused a bit of a stir when he showed up at the community's Yom Hashoah rally sporting a visible Liberal-red campaign button.

• Willowdale, where Attorney General Charles Harnick, who came under fire for not pursuing pro-Nazi Ernst Zundel more vigorously, announced he would not seek re-election. Jewish former school trustee David Young has picked up the Tory banner. He's running against Fahimeh Mortazavi, who has held several government appointments and positions with the Public Service Commission. Running for the NDP is Mikael Swayze.

• St. Paul's, which federally, has long been a bellwether riding. Tory Isabel Bassett, considered a friend of the Jewish community, is running against Liberal Michael Bryant. Well-known broadcaster Larry Solway is running for the NDP, saying the party's stance is consistent with Jewish beliefs on ethics and social justice.

• York Centre, where longtime MPP and former cabinet minister Monte Kwinter is running and where the race is considered his to lose. Kwinter was challenged for the seat by fellow Liberal Annamarie Castrilli. The turf war resulted in several anti-Semitic missives directed at Kwinter. Castrilli shocked everyone by winning the nomination instead in Parkdale-High Park – for the Conservatives. Kwinter faces Tory Roberto Hausman and the NDP's Norm Jesin, a labor lawyer.

• Don Valley East, where David Caplan, who won his mother Elinor's old seat of Oriole in 1997, faces Education Minister David Johnson and the NDP's Janaki Balakrishnan.

• Eglinton-Lawrence, where two high-profile MPPs will slug it out. Liberal Mike Colle will face Tory MPP John Parker and Jay Waterman for the NDP. The winner stands to inherit more Jewish voters because of redistribution.

• Oak Ridges will encompass all of Richmond Hill and a good chunk of Markham. Running for the PCs is Frank Klees. He'll face Liberal Vito Spatasora and New Democrat Chris Moise.

Observers note that York Region's growing Jewish community stands to lose two representatives who were in cabinet: Al Palladini and David Tsubouchi.

There's a Jewish candidate in Hamilton: community volunteer Vicky Wylson-Sher is running for the Liberals in Wentworth-Burlington.

In the coming weeks, *The CJN* will profile the above ridings. Interviews with the party leaders have been requested.

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The family desperately wants to stay together, with the older children taking on the responsibility of raising and ultimately marrying off the younger ones and themselves.

We appeal to you to support our community's efforts to establish a trust fund for these children. All cheques over $10 will receive charitable tax receipts. In the spirit of Jewish compassion and generosity at this holiday time, please open your hearts and donate generously. Thank you.

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Pollster predicts dead heat

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The May 17 general election in Israel will end in a dead heat, forcing a June 1 runoff, an Israeli pollster predicts.

Students choose Labor
see page 16

The two leading contenders for the premiership, Benjamin Netanyahu of Likud and Ehud Barak of Labor (One Israel), will each win 37 percent of the popular vote, Tamar Hermann told a pre-election seminar, sponsored by the Canada-Israel Committee and the UJA Federation last week

Hermann, managing director of the Tami Steinmetz Centre for Peace Research at Tel Aviv University, is an authority on Israeli public opinion and peace movements.

According to Hermann, Yitzhak Mordechai, the centre party candidate, will capture 10 percent of the vote. Contrary to earlier expectations, the centre party will not emerge as a power in Israeli politics, she said.

Benny Begin, the far-right candidate, and Azmi Bishara, the Israeli Arab candidate, will each receive four percent.

Eight percent of the voters remain undecided, she added.

Hermann said that the Labor party will reap the greatest number of Knesset seats, 32 to 33. Likud and the centre party will pick up 24 to 25 seats and nine to 10 seats, respectively.

She expects Shas and the Arab parties to each acquire nine seats, while Meretz and Yisrael b'Aliyah will win seven to eight seats and five to six seats, respectively. Begin's party, National Unity, will garner four seats. The Third Way, with four seats in the last Knesset, will be shut out.

In Hermann's estimation, right-wing parties and left-wing parties will each win 48 to 50 seats. Centre parties will hold the balance of power, with 18 to 22 seats.

Of 33 parties running in the election, 11 to 12 will be represented in the 15th Knesset.

The majority of Israelis believe that the country should be governed by a national unity government, she said.

By her estimate, about 79 percent of the electorate strongly supports the currently stalled Oslo peace process. Voters respect Barak because they are certain that he will advance peace talks, but they think that Netanyahu will extract better terms from the Arabs.

Israelis regard the cleavages in Israeli society, rather than the peace process, as the major issue in the election, she observed. However, the two issues are inextricably related, since the peace process has hastened national disunity.

Voters do not have much confidence in political parties, nor do many of them watch political ads on television, she said.

Samuel Segev, a prominent Israeli journalist, said that the May 17 election could be the most important in Israel's history.

"All the problems we haven't been able to solve since 1949 will come to the forefront after the election," said Segev, referring to Israel's final borders, Jewish settlements in the territories, access to water supplies and Palestinian refugees.

Segev suggested that only a national unity government can come to grips with these pressing matters.

The next Israeli prime minister, whoever he may be, will head a "government of peace," said Segev, who wrote for *Ma'ariv* from 1957 to 1990 and whose book on the peace process, *Crossing the Jordan*, was recently published.

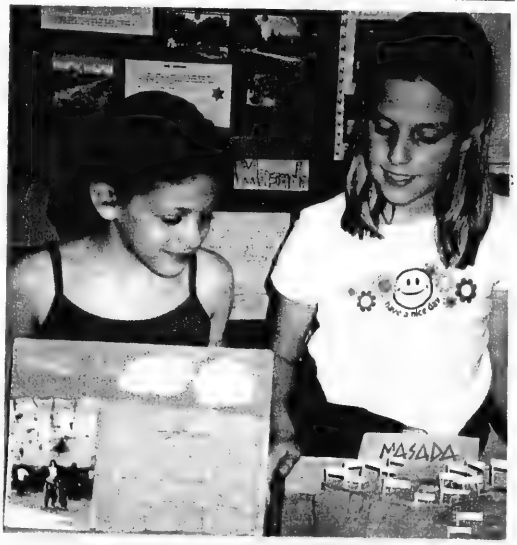
"Neither Barak nor Netanyahu will sacrifice Israel's basic interests for the sake of politics," he said.

As a result, the peace process will have to be resuscitated after the election, noted Segev, a lecturer at Hofstra University who teaches courses on Middle East politics and the media in Israel and the Arab world.

Segev said that the United States is absolutely determined to get the peace process moving again, and that President Bill Clinton regards it as integral to the success of his presidency.

Israel, he mused, is coping with the effects of fragmentation within its diverse society – the tension between Ashkenazi and Sephardi Jews, on the one hand, and secular and religious Jews on the other. He predicted that these problems would intensify.

Segev warned that the candidacy of Bishara poses an immense challenge to Israel, because he seeks to change Israel's identity from a Jewish state to a state of its citizens.



DJCS ISRAEL FAIR

Lee Gelbloom (left) and Maxie Winick, Grade 4 students from the Downtown Jewish Community School, show their model replicas of the Western Wall and Massada, respectively, at the recent Israel Fair held at the Bloor JCC. [Barbara Silverstein photo]

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Greater Toronto Area

Canada 3000 imposes surcharge on all special meals

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Canada 3000 has instituted a surcharge of $10 on all special meals, including those requested for religious reasons, payable when the meal is served.

Passengers who order kosher, vegetarian, diabetic or salt-free meals – among others – are affected by the policy, which became effective May 1.

The change at Canada 3000, which flies to 85 destinations, "concerns and troubles" Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC), wrote Manuel Prutschi, CJC's national director, community relations, in a letter to Angus Kinnear, president of the airline.

The policy is "discriminatory" and "will have an adverse impact on members of the Jewish community as well as members of other religious minorities and those with special health requirements," Prutschi wrote, urging the airline to reconsider.

"It's not discriminatory," Kinnear told *The CJN* by phone last week. "In the last 12 months, we've served over 42,500 special meals. We're now getting to the point where we are in the designer meal business and trying to run a restaurant not an airline.

"We are not in an à-la-carte restaurant business," he insisted.

If any passengers wish to bring their own food, "we are more than happy," he said.

Manuel Prutschi

There is "considerable cost" in providing special meals – even children's meals, he said, a contention Prutschi disputed in a second letter.

Prutschi wrote, "I am told that people in the airline industry estimate the added cost per special meal at roughly $3, a cost that drops to about $1 when it is distributed evenly among an entire passenger planeload.

"Furthermore, it is pointed out to me that airlines contract with a catering firm to the overall meal supplier, provide said caterer with a global budget, and it is the caterer who then matches menus, number and variety of special meals, etc. to that budget."

Prutschi contends there is thus no extra cost to the airline for special meals.

Reactions from some 150 customers who had booked Canada 3000 charter flights through Peerless Travel were "first of all, furious," said Lawrence Cherniak, manager of the 50-agent company, who personally informed a number of clients about the surcharge. For one family of six, the surcharge meant an extra $120 on their round trip to Vancouver, he said.

Clients were also unhappy about the necessity of paying on the airplane – some already feel embarrassed at being singled out when the meal is served, Cherniak said – and about being informed after the flights were booked.

He knows of no other airlines that charge extra for special meals.

Khanh LeKim, president of the Vietnamese Buddhist Association, and Mohammad Ashraf, director-general of the Islamic Society of North America – Canada, are among several community leaders joining Prutschi in protesting Canada 3000's new policy.

Leading Reform rabbi to visit

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — It is up to Jews to demonstrate that they can redress the balance between the good and evil that wealth represents, according to a leading Jewish philosopher.

There needs to be more stress on personal ethics and less on social values, Rabbi Eugene B. Borowitz told *The CJN* from New York, where he is a professor at Hebrew Union College, Jewish Institute of Religion.

He will be speaking at Temple Sinai May 18 on how to handle money without allowing corruption to creep in.

"It's important to have money today and that is a dangerous thing to say, but we have been much too silent on how to handle it without going to the extremes of being realistic or idealistic, which are no good," Rabbi Borowitz said.

Speaking on Jewish moral virtues today (midot), he will deal with some of the factors which cause problems, such as less social restraint, more money to spend for personal reasons "and to some extent a harsher environment in which winning fame or money is the objective."

People today forget that throughout history, Jews have always had the problem of dealing with those who "are less than paragons of virtue," he said.

"As far back as the 10th century a Jewish philosopher was giving advice on personal values as if he had been reading a current copy of the *Wall Street Journal*," Rabbi Borowitz said.

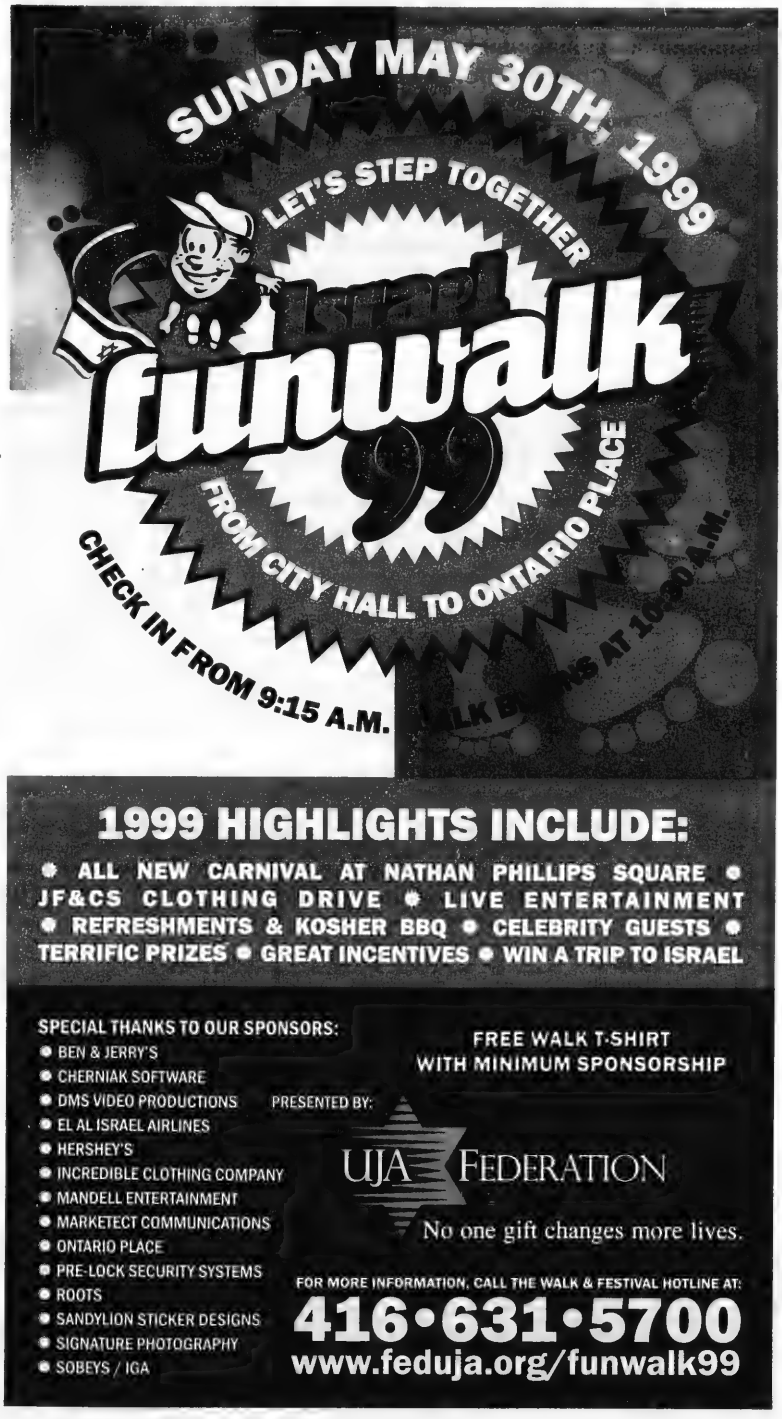
His talk at Temple Sinai is being sponsored by the Dennis Waldman Foundation for Jewish Education in memory of Dennis Waldman's 10th yahrzeit.

Funds raised for book

TORONTO — A total of $29,000 has been raised so far, for the *Canadian Jewish Book of Remembrance*, honoring those who gave their lives while on active duty with Canadian military forces in the 20th century.

Among contributors are: Edward Bronfman Family Foundation, Toronto, $2,500; Isadore Sharp, Toronto, $2,000; Charles Bronfman, Montreal, $1,000; Issie Asper, Winnipeg, $1,000.

The goal of the association is to raise $70,000 to publish the book, said Oscar Adler, president. Call 225-4276.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Editorials and Letters

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Israelis vote

This issue of *The CJN* is the last one before Israelis vote for their next prime minister and for the members of their next, the 15th, Knesset. 4.28 million people are eligible to vote. It's very likely at least three-quarters of those eligible will actually cast a ballot.

Shmuel Segev, the veteran Israeli journalist and political scientist, has called this election the most important in Israel's history. He is convinced, regardless of the governing coalition that eventually emerges from the election, it is this government that will conclude peace treaties with Israel's Arab neighbors.

Segev harbors no illusions about the process that must precede the eventual peace treaties. "There will always be crises along the way of negotiating," he told a group of journalists last week at a CIC-sponsored seminar. "These crises are inevitable, given the nature of the serious issues to be resolved, and given the fact that tough bargaining is part of the culture of the Middle East."

Paradoxically, despite his view concerning the momentous security and foreign policy issues that the 15th Knesset will be called upon to resolve, Segev still believed that "domestic policies really determine the outcome of the election campaigns, not foreign policy." That will be no less the case in next week's election.

Complicating the domestic and foreign policy choices for the Israelis who are voting, and for the pundits who are merely observing, is the fact that 33 parties and five prime ministerial candidates are contending for votes.

According to Tamar Hermann, managing director of the Tami Steinmetz Centre for Peace Research at Tel Aviv University, and Segev's co-presenter at the seminar last week, the Israeli public divides into two virtually equal blocs of left and right.

She has predicted that the left and right blocs will both gain between 48 and 50 seats in the Knesset. The centre bloc will win between 18 and 22 seats. Similarly, according to Hermann, the vote for prime minister on the first ballot, assuming all the current candidates remain in the race, will result in a virtual tie, at 37 percent of the popular vote for both Barak and Netanyahu.

Given the seriousness of the issues facing the voters, and given too, the fact that the voters appear split in equal measure, a clear-cut result will not emerge from next week's election other than that Israeli society is a divided society seeking, but not yet finding, a single, clearcut approach to either domestic or foreign policy problems.

In that event, it will fall to Israelis and Diaspora Jews alike, to undertake all reasonable measures to ensure that a divided vote is not a springboard for a further divided society.

Jewish unity, tolerance, mutuality, respect and civility must still be our goals, and always also, our rallying cries.

Canada disappoints

Canada's voting record on Israel-related matters at the United Nations continues to disappoint. At a meeting on April 27 in Geneva, the UN Commission on Human Rights, Canada merely abstained on the motion that attempted to re-introduce the 1948 UN General Assembly Resolution 181 into the political picture of 1999.

The mischief in the motion is egregious.

It attempts to "acclimatize" the world to the idea that the Middle East clock can be put back 51 years. Resolution 181 called for the partition of Palestine into a checkerboard quite dissimilar to the current international boundaries between Israelis and Palestinians. It also proposed the internationalization of Jerusalem.

The clock cannot and should not be turned back.

We cannot help but express our deep disappointment with this latest ill-considered Canadian decision.

WISDOM OF THE AGES

"These were the ones counted according to their fathers' households.... 603, 550, but not the Levites..." *(Parshat Bamidbar)*

Dry Bones
A NUCLEAR ARMS RACE BETWEEN INDIA AND PAKISTAN?!
A NEW COLD WAR WITH THE RUSSIANS AND A HOT WAR IN THE BALKANS?!
LET'S HOPE THIS IS THE END OF THE 20TH CENTURY
AND NOT THE START OF THE 21ST!

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Harnick defends record at Queen's Park

I am writing in response to a letter written by Bernard Katz (*CJN*, Apr. 14). When I announced that I would not be seeking re-election, I received a letter from Keith Landy, chair of the Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region, dated March 30, 1999. I would like to quote from this letter: "We note with pride, both as Ontarians and Jews, your determination in battling hatemongers. As attorney general, you gave permission (as is required by law) to launch more prosecutions against those in our society who would spread hatred, than any of your predecessors. Your message was clear. You and your government would not tolerate hate in our society."

I question the motive prompting Mr. Katz's letter, and I am personally offended by its content.

Charles Harnick
Attorney General and Minister
Responsible for Native Affairs

Sadie Smith 104, may be oldest member

Re the article on Sarah Zelsman (*CJN*, Apr. 29), I applaud your recognition of this milestone.

It suggests that she might be the oldest member of Beth Tzedec Synagogue. If you check further you will find at least one older member, my mother, Sadie Smith,who is approaching her 104th birthday. My father (of blessed memory) and my mother joined Goel Tzedec Synagogue long before 1936, but I do not know the exact year.

By the way, my bar mitzvah was at Goel Tzedec Synagogue on May 13, 1939 (24 Iyar, 5699) and the rabbi was Samuel Sachs.

Stanley Smith
Toronto

David Matas is another distinguished Winnipeger

No one can dispute the accomplishments of the Jewish Winnipeggers detailed in Jacob Mendlovic's letter (*CJN*, Apr. 9). The danger of such lists is that worthwhile persons may be omitted. Such I suggest is the case of David Matas, senior counsel for B'nai Brith Canada who has contributed thousands and thousands of hours working on behalf of refugees, the pursuit of Nazi war criminals, the search for Raoul Wallenberg and many, many more outstanding endeavors.

Bert Raphael
President
Jewish Civil Rights Educational Foundation of Canada

Other names should be on Winnipeg list

Re Jacob Mendlovic's letter on Winnipeg Jews of distinction (*CJN*, Apr. 9).

I can add a few names: Maxwell Cohen, dean, McGill University Law School; Dr. J.B. Rumberg, the first Jewish dentist elected president of the Winnipeg dental faculty; and Leo Romberg. The latter gave unstintingly, in the true sense of tzedakah, producing shows as fundraisers for many Jewish organizations.

Rose Romberg
Toronto

British in Palestine acted in bad faith towards Jews

Re "Britain's mandate in Palestine examined" (*CJN*, Apr. 15).

This article was a good deal kinder to the British than they deserved. *Britain & the Jews of Europe* (Bernard Wasserstein), *Palestine Triangle* (Nicholas Bethell), and *Open the Gates* (Ehud Avriel), scholarly and meticulously researched, show that British policy on Palestine was motivated and acted out in bad faith towards the Jews.

The British wanted a way station that kept them near their possessions in Egypt (the Suez), India, Iraq, the oil in Middle East and lesser properties. The Balfour Declaration was written with the sole purpose of keeping England in Palestine, which they had been occupying and wanted to keep as a strategic base.

Two years prior to the Balfour Declaration, the British had signed a secret agreement with the French (The Sykes-Picot) dividing the Middle East area between them. They also had secret agreements with the Turks, the Russians, the Arabs (the elder Hussein, to make his sons kings) and several others. The reality is that they did not want a highly political people, such as the Jews in the area.

Elsa Rosenberg
Hamilton

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures. Letters sent by e-mail must also include the sender's municipal address.

Perspectives

Remembering the *St. Louis*

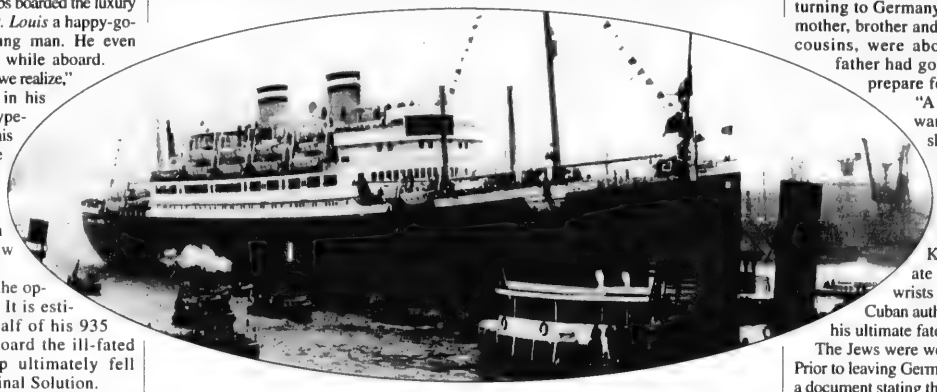
By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

Guenter Krebs boarded the luxury liner *SS St. Louis* a happy-go-lucky young man. He even turned 18 while aboard. "Little did we realize," he writes in his neatly typewritten memoirs, "that this carefree atmosphere would not last beyond the first two weeks."

Krebs, who lives in Montreal and will turn 78 in a few days, grew up quickly.

But at least he had the opportunity to grow up. It is estimated that roughly half of his 935 fellow passengers aboard the ill-fated German refugee ship ultimately fell victim to the Nazis' Final Solution.

It's been 60 years since the doomed voyage of the *St. Louis*, whose name has become synonymous with the world's indifference to the plight of Jews fleeing Hitler's madness. The fate of its passengers was a microcosm of the Holocaust, with all the elements that permitted it to happen: anti-Semitism, red tape, immigration quotas and just plain apathy.



Above, the *St. Louis* set sail from Hamburg, bound for Cuba. Ursula Miller on board the ship at age 17, and [inset] today. Below, two girls peer from the ship.

The luxury liner set out from Hamburg – destination Havana, Cuba – on May 13, 1939, carrying high-spirited passengers armed with Cuban landing permits. Relief at having escaped Nazi Germany soon turned to terror, as the ship was unexpectedly and inexplicably refused entry to Cuba. Desperate appeals to western nations, including Canada and the United States, to grant the Jewish refugees asylum were turned down.

Denied a haven, the vessel was forced to return to an increasingly menacing Europe. Only at the last minute did four nations – Britain, France, the Netherlands and Belgium – agree to accept the passengers before the shipped finally docked in Antwerp. But when the Nazis overran the latter three countries, Jews became their first victims.

The ship's plight was dramatized in a 1976 Hollywood treatment, *Voyage of the Damned*, with an all-star cast that included Orson Welles, Faye Dunaway and Max von Sydow as the ship's captain.

And until Sept. 6, the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington is showcasing Voyage of the St. Louis, a special anniversary exhibit of artifacts and photographs.

Krebs, a retired comptroller and grandfather of four, was born in the German city of Breslau (now in Poland). His father was arrested after Kristallnacht, and taken to Buchenwald. Released six weeks later, thanks to the Iron Cross he had won in World War I, he, his wife and young Guenter were ordered to leave the Reich at once.

Armed with $10 (US), his father cleared Ellis Island and sent back money for his wife and son. His wife decided to send Guenter ahead to Hamburg, while she stayed behind in Breslau. The young man boarded the *St. Louis*, while his mother, spurning an offer to go to London, was shipped east and disappeared in Theresienstadt.

Once aboard, Krebs took full advantage of the ship's many luxurious amenities, like a swimming pool, dancing and shuffleboard. On the eve of the ship's arrival in Havana's harbor, he joined a group of revelers to toast their good fortune. But their joy soon turned to panic.

Despite the fact that everyone held legitimate landing permits, the pro-fascist Cuban government admitted only between 22 and 28 passengers. The answer for everyone else was no, or as Krebs recalls, *manana* (tomorrow).

On board, there was "ever-growing panic...everyone spent their days frantically waving and shouting to their friends and relatives waiting for them ashore." Finally, on June 2, the ship pulled up anchor, left Havana harbor and for the next four days, streamed in no-man's waters between Cuba and Florida, under the watch of the U.S. Coast Guard, before heading back to Europe.

On June 10, Britain announced it would accept 287 passengers. Because of his good English, Krebs was among them. A week later, the *St. Louis* ended its voyage to nowhere.

"Bedlam" is how Ursula Miller of Toronto describes the scene on deck when rumors spread that the *St. Louis* was returning to Germany. Her whole family – mother, brother and six aunts, uncles and cousins, were aboard the vessel. Her father had gone to Cuba earlier to prepare for their arrival.

"A few young hotheads wanted to take over the ship," she told *The CJN*, "but the older men calmed them down." Both Miller (née Spitz), who was also born in Breslau, and Krebs recall one desperate man who slashed his wrists and jumped overboard. Cuban authorities rescued him, but his ultimate fate is unknown.

The Jews were worried for good reason: Prior to leaving Germany, they all had to sign a document stating that if they ever returned, they would be sent to a concentration camp.

"It was very, very tense," remembers Miller, who was 17 at the time and now has three great-grandchildren. She, like Krebs, was taken in by Britain.

"The men formed a party that went around to make sure no one would commit suicide. The captain cabled everyone. Absolutely no one in the world would take us in."

Including Canada. On June 8, the ship's captain, Gustav Schroder, received a message from Frederick Blair, who was responsible for enforcing Canada's war-time immigration policy. The answer from Ottawa was no. The line, cabled Blair, had "to be drawn somewhere."

List of *St. Louis* passengers whose fates are unknown:

NAME	Year of Birth	Birthplace
Atlas, Charlotte	1898	Vienna
Ball (Lippert), Magdalena	1900	Berlin
Epstein (Kitzinger), Bettin	1905	Hemmingen
Epstein, Moritz	1895	Eichstatten
Fanto, Julius	1892	Vienna
Goldbaum, Anna	1875	Berlin
Goldschmidt, Helmut	1921	Oldenburg
Hammerschlag, Max	1902	Kessel
Hermann, Julius	1878	Munich
Herz, Max	1891	Beuel
Hofmann, Siegfried	1916	Berlin
Jordan, Johanna	1887	Horde
Kaminker, Berthold	1897	Vienna
Leyser, Erich	1881	Berlin
Lichtenstein, Fritz	1887	Berlin
Luft, Gerhard	1892	Berlin
Meierhoff, Charlotte	1915	Berlin
Moser (Moses), Rosalie	1877	Horn
Mueck, Joachim	1900	Kosow
Munz, Meta	1912	Altengronau
Oehl, Dorothea	1870	Berlin
Rebenfeld, Kurt	1899	Frankfurt
Reichensteil, Betty	1889	Berlin
Reichensteil, Josef	1891	Berlin
Richter, Marianne	1868	Berlin
Riesenburger, Hermann	1898	Krojanke
Schweiger, Sophie	1878	Vienna
Seliger, Walter	1897	Berlin
Siegel, Walter	1891	Ems
Sternlicht, Lotte	1905	Dresden
Strauss, Emma	1878	Wuerzberg
Strauss, Heinrich	1878	Munich
Velmann, Walter	1906	Hamburg
Wachtel (Brandt), Amanda	1887	Adorf
Westheimer (Sommer), Klara	1870	Mannheim
Zweigenthal, Fritz	1909	Vienna

Anyone with information about a *St. Louis* passenger, particularly any on this list, should contact: Scott Miller, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, 100 Raoul Wallenberg Place, SW Washington, DC 20024, USA Tel: (202) 488-0495 Fax: (202) 314-7888 E-mail: smiller@ushmm.org

Opinions

An unexpected revival of Yiddish

By this time, many readers of the Jewish press are aware that Yiddish celebrations are in the offing for the next few months. They vary according to place and time, but the fervor that underlies the announcements I have received point in the right direction. The number of Yiddish speakers in the world is unknown to me, but the fact of the language being well and alive is incontrovertible.

Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

The latest evidence comes to me from Germany. It is the land where Yiddish was born but where, in the course of the centuries, it became unknown.

There are two forms of Yiddish: western and eastern. The latter became the language of millions of Jews in eastern Europe, and migrated with them in the last century.

Not until I had read the studies of the late Dr. Werner Weinberg did I realize that the more than 200 words, expressions and phrases that were common in the German Jewish household where I grew up, represented the remnants of western Yiddish. Even though my family had been in the country for some 400 years or more, certain phrases had survived and become part and parcel of the fabric of Jewish speech. But these snippets, characteristic though they were, no longer were part of a complete language.

That was different in eastern Europe, and with the destruction of the Polish and Russian Jewish communities by the Nazis, it appeared that the language had died with them – and that the only source of revival would be found in the western hemisphere whence east European Jews had migrated or fled.

But now comes a brand new phenomenon: Yiddish has made a reappearance in Germany, not only with the immigration of Russian Jews, but also because the academic community has become enchanted with it. The University of Trier has established the first chair of Yiddish in Germany. A second chair has been founded at he University of Duesseldorf, and interest is strong.

The origin of the language can be traced to the 10th century when the first migrations of German Jews occurred. They spoke a form of medieval German and exported it to the countries where they settled. After the Black Plague, a few centuries later, hundreds of thousands fled to Lithuania and Poland, and took their language with them. In time, it developed its own character and grammar, acquired a mixture of Slavic elements and became the tongue familiar to millions.

Today, the liveliest centre of the language is probably found in many yeshivot around the world where Yiddish is the language of instruction and discussion while studying Talmud.

I had my first lessons in eastern Yiddish from an actor at the Second Avenue Yiddish Theatre in New York, in the 1940s. His name was Susanoff and his knowledge of English only tentative. He taught me the foundations of Yiddish, and I helped him to acquire a better knowledge of English. The two of us were an odd combination: both of us were linguistic newcomers in the New World, but our religion and, in time, the Yiddish language became our bond.

Of course, no one knows what development will yet lie ahead for Yiddish; it seems to have a thousand lives.

Bibi's down but not out

With only a few days left before Israelis go to the polls, the signs point increasingly to a victory for Labor party leader Ehud Barak as the country's next prime minister. But nobody yet is writing off incumbent Benjamin (Bibi) Netanyahu. That Bibi is even still in the running is itself a remarkable feat. Given his problem-plagued, scandal-filled term in office and the disdain so many people have for him, it is no small achievement that he is still a contender.

Robert Sarner in Jerusalem

To be sure, Bibi has his work cut out for himself if he's to stay in power.

Recent polls show him falling farther behind Barak after being locked in a tight seesaw battle for months. His drop in support may prove insurmountable, even for Israel's political Houdini, who in the past has manoeuvered his way out of numerous crises, often of his own making.

Admittedly, being prime minister of such a fragmented, dysfunctional democracy as Israel is a daunting task. Especially as almost every Israeli considers himself or herself equally as, if not more capable than elected officials of resolving the country's problems.

Bibi hasn't made it any easier for himself. It may be lonely at the top, but he has made it even worse. He seems to have a knack for alienating even his friends and colleagues. Many have defected from both his cabinet and his party, all attributing their move to disillusionment with Bibi. Their departure has only heightened his already strong siege mentality.

What is it about Bibi that rubs so many people the wrong way? His policies alone cannot explain why he has become arguably the most reviled prime minister in Israel's history. The visceral contempt so much of the public and most journalists harbor for him goes beyond the issues of the day. His wife hasn't helped matters much either.

There's something deeper at work, no doubt linked in part to circumstances leading up to the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin in 1995.

Indeed, by the time he was elected in 1996, most Israeli journalists (and foreign leaders) already had it in for Bibi. Many people will never forgive him for what they consider his active role in stoking the fires of incitement against Rabin in the months before his murder. What's more, they hold him personally responsible for the impasse in the Middle East peace process.

During his three years in power, Bibi has endeared himself to virtually no one. As a leader, he has done little to get close to the nation. He has shown himself as anything but a man of the people, appearing far more comfortable facing a TV camera than mixing in a crowd of compatriots. He's more convincing in English than in Hebrew. His body language betrays an awkwardness and wariness that engenders little compassion. Whether wearing a tie or a turtleneck, he comes across stiff and contrived.

And yet, despite his overly apparent miscalculations and personal failings, Bibi is still very much in the race, exuding confidence he'll win, even if his party, the Likud, looks like it's in for a shellacking.

The seemingly endless election campaign has left an already cynical public even more jaded. The past five months have been largely devoid of ideological or policy issues. With little debate over national concerns, the campaign has focused more on polls and personalities. Style and invective have triumphed over content, as both Bibi and Barak dance to the tunes of their exalted American political advisors.

For all of Bibi's problems, Barak has not exactly electrified the electorate either. If he captures the premiership, it will be likely in the second round of voting on June 1, and it will be thanks more to Bibi, or rather revulsion for Bibi than to Barak's appeal.

Barak may have commanded an eight-point lead in recent surveys but political analysts note that 10 percent of the electorate are still undecided and a last-minute dramatic development – such as a terrorist attack or a major Labor party gaffe – could swing many voters back to Netanyahu's favor.

"Netanyahu has a reputation as a brilliant political animal, although he's beginning to look like a wounded animal," commented Hemi Shalev, a columnist for the *Ma'ariv* newspaper. "But before he's eulogized once and for all, it must be remembered that in politics, as in nature, a wounded animal is sometimes the most dangerous of all."

The only safe bet so late in the campaign is that voters are eagerly looking forward to the elections. If for no other reason, this will signify the end of an insufferably long and uninspired election season.

The coalition of the willing

The long Israeli election campaign might not be decided until June 1, when the run-off (if necessary) takes place between the top two candidates for prime minister. After that, Israel will still not have a government until a coalition is formed and wins the approval of the Knesset. This might take a month or more, and during this time, the power of the prime minister-elect to make decisions will be very limited.

Gerald Steinberg in Jerusalem

However, immediately after a new government has been formed and takes office, it will be faced with a series of major decisions. There will be no grace period, and no time to get organized and gain experience on the job.

Lebanon is likely to be the first pressing issue. With attacks continuing, and mounting political pressure to change tactics, the government will have to decide whether to withdraw the IDF unilaterally from southern Lebanon, or to resume negotiations with Syria for a package deal including the Golan.

Either path involves many risks and uncertainties, but delay means more casualties, and mounting pressure to take action. Negotiations with Syria, even under the best of circumstances, will take many months, and in the meantime, Hafez al-Assad may again use attacks in Lebanon to press for major Israeli concessions on the Golan. Unilateral withdrawal, with the threat of punishing air attacks against Beirut and other targets in response to more terror, may be the best decision, but a narrow government resting on a small majority is likely to hesitate before taking the risk.

At the same time, the long-stalled negotiation process with the Palestinians will also be pounding on Benjamin Netanyahu's or Ehud Barak's door. The U.S. government has already announced that it will host a summit meeting immediately after the formation of a new government, to press for the implementation of last fall's Wye accord. However, this would only make sense in the context of a broader decision on the future of the Oslo process.

The Palestinian decision to postpone a unilateral declaration of independence provided a few more months, but the basic obstacles to a "permanent status agreement" remain.

In a period of six months or even a year, there is no chance, regardless of whether Barak or Netanyahu becomes prime minister, of agreement on Jerusalem, borders, Palestinian demands on refugees, settlements, and control over water. At best, the new Israeli government can negotiate towards a long-term interim agreement, delaying the harder issues until a new climate has been established, the foundation for hatred and terror is destroyed, and Palestinian expectations become more realistic.

If, as seems likely, this does not satisfy Arafat and the Palestinians, they are likely to return to unilateral actions and the use of violence to pressure Israel. If the Palestinians declare a state with borders that include all of Judea and Samaria in the West Bank, or perhaps claim areas that have been part of Israel since 1948, how will Israel react? The options include simply ignoring such a declaration (Arafat has already proclaimed independence twice, with no significant results), formal annexation of the areas that include major Jewish settlements, or even the dispatch of the Israeli army. The new government must be prepared for these options, with decisions and plans that include all the eventualities, and analysis of the implications of each option.

All of these issues must be tackled while also repairing the frayed relationship with the United States. Netanyahu and Bill Clinton, as well as officials and members of their respective governments, have been trading accusations and insults since the 1996 elections. This situation, which reflects personal differences more than disputes over policies, is unhealthy and damaging to both. (The Clinton White House cultivated Ariel Sharon as an alternative to Netanyahu, making him kosher again as foreign minister. However, after he was appointed, the Americans realized that they had made yet another mistake.) As soon as the new Israeli government is formed, it will have to turn to Washington and fix the broken lines of communication, to the extent possible.

While attempting to deal with these foreign policy issues, the domestic agenda will not wait. Without new approaches to the religious-secular divisions, relatively small but growing economic difficulties, as well as other sources of social tensions, national unity and consensus will be impossible. A narrow government with a weak base in the Knesset will face great difficulty in addressing the problems that have resisted any solutions in the past decade.

In the absence of a clear mandate, only a broad coalition, including Barak, Netanyahu, Natan Sharansky (whose party is likely to increase its strength in the Knesset), and some members of the religious parties, can hope to tackle these complex issues. Such a "coalition of the willing" might be able to create a national consensus, avoiding the stalemate and bitter divisions that have characterized Israeli politics for so many years. This is the best hope for Israel at this critical time.

The Kirshner File

Israel's options in Lebanon

Surprisingly enough, Lebanon did not flare as a burning issue in the Israeli election campaign, although it is Israel's only active war front.

Sheldon Kirshner in Toronto

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and his chief adversaries, Ehud Barak and Yitzhak Mordechai, raised issues running the gamut from the anemic economy to the frozen Oslo peace process. Yet, in general, Lebanon did not figure prominently in the electioneering. This was a curious development, given the fact that the war in southern Lebanon grinds on.

On May 3, an Israeli soldier was killed by a roadside bomb. On April 28, eight soldiers were wounded fending off a Hezbollah raid against a fortification in Israel's self-declared security zone. On April 12, a soldier was killed near Arnoun, a town the Israeli army subsequently re-occupied. In March, the commander of Israeli forces in Lebanon, Brig. Gen. Erez Gerstein, was blown up by a mine which sent his armored car hurtling into a ravine. In February, the commanding officer of a special anti-guerrilla unit and several of his men died in a Hezbollah ambush.

Their deaths brought to nine the number of Israeli soldiers who have fallen in Lebanon since January. On average, Lebanon claims about two dozen Israelis per year, although the 1997 figure was 39 (a toll which excluded 73 troops who perished in the mid-air collision of two Lebanon-bound helicopters).

The war in Lebanon, which has been raging on and off since 1968, has a dynamic of its own. Each major batch of casualties touches off a round of handwringing and debate in Israel. Recent events have conformed to this pattern.

In March, following a series of deadly incidents during which Gerstein became a casualty, Netanyahu declared that Israel could not tolerate more such attacks. Taking his cue from Netanyahu, Defence Minister Moshe Arens said last month that if Israel continues to sustain serious casualties, "we will have to respond accordingly." Arens left it to Gen. Amos Malka, head of military intelligence, to elaborate. Malka warned the Lebanese government that Israel will take aim at targets deep in Lebanon if it co-operates with Hezbollah.

These ritualistic warnings reflect not only a sense of frustration in Israel's defence establishment, but a war weariness among most Israelis. They have grown tired of the status quo, and yearn for a viable exit strategy, the sooner the better, from this costly war of attrition.

As a result, 55 percent of Israelis favor an immediate unilateral withdrawal, according to a recent survey conducted by the Jaffee Centre for Strategic Studies at Tel Aviv University.

Israelis should have no illusions about the resolve and growing sophistication of Israel's foe, Hezbollah, which emerged in the 1980s. Backed by Syria and Iran, Hezbollah is absolutely determined to drive Israel out of Lebanon by making it pay dearly for maintaining its security enclave.

Israel created the zone in the aftermath of its 1982 invasion. But in reality, Israel has maintained a physical presence in Lebanon since Operation Litani in 1978. Ostensibly, Israel is in Lebanon to protect the northern Galilee from terrorist attacks. But to some Israeli politicians, notably those on the right, Lebanon and the Golan Heights – captured from Syria during the Six Day War – are inextricably linked.

Basically, Israel has three options in Lebanon.

It can expand the security zone, which stretches from the foothills of Mt. Hermon to the Mediterranean Sea. Raphael Eitan, the former chief of staff and currently the minister of agriculture, is the main advocate of an enlarged enclave.

It would worsen the problem. Israel's lines of communications would be stretched to the breaking point and would be more vulnerable to attack than now. Israel too, would have to rule, and subdue still more hostile Lebanese civilians, most of whom are sympathetic to Hezbollah.

Even then, Hezbollah's long-range artillery could still reach settlements in Israel.

Israel can negotiate its way out of the Lebanese quagmire by resuming bilateral peace talks with Syria – Lebanon's patron – over the disposition of the Golan. Netanyahu wants to reopen negotiations "without preconditions," yet publicly, he opposes a withdrawal from the Golan. Syria's position is just as clear: It will not return to the table unless the talks restart at the point at which they broke off in the winter of 1996.

There is no small measure of controversy over this question. Syria insists that Yitzhak Rabin agreed in principle to a withdrawal back to the June 4, 1967 frontier. Netanyahu claims that Rabin never committed himself to such a move.

In the absence of an agreement, Syria uses Hezbollah as a proxy by which to exert pressure on Israel to vacate the Golan.

Since the summer of 1996, Netanyahu has twice unveiled plans to disentangle Israel from Lebanon. "Our intention...is to leave Lebanon," explained Netanyahu last autumn. "But only under the necessary security conditions."

These conditions have remained constant: direct negotiations with Lebanon, guarantees from the Lebanese government for the security of the Galilee, and the integration of the South Lebanon Army – Israel's surrogate – into Lebanon's army.

Rejecting these conditions, Lebanon insists on an unconditional withdrawal based on United Nations Security Council Resolution 425, which Israel has accepted. Syria's objections are far more serious, since Syria, for all intents and purposes, controls Lebanon. Syria rejects any plan which excludes the Golan from a deal.

If Israel refuses to relinquish the Golan within the framework of an accord with Syria, all its efforts to extricate itself from Lebanon will inevitably fail.

Sheikh Hassan Nasrallah

Recognizing this, Barak recently promised to bring home the troops within a year of his election as prime minister. But his proposal was short on details.

Israel's third option is a unilateral withdrawal. It has been endorsed by Shimon Peres, the former prime minister, and Yossi Beilin, the former deputy foreign minister and architect of the Oslo accords. Its opponents include Netanyahu, Arens and Gen. Shaul Mofaz, the current chief of staff. (Foreign Minister Ariel Sharon has suggested a fourth alternative, an immediate phased withdrawal based on security guarantees).

A unilateral pullout is not without merit. From behind a fortified international border, Israel would be morally and politically free to retaliate with all the means at its disposal. Under the rules of engagement set out by the 1996 Grapes of Wrath accord, Israel is obliged to exercise considerable military restraint.

Once it leaves Lebanon, even without a binding agreement, Israel could deploy its considerable firepower and technical advantage to strike Syrian bases in Lebanon, and if necessary, to cripple Lebanon's infrastructure. Lebanon and Syria are perfectly aware of these scenarios, and Israelis of all political persuasions would rally around a policy in which Israel is defending its territorial integrity rather than occupying part of a neighboring country.

Would Hezbollah lay down its arms in the event of an Israeli withdrawal? The signs are mixed. Last year, Hezbollah's spiritual leader, Sheikh Hassan Nasrallah, suggested that he would be amenable to a settlement based on a complete Israeli pullout. But recently, he called on his followers to "eliminate the Jewish state." Is this merely rhetoric or policy? We won't know unless Israel tests the waters.

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JEWISH EDUCATION
The Next Generation

Making a Jewish choice

By ELLIOTT MALAMET

Ostensibly, the gap between assimilated and religious, or more accurately, between those swept into the fury of modernity's rip tide and those purporting to avoid the undertow, is an ever widening one.

In truth, the same crucial and perplexing dilemmas face those in both camps. Recent bitter disputes in a particular segment of the Toronto Orthodox community, specifically with regard to the education of teenage girls and the possibility of one school being split into two over issues pertaining, in an indirect sense, to the influence of secular culture, have proven to be a particularly instructive cautionary fable about Jewish life in our time. (I remain blissfully ignorant of the persons and precise details involved in this drama, but the general gist of the matter is all too familiar).

Every Jew, of every denomination, in every place, is now a Jew by choice. Whether one comes from a totally unaffiliated background and is exploring religion for the first time, or boasts 10 generations of rabbis in the family and has known Shabbat observance from the cradle, today one is required to actively and consciously decide to be Jewish, not to mention halachic, in a society that provides a plethora of alternatives.

Our ancestors could not have envisioned the dazzling array of such choices. They often were born and died in the same place; their contact with gentiles was commercial or non-existent; their religious life was seamlessly organic in the sense that everyone they knew displayed, at least on the outside, similar religious behaviors.

We, on the other hand, have to choose, not just what toothpaste or shampoo to buy, but whether we believe in God or think the universe is godless. Should we attend synagogue services on Saturday morning or go golfing? Marry Jews or non-Jews, or not marry at all? Treat Jewish law as binding on us or dismiss it as archaic? And a dozen shades in between.

So unless we wish to return to closed societies or ghettos (a fantasy or a nightmare, depending on your perspective, but an unrecoverable illusion all the same), we must be willing to confront what happens when our children – *all of our children*, from ultra-Orthodox to Jewishly illiterate – are exposed to the west's enormous variety of entertainments and products.

Whether, on the one hand, fleetingly glimpsed in a billboard, overheard in a conversation, surreptitiously downloaded from the Internet, or, on the other hand, openly and unthinkingly absorbed in large doses of television and *People* magazines – the possibility of the "other life," the world "out there," remains omnipresent for everyone. And it will not go away, not now and not in the future.

So this presents a rather painful quandary. Is the risk of alienation from traditional religious teaching the price that we pay for living in an open, liberal democratic society? Can our youth be insulated from the assembly line of superficial schlock that inundates every corner of the globe? And what of the valuable parts of the west – from Beethoven to Wordsworth, Einstein to Rembrandt – do these get thrown out with the lowbrow bath water as well?

Given how long these questions have actually been non-theoretical, it is shocking how ill-prepared Jewish communities are to deal with their ramifications. Dollars, not sense, seem to underline our communal discourse. You can divide a school into two parts or 20, but any attempt to stuff the genie of contemporary culture back into the historical bottle will end in failure. The solution lies elsewhere.

Set your sites on the leaders

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

When Israelis go to the polls next week, they will not only be choosing the members of the 15th Knesset, they will also be voting for the prime minister who will lead Israel into the next century. Today, a look at those candidates and their sites on the Internet. Note that most of the official sites are in Hebrew only.

Likud leader Benjamin Netanyahu has several sites backing him. You can find a message and his biography at the Likud site **[http://www.likud.org.il/english/navframeb1.html]**. But there's much more about Netanyahu at the official prime minister site. Although this site is, strictly speaking, not a partisan site, it is full of information explaining Netanyahu's beliefs and strategy **[http://www.pmo.gov.il]**.

Labor party leader Ehud Barak's Web site has a large archive of speeches and policy statements. You'll also find a comprehensive biography of the candidate who was foreign minister in the government of Shimon Peres **[http://www.ehudbarak.co.il]**. For more support of Barak, see **[http://www.click2.co.il/ehud-barak/]**.

Former defence minister Yitzhak Mordechai now leads the new Centre party **[http://ym.web-site.co.il/]**. At a page titled Only Mordechai Can, supporters claim that only their candidate can beat Netanyahu at the June 1 run-off election. For more on Mordechai, see **[http://www.jta.org/jan99/25-mord.htm]**.

Although Ze'ev "Benny" Begin has been painted as an earnest candidate, his was the only official Web page where I found a joke – from Groucho Marx, no less: "These are my principles. If you don't like them, I have others." **[http://www.begin.org.il/cv.htm]**

For an interesting profile of the leader of Herut, see the *Jerusalem Post's* Benny Begin: The Great Right Hope **[http://www.jpost.com/com/Archive/31.Jan.1999/Features/Article-19.html]**

The fifth candidate is MK Azmi Bishara. According to the *Jerusalem Post*, Bishara describes himself as a humanist, democrat, liberal and neo-Nasserist, who advocates turning Israel into a secular, democratic state with cultural autonomy for its Arab citizens **[http://www.jpost.co.il/Info/Elections99/candidates/bishara2.shtml]**. I couldn't find an official Web page for the Israeli Arab candidate, but I did come across an interview in which Bishara describes the feelings Palestinian refugees have had toward the land since 1948 **[http://msanews.mynet.net/MSANEWS/199712/19971226.11.html]**.

You can find more online information about the candidates. The *Jerusalem Post* has in-depth profiles **[http://www.jpost.co.il/Info/Elections99/index.shtml]** as does the Hebrew-language *Yedioth Aharonot* **[http://www.elections-yedioth.co.il/FrMoamadim.HTM]**.

It's fine to read what the experts are saying, but the real fun and arguments are at the online forums **[http://www.iol.co.il/forums/main.htm]**. There we learn that "Begin is the only candidate who isn't a liar, but electing him could bring world war." And "If Barak wins, Israel loses." Or "Only an idiot will vote for Bibi twice." Most of the messages are in Hebrew.

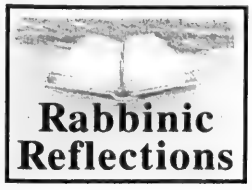
Even if you're not Israeli, you can still vote from the comfort of your keyboard **[http://come.to/the_kalfi]**. This online poll is hardly a scientific sampling, but at last count, Netanyahu and Barak were neck in neck. And over at the Gamla site, you can find the latest Gallup and other professional polls **[http://www.gamla.org.il/english/elect/index.htm]**.

If you couldn't bring yourself to vote for Netanyahu, Mordecai, Barak, Begin or Bishara, then how about Zanvel, Gefen, Goldberg, Bartal or Naaman? Those are just five of the many young candidates who have thrown their hats in to the ring to be virtual prime minister. You can find their biographies and platforms at the educational Snunit site **[http://gifted.snunit.k12.il/activities/elections/prime.html]**

OK, these budding leaders probably won't win *this* race. But as every true politician knows, there's always next time.

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a Toronto-based television producer who writes, lectures and teaches about the Jewish Internet. He can be contacted at [mdm@inforamp.net].



Fostering self-esteem

By RABBI MOISHE NEW

In the aftermath of the tragedies in Littleton and Taber, given the fact that the teenage perpetrators were products of mainstream Americana, we have come to realize that the problem must lie with our culture itself.

Among the suggested ills of contemporary society, we have heard the following: Firearms are far too accessible. The task of raising children is often virtually abandoned by the parents. The nurturing family unit has become, for many, a relic of the past. In the name of entertainment, children are fed staggering numbers of cruel, violent and destructive images on a daily basis.

While the above points are valid, they do not address the core issue.

The root of the problem is, I believe, a fundamental lack of self-esteem. A lack so deep that it renders life and living meaningless. It has long been recognized that low self-esteem can head to aggression.

The sad irony though, is that the measures we have taken – guided by psychologists et al – to instil self-esteem in our young, has created an illusory, inflated self-esteem, unjustified and unstable.

By overindulging our children, we produce narcissistic, self-absorbed, self-centred individuals, super-sensitive to criticism or slight. Deep down they suspect that their feelings of self-worth are built on quicksand. In reality the child is left with a painful and gnawing inner emptiness.

How do we cultivate true self-esteem?

Self-esteem is achieved when I believe that I am valuable and that I make a difference. The only way that I can sincerely believe that I have intrinsic and immutable value is when I know that I have a purpose. There is a Creator who has a master plan and I am part of it.

A child must be taught that God cares and is concerned about his or her welfare, that God is ever present, ever watchful. Above all, the child must know that God has given us responsibilities. God wants something from me. We are here to fulfil a purpose.

In a few days we shall celebrate Shavuot, the festival of the giving of the Torah. The very word Torah means instruction. In it, God has expressed His objective and the role that He has given to each and every human, Jew and non-Jew. Through carrying out His commandments, by performing acts of goodness and kindness, we make this world a place where all humanity can live in peace and prosperity. Each and every one of us is integral and indispensable to this goal and is therefore infinitely precious.

Self-esteem is created with the realization that the reason I am valuable is not because of self per se, because of my talent or beauty or status. This kind of self-esteem is subject to erosion and often has no validity to begin with.

Rather, true self-esteem is rooted in the knowledge that I am valuable because the Creator has chosen to give me value. Nobody and nothing can ever take that away. My value then is expressed when I carry out His mandate, when my life is purposeful.

A moment of silence (not ritualized prayer) in the public schools at the start of each day to reflect upon these truths would contribute immeasurably in fostering a sense of identity and purpose. Thus we will have laid the foundation for children to be imbued with healthy and enduring self-esteem.

Chag Samayach and best wishes for a healthy, happy and peaceful summer.

Rabbi New is spiritual leader at the Montreal Torah Centre, Congregation Bais Menachem Chabad Lubavitch.

Confronting the apocalypse

***Apocalypses*, by Eugen Weber (Random House, $29.95).**

Is the world about to be destroyed? Are we approaching the apocalyptic end of days? An increasing number of people are apprehensive and relate their fears to the approaching millennium.

The author writes that in the 20th century, the idea of universal doom seems less than surprising. "Movie and television screens, which hold the mirror to our times, testify to the popularity of disaster films... Monsters and space alien invasions inspire epics of global destruction that threaten the end of civilization, the extinction of the human species, the obliteration of the fragile platform on which we stir. Endism is in fashion once more because it provides a context: an ideology of catastrophe."

Jewish apocalyptic teaching has it that at the end of days, in the time of the Messiah, when the resurrection of the dead will take place, both Israel and the gentile nations will be summoned to Divine judgment by the blowing of the great shofar.

The prophet Elijah will come back to earth to reconcile families, "returning the hearts of fathers to their children and of children to their fathers, before the great and dreadful day of the Lord" (Malachi). The Day of Judgment will be a terrifying day of darkness (Amos 5:18), with tempest, thunder and consuming fire (Isaiah 29:6).

Attempts to set dates for the coming of the Messiah have toyed with many different and ingenious techniques. The most common was deciphering the specific dates listed in the Bible, especially the Book of Daniel. Speculators would employ gematria (interpreting a word according to the numerical value of its Hebrew letters). For example, in the Book of Leviticus, we read: "In this year of the Jubilee shall ye return." (25:13). In this verse are 18 Hebrew letters, whose numerical values, when added together, total 5,408. The Hebrew year 5408 corresponds to the civil year 1648. One of the most notorious pseudo-messiahs in Jewish history, Shabbetai Zevi, turned to gematria. With it, he predicted that he, as the Messiah, would make his grand entrance in the year 1648.

Most Jewish authorities vehemently opposed these messianic calculations. Rabbi Jonathan, in the second century, denounced them: "Perish all those who calculate the time of the coming of the Messiah, for people will say that, since the predicted time is here and the Messiah has not come, he will never come." Opponents to these forecasts were fearful that such calculations would awaken false hopes. If these hopes were dashed, the people would become irrevocably demoralized.

In 1997, Michale Drosnin's Bible Code became an international best-seller. If the 304,805 Hebrew letters of the Torah are arranged in rows, names apparently appear that can be read straight-forwardly, diagonally, upside-down, or backwards, and these foretell the future, especially if it is past. Drosnin believes that the code helped avert nuclear war in 1996, and may prevent Armageddon in the near future.

Many Christians believed – and some still do — that the end of days will follow the restoration of Jews to their ancient homeland. In 1891, for example, a petition signed by over 400 eminent Americans, including Cyrus McCormick, J.P. Morgan and John D. Rockefeller, urged President Benjamin Harrison to advance "the purpose of God concerning His ancient people" by supporting the cause of a Jewish state in Palestine. An Israeli forest is dedicated to one of the petition's organizers, William Eugene Blackstone.

The author, an eminent historian, presented the book's major ideas as part of the 1999 Barbara Frum Historical Lecture at the University of Toronto. This book, of course, is part of a vast popular genre of literature that deals with prophecies, cults, and millennial beliefs through the ages.

This ambitious survey – crammed with facts, names and dates – is not unmixed with sympathy for the credulity, superstition, fear and ignorance of human beings in the face of a mysterious universe and their ever precarious existence.

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Lubavitch yeshiva celebrates Jewish unity

By DAVID SILVERBERG
Student Intern

TORONTO — A Lubavitch yeshiva celebrated Jewish pride and unity last week with a festive Lag b'Omer parade.

Twenty teenage boys from the Lubavitch Yeshiva arranged the parade for local Jewish schools such as Cheder Chabad and Or Menachem Academy.

The march began at the corner of Bathurst and Steeles, and proceeded north along Bathurst until it came to a park near Chabad Gate.

Shmaryahu Weinbaum, 24, a student from the yeshiva, says that the parade is in honor of Lag B'Omer, the Jewish festival celebrating nature.

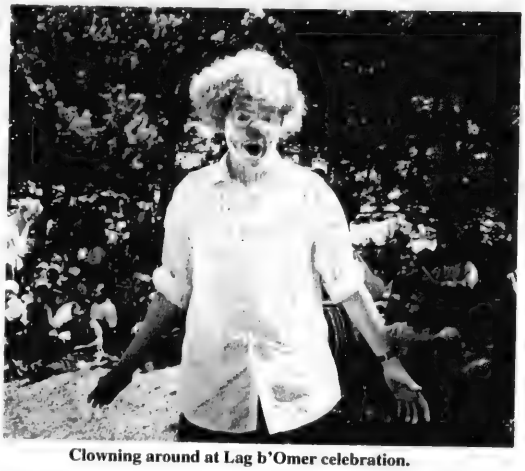
On the back of a car, a "tree" made of chicken wire, insulation and styrofoam followed the paraders. It was decorated with baseballs and candies, incentives to delight the children.

"It is how the tree will look very soon, when the Mashiach comes," says Weinbaum.

Neon banners stressing the importance of good deeds were held by volunteers and children. Most read Put on tfillin! or Keep Shabbat Holy. Clowns, dancing and singing topped off the event at York Hill Park.

One of the other co-ordinators, Raleigh Resnick, 18, called the parade "stupendous" considering he and his friends only thought of the idea 20 hours before it began. He is also pleased, he said, that the day was based around youth spreading Jewish pride.

The parade raised over $2,000 donated by local Toronto businesses.



Clowning around at Lag b'Omer celebration.

A 'JOYOUS AND SOLEMN' SEPHARDI TRADITION

At Petah Tikvah Anshe Castilla Congregation, a family lights a memorial candle at the traditional hiloula ceremony commemorating the anniversary of Rabbi Shimon Bar Yohai's death. From left are Moshe Benyair holding son Yaacob, 8 months; Benyair's mother-in-law Marie Elmaleh; Elmaleh's aunt Esther Israel; and Precy Benyair with daughter Nina (Yaacob's twin).

MINYANIM IN THE GTA
WEEK OF MAY 14-20/'99

Synagogue	Address & Tel.	Fri. Night	Shabbat	Sun. A.M.	Daily A.M.	Daily P.M.
Beth Jacob V'Anshei Drildz (O)	147 Overbrook Pl. (416) 638-5955	7:00 PM	9:00 AM	6:45 & 7:30 AM	Mon. Thurs. 6:40, 7:30 Tues. Wed. Fri. 6:45, 7:30	8:25 PM
Beth Tzedec (C)	1700 Bathurst St. (416) 781-3511	6:00 PM	8:45 AM	9:00 AM	7:45 AM	6:00 PM
B'nai Torah (O)	465 Patricia Ave. (416) 226-3700	7:00 PM	8:45 AM	7:00 & 8:00 AM	Mon. Thurs. 6:45, 7:10 Tues. Wed. Fri. 7:00, 7:20	8:25 PM
Chabad Lubavitch Community Centre (O)	770 Chabad Gate (905) 731-7000	7:00 PM	9:30 AM	8:00 & 9:00 AM	Mon. Thurs. 6:50, 7:30 Tues. Wed. Fri. 7:00, 7:30	8:25 PM
Clanton Park Synagogue (O)	11 Lowesmoor Ave. (416)633-4193	7:00 PM	9:00 AM	7:30 AM & 8:15 AM	Mon. Thurs. 6:50, 7:15 Tues. Wed. Fri. 7:00, 7:25	8:25 PM
Darchei Noam (Rec.)	15 Hove St. (416) 638-4783	----------	10:00 AM	----------	----------	----------
Pride of Israel (C)	59 Lissom Cres. (416) 226-0111	7:00 PM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	7:30 & 8:30 AM	7:00 PM
Shomrei Shabbos (O)	583 Glengrove Ave. W (416) 787-1631	7:00 PM	9:15 AM	7:30 & 8:30 AM	6:45 & 7:30 AM	8:25 PM
Solel Congregation (R)	2399 Folkway Dr. (905) 820-5915	7:30 PM	10:00 AM	----------	Tuesday 7:00 AM	----------
Temple Sinai (R)	210 Wilson Ave. (416) 487-4161	7:00 PM	10:00 AM	9:30 AM	7:30 AM	----------

This is not a comprehensive listing of the synagogues in the Greater Toronto area. The information is provided by the Vaad Harabonim of Toronto and the Toronto Board of Rabbis. The Vaad and the Board will periodically revise the listings. For statutory holidays, please call the Synagogue for any changes in times.

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Israel's elections this May will be the most critical in its 50 year history.

If ever there was a time for the voices of peace and moderation to be heard, this is it. Polarizing forces are tearing the country apart on issues such as religious extremism vs. secularism and pluralism; and on the peace process - between those who seek its progress and those who cause its paralysis.

Mainstream Israelis now accept the inevitability of Palestinian "statehood" and further territorial concessions. By skilful diplomacy, Israel can shape these developments in ways more favourable to its security needs. If Israel fights this "statehood" and further territorial concessions however, it will not thwart them, but will only ensure that they are achieved through conflict and bitterness.

Israel is now at a crossroads. The results of May's election will set a decisive course for its future. While we as Canadian Jews do not have a vote, we do have a voice. We are speaking out from across the ocean in solidarity with all those Israelis who, on May 17, will vote for the forces of peace and moderation.

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Sami Share (centre) mans the election booth as classmates Deborah Kanter (left) and Leah Herman (right) cast their ballots for Israeli prime minister. [Barbara Silverstein photo]

Students choose Labor party in mock Israeli election

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
CJN Staff

TORONTO — Grade 7 students, Deborah Kanter and Leah Herman were old enough to vote in the recent election for Israeli prime minister, which saw Ehud Barak win with a landslide victory.

Strong Labor supporters, both girls could easily articulate the reasons for their choices. Leah said that Barak's peace platform would make Israel safer, while Deborah felt that "peace will make Israel a better place."

The girls were among dozens of young voters who cast their ballots at the election booth, one of the exhibits at the Israel Fair held recently at the Bloor Jewish Community Centre (JCC). The fair was sponsored by the Downtown Jewish Community School (DJCS), as well as the Bloor JCC and the Downtown Jewish Community Council.

The election booth was sponsored by the DJCS's Grade 7 class.

Teacher Marcia Slavens, who also runs the school family education program, said she decided to have the Grade 7 class run an election booth – a first for the annual Israel Fair – because one of her students, Sami Share, had done an exceptional job researching the candidates and the election issues.

All the students prepare an independent project and present it to the class, Slavens explained. "Sami chose to do the election. It's really a difficult topic...She was confident she would be able to do it. She did a fabulous job."

Sami told *The CJN* she was interested in the election because she "wanted to be up to date on what was happening. I read about the elections and got information."

Initially, Slavens was only going to hold the election for the class, but she later decided to involve the whole school. She said she had read that mock elections are common in Israeli schools.

Any child over 10 who could understand the issues outlined in the election posters was eligible to vote; background information on each candidate was simplified and posted at the voting booth, Slavens said.

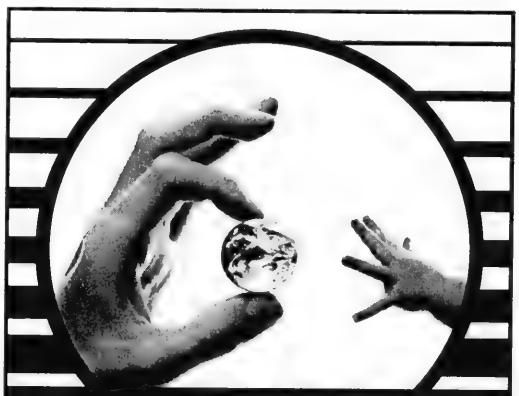
Many of the booths at the Israel Fair were sponsored by the DJCS classes and run by the children and their parents. Visitors entered the fair by passing through the Ben Gurion Airport booth, run by Grade 1, where they were given passports and information about the various Israeli landmarks.

Visitors could see various sites in Israel, among them Hebrew and Haifa universities, booths sponsored by grades 5 and 4a respectively; Lake Kinneret, a fishing booth sponsored by Grade 6; and Eilat, a booth sponsored by Grade 3.

Participants could also go to a cardboard replica of the Kotel and place messages in the cracks of the wall. This booth, which included posters and 3-D miniatures of sites in Israel, was sponsored by Grade 4.

The poster and some of the 3-D displays were the products of a family education program consisting of an assignment on Israel that was to be done at home, teacher Rachel Urowitz explained.

Parent Sally Danto, who did a project on Eilat with her family, said she found family education was beneficial. "It gives you something to do together. The fact that it is Jewish is a bonus."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The competition's international finals will be held in Israel on May 31. Six young people will receive one-year scholarships to study at Bar-Ilan University. But the real winner will be the Jewish future.

At Bar-Ilan University's International Center for Jewish Identity, we have many other ideas for tackling the tough problems that divide the Jewish people.

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If you want to learn more about how we are helping Jews work together for our collective future, please write to: Canadian Friends of Bar-Ilan University, 1750 Steeles Avenue West, Suite 214, Concord, Ontario L4K 2L7. Or call 905-660-3563. Or e-mail: barilanc@inforamp.net.

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ADVANCE POLL FOR CONSUL

Israeli Consul General for Toronto and Western Canada Jehudi Kinar casts his vote at his Toronto office last week in the Israeli elections.

Inter-synagogue singles group designed as support system

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
CJN Staff

TORONTO — One of the mandates of a new inter-synagogue group for singles, ages 35 to 55, is to provide a support system for its members.

Ferne Kirschner, chair of Beth Tikvah Progressive Singles, and founder of the inter-synagogue group, said she approached her synagogue board with the idea about a year ago, when she realized that singles in that age group had very little community support in certain times of crisis.

"When someone dies or becomes ill, people rally around the rest of the family. When a marriage breaks down, however, and someone's life is in turmoil, there is no support system.

"When people are alone, they need contact with others, to take away the loneliness."

The objectives of the group, which started with Kirschner and three other members, is to liaise with other synagogues, provide programs with traditional Jewish values, and encourage members to give of themselves.

"There are so many people who spend holidays alone, but are ashamed to reach out to others. People without a strong support system feel a void during the holidays," said Kirschner.

The synagogues involved, which now include Beth Tikvah, Adath Israel, Shaar Shalom, Temple Sinai, Beth Tzedec and the Hebrew Beach Institute, will each take turns hosting the group for one year. This year, the group, chaired by Claudette Edghill, will meet at Adath Israel, the host synagogue.

Since the group began about a year ago, said Kirschner, "friendships have been formed, and people have helped each other out. They are connecting, and not feeling so alone and isolated."

Group activities have included Bible study classes, lectures and brunches, "and everything has been well attended," said Kirschner. "I don't know where these people were before we started up."

A drop-in is scheduled at Beth Tikvah on the last Wednesday of every month, and an information hotline (221-3433, ext. 352) has been set up.

Kirschner said that the group supports other singles events in the community and makes every effort not to schedule its activities at the same time as another function.

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Canadian Jews open pocketbooks for Yugoslav refugees

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Canadian Jews have raised $100,000 for refugees from Yugoslavia, according to Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) president Moshe Ronen.

Part of this money is to help Albanian Jews, who number 50 to 80 people, Ronen told the CJC Ontario region executive.

He also said there is a Jewish community in Yugoslavia, and a synagogue there has been hit.

The Israeli public has responded to a request from the Jewish Agency and sent nine planeloads of supplies to the Kosovar refugees.

Though the CJC supports the Canadian government action, "we have not commented on whether bombing is the right thing. We have to recognize that civilians are being killed," Ronen said.

In other matters, he announced that, for the first time, the executive of the World Jewish Congress, numbering about 30 people, will meet in Toronto or Ottawa June 8 and 9.

Ronen also reported that Opposition leader Preston Manning has expressed support for a national Holocaust museum in Ottawa, as a result of meetings with CJC officials.

The Ontario election June 3 has not caught the region's political liaison committee by surprise, its coordinator Hershel Sahian said. The committee's stand on election issues will be delivered in the form of a printed brochure to all candidates.

The committee has already met 15 sitting MPPs, including the majority of the cabinet, and has had meetings with candidates in ridings with a large Jewish vote. Other meetings with candidates will be held.

The main issue is the need for public funding of religious schools and the absence of special health services for those not in public schools, Sahian said.

The need for services for Jewish seniors, of whom there are a disproportionate number, is also a "major, major" issue, he said.

New social housing is another need, as no subsidized housing has been built for five years.

Other issues listed in the brochure are hate on the Internet and the need for national unity.

Life takes unusual turns for rebbitzen

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — It seems like a giant leap from writing advertising copy and from teaching aerobics to being a rebbitzen, but, as Lori Palatnik, believes, "*a mensch tracht un Gott lacht*," which loosely translates as "man proposes and God disposes."

"You never know what turns your life will take," she told *The CJN* recently in an interview.

Palatnik, 38, grew up in Toronto, in what she calls "a classically Jewish family. We went to shul on the holidays, had 'Stanley Cup' seders, and ate latkes on Chanukah."

Nevertheless, she said, three of the four children in the family are now observant.

She lived a happy and successful life, both here and in Israel, doing advertising, and radio copywriting and production.

She also ran an aerobics business in Jerusalem, which became so successful, she had to take on two employees to help her.

But her life was taking a more spiritual turn. She studied at EYAHT, Aish HaTorah College for Jewish Women, in Jerusalem.

She met her husband of 12 years, Rabbi Yaakov Palatnik, at Aish HaTorah, where he was teaching Gemarah. The couple now has five children.

While they had planned to live in Israel, they agreed to accept a position with Aish HaTorah in Toronto, first at the Thornhill facility, and most recently founding and developing the Village Shul (the name comes from its location in Forest Hill Village).

Palatnik is obviously thrilled about the shul, and about the people who come to it.

"They are the greatest people in the world," she enthused. "They have become our closest friends. They would do anything for me – and I would do anything for them."

The Palatniks' approach, like that of Aish HaTorah generally, is non-judgmental. "We are here to teach," she explained. "We are not here to insist you become observant, and there is no sense of failure if you don't."

She wants the congregation to know that "we are with you in good times and in bad, for life cycle events and as resource people."

The family began to host people for Shabbat, many of whom had never experienced a real Shabbat before, and wanted to know how to do it in their own homes.

"I was very frustrated. People would call and ask me if there was a book that would help, and I kept saying that there wasn't."

Finally, encouraged by her husband, Palatnik wrote and had published *Friday Night and Beyond; the Shabbat Experience Step-by-Step* (Jason Aronson, 1994). As the name suggests, it is a practical, detailed description of the different mitzvot of Shabbat.

Descriptions of different customs, blessings, recipes, and personal anecdotes make this book helpful for the neophyte Shabbat observer and a renewing source for the experienced.

Her second book, *Remember My Soul* (Leviathin Press, 1998), was written in response to a neighbor's comment that Jews don't believe that there is anything after death.

Palatnik is more than a writer. She teaches classes on various Torah topics all over the city, appears on television, and lectures extensively throughout North America.

She laughs that she is certainly not the stereotypical repressed Orthodox woman. It is important to her "to channel my talents and experiences, and elevate [them]."

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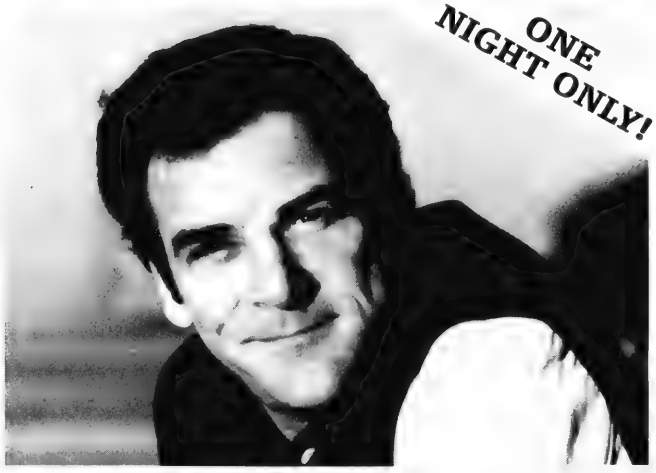

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Israeli women seen as losing ground in fight for equality

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
CJN Staff

TORONTO — While women have been gaining equality in western democracies, Israeli women, who had more equality than other women back in 1948, had lost much of their political clout by the 1970s, according to one of Israel's leading feminist activists.

Prof. Frances Raday, the Lieberman chair in labor law at Hebrew University, and the founding chair of the legal centre of the Israel Women's Network, said she thought Israel was "a land of hope, social justice and equality," but when she made aliyah in 1968, she discovered "that equality for [Israeli] women was a myth."

Raday, and judge Harriet Sachs of the Ontario Superior Court, were the featured speakers at an evening called The Challenge of Change: Influencing the lives of Israeli and Canadian Women. The evening, which drew some 100 people, was held at Osgoode Hall, and was sponsored by the Toronto chapter of the Canadian Friends of Hebrew University.

Sachs and Raday both spoke about the changes in the law vis-a-vis women's rights in Canada and Israel, respectively.

Sachs noted that laws pertaining to women's issues were more favorable, and that there was increased presence of women in the legal profession, with women making up roughly 50 percent of law school student body in Canada.

Raday said, given the legal strides made by Canadian women in the last two decades, she was "less optimistic" about the outcome of Israeli women's quest for equality.

With 12 percent of the Knesset made up of women, the State of Israel in 1948 was one of the most egalitarian countries in the world, she said. "Israeli women had equality when the rest of the world was not yet talking about equality."

But by 1970, women's representation in the Knesset dropped to 7.5 percent, ranking Israel just above Southeast Asia and the Arab countries in terms of the number of female-elected representatives, she noted.

She said there is an intrinsic problem with the Israeli constitution because it does not include the right to gender equality.

Lack of interest

The first large feminist demonstration held in Israel – it was organized by Betty Friedman in 1984 — was not covered by the Israeli media, Raday said. The women barged into a meeting attended by Shimon Perez and Yitzhak Shamir, demanding equality, but the demonstration was not even reported on the news, she recalled.

"There was a total lack of interest in equality. There was a total lack of interest in women helping women."

Raday said she was part of an academic group called the Israel Women's Network, which was established to press for legislative reform.

She called the period from 1988 to 1998, the "golden decade" because the women's network succeeded in getting feminist legislation enacted in a number of areas.

The changes that favor women include: a progressive rape law and comprehensive sexual harassment laws; making retirement age for women the same as for men; changing maternity leave to parental leave; and giving divorced women the right to their husband's pensions.

Raday noted that while the laws are progressive, their interpretation by the judiciary, particularly those justices in the lower courts, is not favorable to women. "The lower courts are not empathetic to women's problems."

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Canadian Friends of Ezrath Nashim - Herzog Hospital presents An Evening of stand-up comedy, **"AS FUNNY AS IT GETS II,"** Thursday, May 27, 1999 at 7:30pm, Leah Posluns Theatre. Reception to follow. All proceeds to support Alzheimers Research. $25 in adv., $30-door. **Tickets: 416-256-4222.**

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Darren, Mark & Ari Present 'Long Weekend Bash' at The Courthouse Chamber Lounge. For ages 19 - late 20's. Sun., May 23 at 9:00pm. 10 Court St. (south of Adelaide/north of King/west of Church/ east of Yonge). Lots of parking. ID req'd. No running shoes or hats. Dance music, Jazz, cigar lounge. Expanded facilities with 4 floors of entertainment. Live to air on Mix 99.9. Tickets $10-adv, $12-door. Hotline: 416-713-0024. TicketMaster: 870-8000.

Events By Sharyn Presents a lecture demonstration & concert by Grit Laskin renowned Canadian guitar maker & musician. Sun, May 16, 7:30pm. Zionist Centre, 788 Marlee Ave. $12-adv., $15-door. Refreshments. Open to all! **416-785-7020.**

Finally... A Party For The Older Crowd. 'Round 30. Late 20's - late 30's exclusively. ID required. Sun., May 23, 9:30pm at The Indian Motorcycle, 335 King St. W. Tickets: $10 w/business card, $15 without. Presented by Darren, **Mark & Ari.** Hotline 713-0019. Dress to impress. Dancing. Portion of proceeds benefit Indian Motorcycle Charity Fund.

Huge Roof Top Dance Party. Sat., May 29, 8-11pm. Performers also welcome. **905-763-1786.**

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Survivors gather for conference

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — To Holocaust survivors, the Holocaust is not over; only a grave will silence us, said Nate Leipciger, moderator of an emotional public meeting at Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care.

The four panelists at the recent presentation attended by 400 people said time is running out, and the critical need is for second and third generation survivors to help their parents or grandparents.

The evening's sombre note was struck by Leipciger who said he recently sat at the bedside of his brother-in-law, who had an "insatiable drive" to talk abut what happened to him.

"Harry died, but he opened up on his death bed. He needed someone to listen. He was forced to work in a chemical factory at the age of eight, and this is what destroyed his kidneys. He was released from Buchenwald at the age of 10."

Fifty percent of all the patients at Baycrest, including those in day care, are survivors, said Patty Friedland, a member of the family that helped sponsor the international meeting. Baycrest has developed special programs to aid survivors and to train staff members looking after them.

Friedland, who was born in a displaced persons camp, said she and her husband, Allan, and their family had decided the conference was the best way to build a bridge to the future.

"Allan spent years in Siberia, and his father walked miles every day to try and get antibiotics to keep him alive. My mother was a graduate of eight concentration camps."

Canada owes a debt of thanks to survivors who came here 50 years ago and helped to build the country, said Leipciger, chair of the Canadian Jewish Congress Holocaust remembrance committee.

On a March of the Living trip, he said he learned that survivor grandparents have a way of communicating with their grandchildren that works better if parents do not interfere.

He admitted that as a survivor, he had trouble telling his own children about the Holocaust. "There always seemed other things to talk about."

Life with survivor parents is not easy, said Dr. Robert Krell of Vancouver, who was hidden with a Catholic family in Holland for two years as a child.

"When my parents got me back, life had changed for them. They had lost parents and siblings. The 20,000 Jews in Holland had been reduced to 1,000."

A child psychiatrist who is now director of the British Columbia child psychology clinic, Krell said, "We felt we had to report only good news to our parents. Life was not easy."

He said his father, who died in 1995, had not set foot in a Jewish cemetery for 47 years, but finally did so before he died.

During the question period, a man asked what he could do to help his survivor father, who is suffering from dementia. "You don't have to go as far as dementia," Krell responded. "In post-operative anesthesia, doctors and nurses have been called Gestapo. It just takes memory plus a trigger."

To underline his point, he told of a group of aging survivors in British Columbia who had "dissolved in tears" after being unable to reach an agreement on the NATO bombings of Yugoslavia. "This situation is not genocide. But what they saw was parents being separated from children, and this triggered their memories."

A child survivor, and head of AMCHA in Israel, Dr. Natan Kellerman said there are unresolved difficulties between survivor parents and their children. "Hope can be life affirming, but it is a burden to carry if it is linked to a legacy of the Holocaust."

A third generation survivor, Tamara Steiber, granddaughter of Robert and Margo Engel, said she walked recently in High Park with Rwandan families to raise money for refugees.

Active in Holocaust education, she said she did not understand her parents until she had visited the sites of former concentration camps in Europe. "The predicament of the third generation became clear from Treblinka," she said.

Baycrest staffer Paula David, coordinator of the conference, said survivors have become experts in genocide. "They have seen the worst. They are in a position to talk to Rwandans and Kosovars."

A group of survivors at Baycrest Terrace were so moved by the stories of Kosovar refugees that they contributed $100 in toonies in a jam jar, she said.

The program began with an performance by Interlink, an intergenerational choir made up of 18 children from grades 4 and 5, and 21 adults from the Wagman Centre.

Co-chair Anita Ekstein said delegates from Israel, France and Sweden were among those attending. Co-chair Eva Doji presented the panelists and moderator with copies of a book of poetry written by Baycrest residents.

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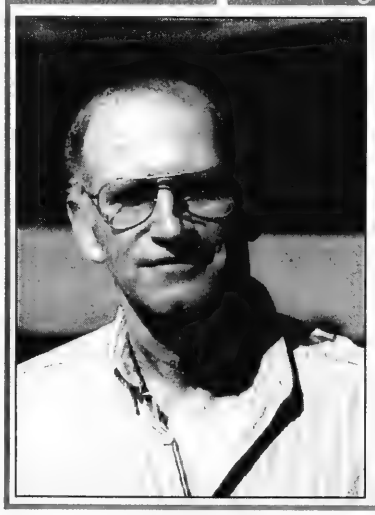

Gabi Garzon: a Hero by Design

Shot out of the sky over the Golan Heights during the Yom Kippur War, Gabi Garzon's Skyhawk fighter jet disintegrated beneath him.

Although Gabi survived the crash, once on land, he was taken prisoner by the Syrian Army.

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Trained as an architect, Gabi's love of flying soon took hold of his design energies. Needing four limbs to fly an airplane, Gabi rose to the task of developing a prostheses specifically designed to allow him to properly manipulate the complicated foot controls found in fighter jets.

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Due to the Shavuot holiday, Thursday, May 13, is deadline for the May 27 issue. Tuesday, May 25, is deadline for June 3 issue, and Monday, May 31 is deadline for June 10 issue. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Thursday, May 13

THE GUIDING LIGHTS

Rabbi Barry Schneider speaks on The Guiding Lights – Ruth and Naomi at 2 p.m. at Forest Hill Place, 645 Castlefield Ave. Reserve. **Marlene** or **Susan** 785-1511.

AISH HATORAH

Living With Our Special Fanatic, observant and non-observant family members living together, **Lori Palatnik** and **Phyllis Zelcer**, 8 p.m., 949 Clark Ave. W. Thornhill.

SPRING FAIR

Baycrest Spring Fair, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. at Centennial Arena, 580 Finch Ave. W. Auctions of designer fashions 10:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. $2 **Donna Steinberg**, Women's Auxiliary office 785-2500, ext. 2010.

Saturday, May 15

CHASSIDIC SHABBAT

Join in the joyous, freilich, singalong service at Beth Tzedec Congregation, 8:45 a.m.

MOTHER'S DAY SHABBAT

Adath Sholom Sisterhood Mother's Day Shabbat, speaker **Frances Mandell**, past president of Jewish National Fund, followed by special sisterhood kiddush. Services at 9 a.m. 864 Sheppard Ave. W.

Sunday, May 16

CANTOR HONORED

To celebrate **Cantor Martin Steinhouse's** accomplishments over the past 25 years, Temple Har Zion is hosting a concert by seven cantors and the Temple Har Zion Choir. Participants are cantors **Eli Kirshblum, Anna Trubashnik, Efraim Sapir, Benjamin Maissner, Thomas Schwarz, David Goldstein**, 7:30 p.m. $36 adult, $18 youth. 905-889-2252, ext. 5.

MEKOROT INSTITUTE

Mekorot Institute of Torah Study for Women presents Judaic consultant **Arna Poupko** speaking on Free to Choose? Submission vs. Personal Responsibility in Jewish Law, 8 p.m., Baycrest Terrace, 55 Ameer Ave. RSVP 398-1510.

HABONIM TEA PARTY

Congregation Habonim Tea Party, vocalist **Rachel Kastoryani** and pianist **Michael Khinkis**, 2 p.m. $12. Proceeds to United Jewish Federation. 267-0047.

SPIRITUALITY A LA CARTE

YUJJIES (young urban Jews 20-40) at Indigo sponsored by Kolel: A Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning and Les and Minda Feldman Foundation, lecture Spirituality a la Carte?, **Rabbi Jeremy Schwartz**. 7:30 p.m., 2300 Yonge St. 905-709-1900, ext. 222.

GARAGE SALE

Jordana-Yamit chapter of Hadassah-WIZO garage sale, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., 24 Levitt Ct. (across from Branson Hospital).

MONTESSORI DAY SCHOOL

Meeting of the organizing committee of the Montessori Jewish Day School being established in Toronto, 3 p.m. 929-4830.

MUSICAL EVENING

Canadian guitar maker/musician performs 7 p.m., Zionist Centre, 788 Marlee Ave. $12 in advance, $15 at door. 785-7020. Sponsored by Events by Sharyn. Portion of proceeds go to Mazon.

GIGANTIC GARAGE SALE

Bargains galore at garage sale run by National Council of Jewish Women, International Branch, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., 26 Leacock Ct., Thornhill. Rain or shine.

Monday, May 17

THE TIME OF YOUR LIFE

Cranbrooke Friendship Club video-screening of *The Time of Your Life*, featuring the accomplishments of multi-media artist **Tutzi Haspel-Seguin.** Brief talk by artist follows, 12:30 p.m., Winchevsky Centre, 585 Cranbrooke Ave. $5 includes light lunch. 789-5502.

EMUNAH WOMEN DINNER

Emunah Women of Toronto Mother in Israel Dinner, guest speaker **Rena Schochet**, Torah Life and Living, 6 p.m. dinner, 8 p.m. program, Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. Reserve 636-0036.

NAGILLAH CHAPTER, JWI

Nagillah chapter, Jewish Women International (40+singles) general meeting, 7:30 p.m., Pride of

Continued on page 23

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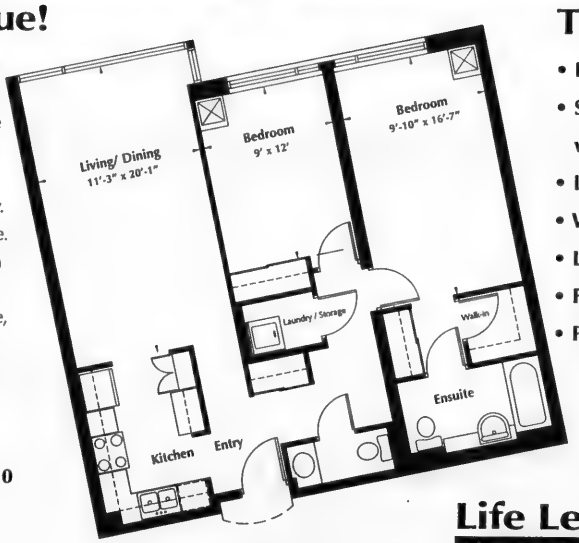

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What's New

Continued from page 22

Israel Synagogue. Prior to meeting, **Dr. Bob Gottfried,** psychologist, speaks on pain management and bio feedback. $2. **Helen** 638-4326 or **Fran** 638-2716.

SUPPORT GROUP

Jewish Parents and Families of Gays and Lesbians meets 7:30 p.m., Jewish Family & Child Service, 6th floor, Lipa Green Building. Phone in confidence, **Ruth** 763-9111.

Tuesday, May 18

REMEMBERING J.B.

New Fraternal Jewish Association evening, Remembering J.B. Salsberg on his first yahrzeit, speakers and musical program, 8 p.m., Lodzer Centre, 12 Heaton St.

KIBBUTZ PROGRAMS

Kibbutz Programs Open House, information evening on volunteering, family programs and ulpan, 7:30 p.m., 3995 Bathurst St., Suite 300. **Alexandra Hass** Kibbutz Program Centre, 638-8824.

BB ROMANIAN LODGE

B'nai Brith Dr. Filderman Lodge for Romanian speaking people, 6:30 p.m., B'nai Brith Building, 15 Hove St. Introductory talk followed by slide presentation, Images of Spain, by photograph artist **A. Szasz. Felicia Levy** 631-0634.

PRACTICAL WISDOM

Beth Tzedec Congregation dialogue featuring rabbis from different points of view, Practical Wisdom: How Can I Become a Better Person?, **Rabbi Israel Silverman,** Congregation Beth Jacob, Hamilton, and **Rabbi Martin Lockshin,** Centre for Jewish Studies, York University. 7:30 p.m.

KABBALAH CENTRE

The Ancient Teachings of Kabbalah, free introductory lecture. 7:30 p.m., 678 Sheppard Ave. W. 631-9395.

Wednesday, May 19

DAY CAMP INFORMATION

Parents information meeting about Camp Yossi (junior day camp ages 3-7) and Primary Learning Centre (ages 2½-5) 7 p.m., Temple Emanu-El, 120 Old Colony Rd. RSVP 449-5153.

CENTRE DEDICATION

Associated Hebrew Schools dedicates the new Posluns Education Centre on Neptune Drive. **Rabbi Haskell Lookstein** of Kehillat Jeshurun, New York City, addresses parents and contributors who helped rebuild the Neptune Campus. **Randy E. Spiegel** 494-7666, ext. 336.

LUNCH AND LEARN

Holy Blossom Temple Lunch and Learn in Retirement group features **Ethel Teitelbaum** speaking on Evolution of Jewish Film Festivals, at noon. Bring lunch. Coffee. tea, cookies served. $1

GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

The Jewish Genealogical Society of Canada (Toronto) meeting, Sephardic Explorations Into the Past Genealogy of Rabbi Abraham Pimental by author **Edward Cohen**. 8 p.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. Non-members $3.

Thursday, May 20

SHAVUOT TORATHON

All-night Shavuot Torathon, Chabad Lubavitch of Markham, 83 Green Lane, Thornhill, 12 midnight.

And What Else Is New

CANTORIAL CONCERT

Cantor Yaakov Motzen and **Cantor Shlomo Simcha Sufrin** of Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue, and **Cantor Israel Rand** of the Hampton Synagogue, New York, join voices for Cantorial Concert at Shaarei Shomayim Wednesday, May 26, 8 p.m. $50, $36, $18. 789-3213.

KIEVER CONGREGATION

Kiever Congregation Shavuot services commemorate 85th anniversary of the synagogue, a historical landmark near Kensington Market at 250 Bellevue Ave., Friday, May 21 and Saturday, May 22 at 9 a.m., led by **Rabbi Gedalia Zweig.** Kiddush following services. **Dave Pinkus** 593-9956.

CHABAD SHAVUOT

The Ernest Manson Lubavitch Centre Late Nite with the Rabbi, cheesecake and cappuccino late night lecture, Thursday, May 20, 11 p.m., and celebration of the giving of the Torah, Friday, May 21, services 9:30 a.m., Torah reading 10:45 a.m., kiddush 12:15 p.m. Yizkor service Saturday, 11:30 a.m. All at the Family Shul, 461 Highcliffe. 905-763-1331.

HEALING PROJECT

Toronto Jewish Healing Project evening, **Rabbi Nosson Westreich** speaks on Finding Hope: The Search For Faith Against Adversity, Wednesday, May 26, 8 p.m., at Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue. **Etta Ginsberg McEwan**, co-ordinator 944-3350.

ISRAELI ENTERTAINER

Aid to Disabled Veterans of Israel, Beit Halochem Canada, concert features Israeli entertainer **Dudu Fisher** Thursday, May 27 at Ford Centre for the Performing Arts. Beit Halochem 787-8950.

WOMEN'S HEALTH

Na'amat Toronto Women's Health Education evening, **Dr. Robert Josse**, St. Michael's Hospital, Tuesday, June 1, 7:30-9:30 p.m., Inn on the Park. Learn about osteoporosis, heart disease, breast cancer, menopause. $10. Reserve. 636-5425 days, 905-884-8559 evenings.

THEATRE OUTING

Save a Child group trip to the Shaw Festival to see *Heartbreak House*, Tuesday, June 1. $46 bus and ticket. **Molly** 781-7077.

SINGLES SCENE

25-35 Group: Blue Jays at Skydome, Monday, June 21, 7 p.m. Order by May 21. **Rhonda** 905-731-9441.

35-55 Group: Billiards Nite, Thursday, May 20, 8 p.m. at Heroes (Steeles/Dufferin) 905-731-9441.

All singles, UJA Walkathon, Sunday, May 30. Details to follow.

JF&CS GROUPS

Jewish Family & Child Service groups. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

One Family: Two Homes, parents and children experiencing separation or divorce, begins May 19.

Living With Teens, begins May 18; Social Skills Groups for Children, begins May 18; Adult Children Losing a Parent, begins June 3; Shared Parenting Workshop.

FOR SENIORS

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: May 13, 27 Casino Rama; May 16 Spring Fair and Bake Sale; May 23-25 Ottawa; July 5-11 Catskills; dance every Wednesday 7-9 p.m.; ballroom dancing Thursday mornings; lessons for cutting special glass twice a week. 395-7881.

LZA Seniors Club in Borochov Cultural Centre, 272 Codsell Ave., is open for socializing Monday to Friday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Ladies Folkdancing classes Thursdays 1:30 p.m. Cultural Discussion Group Tuesdays 10 a.m. Register to see *My Fair Lady* at Stage West Wednesday, June 16. **Libby** 782-2059 or office 630-9444.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: July 27 trip to Kingston, cruise, entertainment; Aug. 25 morning cruise, matinee of *Move Over Mrs. Markham* at Gryphon Theatre; Oct. 12 *West Side Story* at Stratford. **Lena** 785-5773. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). May 13 program is bingo. **Jerry Bengall,** president, 905-707-7334.

Young at Heart Seniors vacation to the Catskills kosher Raleigh Hotel, 10 days, beginning July 23, double occupancy $1,399.95, single $1,695.95. Price depends on money exchange. German restitution holiday accepted, medical comprehensive insurance. **Helen** 635-6343.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Swing Dance Party in honor of International Year of Older Persons 1999 Wednesday, May 19, 7 p.m., Frank Gould's 16-piece swing band. Adults $3. children free. Tickets at Information Desk.

Healthy Cooking with dietician/nutritionist **Andrea Sturk** Thursday, May 20, 1:15 p.m.

Diner's Club Congregate Dining, Wednesdays 11:45 a.m.-1 p.m. $6.15 for lunch. Reserve by Tuesday of each week. **Anna** or **Ruth**

Israeli Club Etrog: Do you speak Hebrew? Join club members every Tuesday at 7 p.m. for movies, lectures, dances, singalongs, bingo, picnics. May 18, a lecture. **Anna** ext. 110.

Movie, *The Mask of Zorro*, Sunday, May 16, 2:30 p.m.

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.

Books and Bagels welcomes **Harold Troper** reading from his latest book, *The Ransomed of God: The Remarkable Story of One Woman's Role in the Rescue of Syrian Jews* , a true story about how Canadian **Judy Feld Carr** helped the Jewish population of Syria escape from tyranny. 11 a.m. Non-members $8.

Public forum on education Monday, May 17, 7 p.m. *Back to Basics?*, written by Ric Knowles and **Elyssa Livergant,** performed by Livergant; **Annie Kidder,** People for Education; **Prof. Kari Dehli,** OISE; **Roberta Casabon,** Elementary Teachers of Toronto; **Annabelle Goodman,** moderator.

Seniors Club: Thursday, May 13, 2 p.m. The Jewish Community of Egypt: A Personal Perspective, **Mimi Pauli** and **Mireille Moussadji.** Monday, May 17, 2 p.m., Aging Is Not So Bad! Breaking Down Ageism and Stereotypes About Getting Older, **Suzanne Ridelle.** For information call **Judy.**

BATHURST JC

Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. 636-1880.

Summer General Store program for children 12-24 months, Wednesdays 9:30-11 a.m. Fun interactive morning for child and adult. ext. 248.

St. John's Ambulance babysitting course, Sunday, June 6, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., $30 plus GST. For teens 12-17. To register, ext. 229.

Social and Fitness program for people with Multiple Sclerosis. Ext. 229.

SINGLES EVENTS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 20

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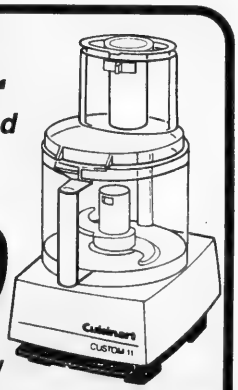

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'We have to grasp the reins of our own destiny'

By RABBI MARVIN PACHINO
Special to The CJN

The issue of government funding for Jewish schools in Ontario is of critical import for the Jewish community, yet it has never been openly debated.

Opinion

One of my objectives in writing to express misgivings with regard to our community's preoccupation with obtaining government funds (*CJN*, Feb 11) was to open a discussion on the issue. I was, therefore, very pleased that Keith Landy and Joseph Steiner took the time to respond on behalf of Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region, and UJA Federation of Greater Toronto.

As with any major issue, there will be differing opinions and members of the community will take opposing positions. This is as it should be, and an opportunity must be afforded for an airing of those differences. There is no better vehicle for promoting public discussion of issues within our community than *The Canadian Jewish News*.

While I may not succeed in persuading Landy and Steiner to change their views, several points which they made in their article ("The Jewish Education System," *CJN*, March 4) call for a reply and an elaboration.

Yes, I remain concerned that if the provincial government ever does extend funding to our schools they might also withdraw those funds in the future. In that case, the Jewish community would be hard-pressed to pick up the shortfall. I would concede, as Landy and Steiner contend, that it is not likely that the entire funding package would be cancelled, but government cuts to the overall education budget from year to year would, necessarily, have a negative impact upon the fiscal stability of the Jewish school system.

What funding mechanism would UJA Federation have in place to compensate for, say, a five percent reduction in funding one year, four percent the next year, six percent in the year following that? It is completely realistic to anticipate these sorts of reductions, given what has been happening in the public sector over the last several years.

How would our schools be expected to cope with such a reality? As the public schools do, by eliminating or cutting back programs and services, and by increasing class sizes? What would the community's contingency plan be for such situations, which are bound to arise? The fact that the community is requesting funding only for the general studies curricula does not mitigate the potential havoc.

We in the Toronto Jewish community are well aware of the staggering blow experienced by certain Jewish schools a few years ago when the very generous support of a single benefactor was withdrawn. Those schools have yet to recover, and teachers' salaries and bills from a variety of creditors are still not being paid on time.

Have UJA Federation and Congress given any thought to how they would respond under such circumstances?

According to Landy and Steiner, my opposition to seeking or accepting government funds for our day schools reflects "a sad lack of sensitivity towards the parents" who are committed to Jewish education. A re-reading of my article will reveal that I did take note of the financial desperation of parents, and of the fact that many middle-class families have been precluded from sending their children to day schools. This has troubled me for many years.

Local federation quite generous

If I required sensitivity training on the subject, I have received it from my own children, who are struggling to cope with the financial strain of sending their children to day schools, albeit in the United States. And here I must set the record straight for Landy and Steiner, who stated, "Even in the United States where Rabbi Pachino maintains that no Jewish school receives government funds, the fact of the matter is quite different. Grants for transportation, school books and health support services are available to all children in all U.S. schools."

This is simply not true.

Some school districts and jurisdictions in the United States do provide transportation, some provide text books, some provide special education services, and some provide specific health services to day school students. Some provide a combination of one or more of the above, while some provide absolutely nothing. It is far from universal, and where these services are provided, they are administered as direct benefits to the individual taxpayers within the district.

The schools do not receive a penny; consequently, there is utterly no salutary impact on tuition fees, which are borne in their entirety by the parents there, just as they are in Toronto.

Moving on to the role played by UJA Federation vis a vis the funding of Jewish education, I would certainly not want to "leave the impression" that it is either "meagre or non-existent." There is no question that our local federation has been quite generous in designating over 50 percent of its local allocations to Jewish education. These are big dollars!

However, no one knows better than Landy and Steiner that the funds allocated by UJA Federation, together with tuitions and separate fundraising efforts of the respective schools, are not adequate to meet the needs of a growing and dynamic school system.

Funds are not there, for example, for major curriculum development initiatives that are needed in Judaic studies, or for informal educational activities, or for family education programs that are crucial for the inculcation of Jewish values and a Jewish lifestyle.

Regular in-service programs for principals and teachers to upgrade knowledge and skills are not available to the professional staffs of our schools.

For a school system as large as ours, precious little is being done on a system-wide basis in the realm of special education, although some schools have been working independently to address the challenge. Some 15 to 20 percent of the total population has special education needs. That translates into close to 2,000 students in a system of our size, and the allocations from UJA Federation are insufficient to provide the required services. As a result, many students who require special education do not receive it and are forced to leave the Jewish school system.

These are but some examples of educational needs for which UJA Federation cannot presently provide. However, most telling, I believe, is the statistic that Landy and Steiner cited in their article. Of "almost 11,000 students, almost 3,000 are subsidized by the community." While this is certainly commendable, it means that approximately 72 percent of our parents are paying full fee!

I find it difficult to believe that 72 percent of the Jewish families in Toronto are capable of paying full tuition for two or three, and in some cases, four or more children.

What this statistic reveals is that the more well-to-do and the less well-to-do are sending their children to Jewish day schools. The vast middle is woefully under-represented, and not enough is being done to address this serious discrepancy.

Over the last decade, funding formulae for the schools have been juggled, caps have been imposed on tuition subsidies, and the family fee guidelines have not been brought up to date. The latter are ancient and painfully unrealistic.

Frankly, I am not quite so sanguine about the prospect of government funding alleviating the situation, because, while I hope I am wrong, there is every reason to believe that the federation is expecting to be able to reduce its allocation to Jewish education when and if the province agrees to fund our schools.

In the meantime, though, the province has not offered funding, and the Supreme Court has ruled that it is not required to do so.

In a paragraph that was edited out of my original article, I recall having stated that the Supreme Court had handed down its decision that our community had waged a good fight, but it lost. We should have acknowledged the loss then and drawn the correct conclusions. We should not have allowed the obsession with government funding to continue to paralyze our creative and innovative talents and forestall the establishment of an appropriate and adequate funding apparatus for day school education. There are needs that just cannot be met by the regular UJA campaign.

That is why I suggested that the Chicago community initiative should be looked at as a model for instituting the kind of Jewish education endowment fund that will be able to sustain our system well into the future. I am not necessarily expecting that we will be able to provide free schooling for every day school student, although that would be wonderful. Neither do I hold a brief for the Chicago model intact. But why are we not mobilizing our community on a grander scale on behalf of Jewish education?

Again I say, if we believe in the paramount importance of Jewish education and the need to make it accessible to every Jewish child, we have to grasp the reins of our own destiny. Others cannot, and never will, do it for us. The answer lies within our community.

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Greater Toronto Area

Education funding rally draws over 3,000

Continued from page 3

that everybody else gets for free... There must be fair funding for everyone, not just a few people ... It's time for the status quo to end."

Liberal MPP Monte Kwinter, who sponsored the rally, said the government was "hiding behind the Supreme Court of Canada decision" rejecting a Charter challenge that would have compelled the government to fund independent schools on par with Catholic ones.

While the High Court's decision did not require government funding, it also didn't prevent it, he said.

The Queen's Park rally coincided with the release of the Ontario budget and was held in advance of the election call the next day. The rally was scheduled well before anyone knew when the budget would be released, Van Beveren said.

PEC is still developing a campaign strategy, though it's likely to include sponsoring all-candidates meetings on the issue, as well as urging supporters to question candidates about their views, she said.

Levin said petitions containing 15,000 signatures calling for fair funding have been submitted to Queen's Park. PEC is contemplating other initiatives, he added.

Representatives of Canadian Jewish Congress and B'nai Brith Canada also attended last week's rally. Keith Landy, chair of Congress' Ontario region, said the rally "is a step in the process of having the government live up to its statements on fair funding."

He said the Congress committee on independent school funding, OJAEE, has met with representatives of the ministries of Education and Community and Social Services to discuss the provision of health services in Jewish schools. A meeting with the Ministry of Health is also planned, he said.

Tuition for children attending Jewish day schools ranges from $6,000 to over $12,000. With more than 11,000 children in the day school system, the cost to the community is conservatively estimated at more than $70 million a year – $20 million more than the UJA raises in its annual fundraising campaign, Levin said.

The rally had a geographically diverse representation to go along with its religious diversity. Christian students were bused in from Oshawa, Ancaster, Trenton, Stoney Creek and Smithville, Van Beveren said. Students from some 20 Jewish day schools in Toronto were bused to the rally, including United Synagogue Day School, Bais Yaakov, Netivot Hatorah, Eitz Chaim, Toronto Heschel School, Or Haemet, She'arim, Yesodei Hatorah and Yeshiva Gedolah.

USDS students make their presence known at Queen's Park rally. [Paul Lungen photo]

About 30 to 40 high school students from CHAT attended, though the school did not bus students in, said CHAT headmaster Paul Shaviv.

The school's policy was to provide a mailing to parents informing them of the event and to permit students to attend the rally if they had their parent's permission, he said.

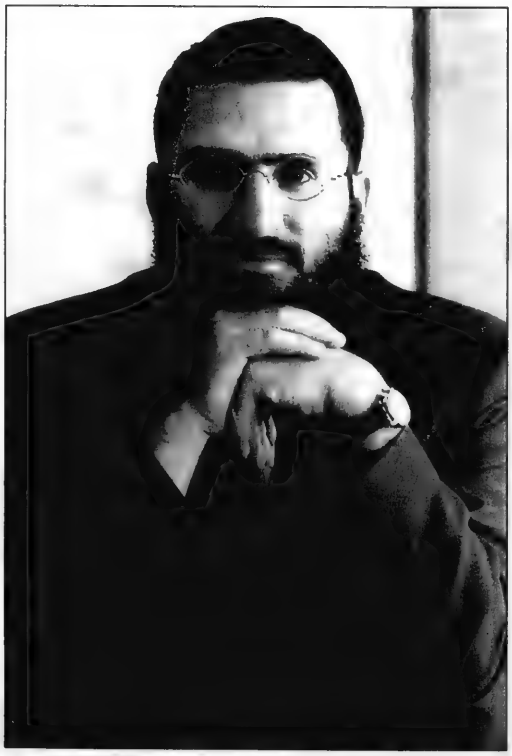
"Unfortunately, the school felt it was unable to bus children to the rally. We wish the rally every success and are fully in support of the aims of the organizers," Shaviv said.

"On future occasions, with adequate prior consultation, we will be happy to see if we can continue to support their [PEC's] activities," he added.

Uri Korin, principle at Bialik, said the school did not bus students to the rally, "but parents were encouraged to attend. We had a very good representation" at the rally, he said.

"We are very much in favor of government funding for Jewish schools... We felt that funding is an issue that has to be dealt with between the government, the Jewish education system and the parents. The parents are those who pay, and I did not see the merit of sending children to a political rally where they have no say in it.

"We felt that the merit of a lot of people there without children is 10 times greater," he added. "For kids to be involved in the dispute of adults is taking advantage of their innocence."



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Greater Toronto Area

UJA Federation urging groups to sponsor Albanian refugees

TORONTO — UJA Federation is urging Toronto Jewish organizations to sponsor ethnic Albanian refugees coming to Canada.

Congregations and community groups are being asked to contact Jewish Immigrant Aid Service (JIAS), a beneficiary agency of UJA Federation, for information and guidance on the process.

JIAS is part of a coalition of Canadian faith groups helping the federal government with refugee absorption.

The most pressing needs are for housing, medical care, schools and language, said Jack Kugelmass, director of Toronto JIAS. Kugelmass cautioned organizations to contact JIAS before committing to sponsorship.

"There are a lot of well-intentioned people who may get in over their heads," he said. "Although sponsorship is rewarding, the burden can be quite intense."

Sponsoring groups are expected to support a family for one year, providing housing, clothing, money and all personal needs until they are ready to work.

The JIAS effort is being assisted by former Bosnian refugees, whom JIAS resettled in Canada during the war in Bosnia.

STUDENTS LEARN BY DOING SCIENCE
Rachel Neuman, a student at Associated Hebrew Schools, did her Grade 8 Science Fair project on the Effects of Acid Rain on Vegetation. There were over 100 projects in all. [Frances Kraft photo]

City of Vaughan
The City Above Toronto

NOTICE OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE VACANCIES

Appointment to vacancies for the Arts and Culture Advisory Committee and the Youth Advisory Council

The City of Vaughan currently has vacancies for the following committees.

ARTS AND CULTURE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Arts and Culture Advisory Committee shall undertake short and long-term planning initiatives to promote, foster and make accesible arts and culture in the City of Vaughan. Applicants must be residents of the City of Vaughan.

YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Youth Advisory Council promotes the understanding of the workings of local government through education, involvement and participation, and functions as a forum to enhance the responsiveness of the City to those issues which are likely to have a direct impact on the youth of the community. Applicants must be teenage residents of the City of Vaughan.

If you wish to be considered for appointment to the Arts and Culture Advisory Committee or the Youth Advisory Council, please ocmplete an application form available from the City Clerk's Department at the Civic Centre, 2141 Major Mackenzie Drive, and City of Vaughan Libraries and Community Centres.

Applications will be received by the undersigned until ***4:30 P.M. ON FRIDAY, MAY 21, 1999***. For further information, please contact Ms. Rose Magnifico, at (905) 832-8585, extension 8030.

J.D. Leach, City Clerk, City of Vaughan Civic Centre, 2141 Major Mackenzie Dr., Vaughan, Ont. L6A 1T1.

Adath Israel Congregation

Rabbi Steven Saltzman, Senior Rabbi — Sheldon Parker, President

The 70-voice Congregational Choir
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Cantor A. Eliezer Kirshblum,

will officiate at the Musaf Service on
Shabbat Mevarchim, May 15th, 1999.

"Adath Israel Congregation - One Family"

שישאר בינינו

גידי קורן וחברים

הפיגור השכלי האמריקני:

סלחו לי על הכותרת הקצת אגרסיבית, אך מיד תבינו. האמריקנים, לדעת הכל, הם האומה המתקדמת בעולם בשטחי טכנולוגיה ומדע רבים, וללא ספק מנהיגת העולם החופשי. רק פורצת מהומה ביוגוסלביה והאלבנים שבמיעוט בסכנת הכחדה - אודרוב, האמריקנים שם. רק בדבר אחד האמריקנים מתפקדים ברמה של ילד עם פיגור עמוק: הם עדיין לא תפסו שהעלייה המתמדת במקרי הרצח בבתי הספר שלהם, ברחובות, בחדרי המגורים של המשפחה- הם תוצאה ישירה של האפשרות לקנות נשק חם. כל פעם שילד בן שבע עשרה רוצח כמה עשרות תלמידים ומורים, רואים פרצופים חמורי-סבר של מנהיגים, ושריפים ומי לא, שאומרים משהוא כזה: "הגיע הזמן להחזיר לאמריקה את ערכי המשפחה, את הדת, את המסורת". אבל כמעט אף מילה על האפשרות לקנות נשק כאילו זו חבילת מרגרינה. יש שם, כמובן, לובי חזק של יצרני נשק וציידים למיניהם שמדברים על "זכותם להגן על עצמם". אך נשיא שהצליח להתגבר על הלובי של יצרני הסיגריות יכול בקלות לאסור מכירת נשק. כמה פעמים בשנה מתחשק לכם להרוג מישהוא? מה היה קורה אם היה לכם אז נשק חם בידי? אבל שישאר בינינו.

עברית קשה שפה (חלק א'):

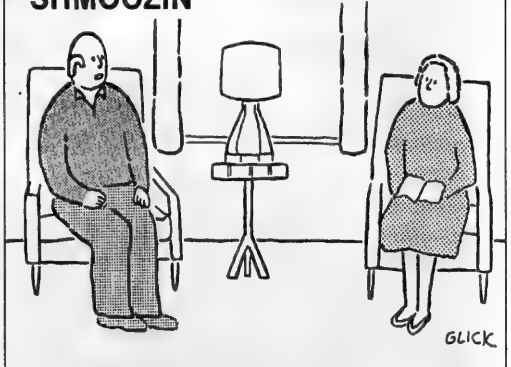
מהיום ועד שיגמר לי מזה, אני רוצה להקדיש פינה ובה הרהורים על מה שקורה לשפה העברית. מביקוריכם בארץ אתם בודאי יודעים שהעברית איננה איפה שהשאירנו אותה. קרו לה, באופן טבעי, דברים מעניינים, חלקם מצחיקים, חלקם מעציבים. הינה דוגמא מצחיקה ראשונה: כשהיינו ילדים והכנו שעורים, כשהשלמנו את שעורי הבית ורצינו לצאת לשחק היינו אמורים: "אמא, גמרתי שעורים".וכמה פעמים הייתה אמא אומרת:"תגמור את כל האוכל מהצלחת". נו, תנסו להגיד עכשיו בישראל "גמרתי", ומולכם תראו עוית של מבוכה ואולי של צחוק. " אתה מתכוון שסיימת או , חס ושלום, שגמרת" ישאלו אתכם. "מה ההבדל", תשאלו. Well- "לגמור", זה רק בהקשר מיני. יענו - להגיע לאורגזמה. כל השאר זה "לסיים". ומה עם הפסוק התלמודי "המתחיל במצווה אומרים לו גמור". ומה עם סיום הפרטים הקטנים של העבודה שקוראים לו "גימור". אין תשובה. אף אחד לא ידע להגיד לי מאיפה זה התחיל. רק חבר אחד סבר שזה בגלל "סטלה המינמרת" מהסרט "אסקימו לימון". כמובן, מספרם של אלה שראו את הסרט וזוכרים את סטלה גדול בהרבה ממספרם של אלה שיודעים להשתמש בעברית כראוי. אבל שישאר בינינו.

להיות בבית:

אחרי שנות שהייה רבות בקנדה יצא לי לראשונה להיות בישראל ביום הזיכרון ובחג העצמאות. אין מה להגיד - זה מקום אחר! אנשים מתנהגים זה לזה כבני אדם, מדברים על הצורך באחדות, בכבוד, בדרך ארץ, בנימוס - למען הנופלים.

הלכתי לבית ספרי הישן וביקרתי שם את חברי מבית הספר שנפלו. הם נראים ילדים, צעירים אפילו מילדי שלי. ואני רואה את כתב ידי בספר הזכרונות שלהם ואני בוכה. ובדרך - ניחוח החדרים שהוא אפילו יותר מיוחד מאשר בפוזמונים ובשיר השירים. וברדיו משמיעים רק שירים עבריים. ובחג העצמאות, בארבע בבוקר - פקקי תנועה בכל מקום, אבל אף אחד לא צופר. ממש ארץ ישראל אחרת.

SHMOOZIN



"The grandchildren are amazed. I told them that at my bar mitzvah, I didn't have a disc jockey."

Greater Toronto Area

Filmmaker describes experience in Albania

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

Filmmaker/photographer Dan Carmi captured scenes of anguish and misery among Kosovo refugees who have fled to Albania.

TORONTO — Around the time Yugoslavs in Belgrade were holding outdoor rock concerts to express their defiance of NATO, 50,000 Israelis were gathering in Tel Aviv for a rock concert of their own.

The Israelis had gathered to raise funds to help the thousands of ethnic Albanians who had been forced out of their homes in Kosovo and turned into refugees.

Altogether, Israelis – including those at the rock concert – have raised $1.3 million (US) to help finance nine planeloads of supplies sent to ameliorate the situation facing Kosovo refugees, said Dan Carmi, a documentary filmmaker who recently returned from Albania.

Carmi was in Toronto last week, where he met with religious leaders, former Yugoslav Jews and members of the Jewish community to describe his experience with Israeli relief workers during 10 days in Albania.

Sometime towards the end of Pesach (late April), Carmi accompanied the first planeload of Israeli supplies to Tirana, the Albanian capital. He had been hired by the Jewish Agency for Israel (JAFI) to document the relief effort the organization was undertaking for Kosovo refugees. Funds raised by Israelis and Jewish communities across the Diaspora – including Toronto – have been transferred to JAFI for the relief effort. About $50,000 raised by Toronto's UJA Federation has been sent, or will be sent to JAFI, according to UJA Federation spokesperson Elaine Fogel.

A veteran filmmaker who has shot documentaries in Chechnya, Romania, Ukraine and most recently, Samarkand, Carmi previewed his rough, uncut video from Albania as well as dozens of still photographs.

From the moment the Israeli plane touched down in Tirana airport, "it was a feeling of chaos," Carmi said. Aircraft from all over the world crowd the tarmac, and confusion was everywhere.

As each planeload of supplies arrived in Tirana from Israel, they were immediately loaded onto trucks for the journey to the camp. The Israelis wanted to avoid stockpiling the supplies in airport warehouses that were known as a prime target for Albanian mafia and other black marketeers. More than 120 tons of supplies have been airlifted from Israel to Albania, so far.

En route to the camp, Albanian truckdrivers who were hired to ferry the supplies, often "blackmailed" the Israelis for more money, which was forked over in American dollars, Carmi said.

The drive to the camp took about three hours – owing in large part to the poor quality of Albanian roads.

"The landscape is beautiful, but it doesn't take long until reality hits you," Carmi said.

At the camp, Carmi filmed a recent arrival, who told the Israelis in broken German how he witnessed "130 people, men women and children, being shot. Anything that moved, the [uniformed members of the Yugoslav army] shot," Carmi said.

Another scene shows a woman fleeing the camera after hearing for the first time that her grandfather had been killed.

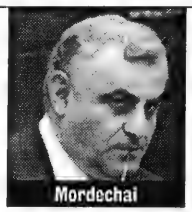
The camp – a former chicken farm in Fierre – was a scene of chaos and confusion. Refugees were forced to sleep inside a former coop, in appalling conditions. About 200 people were scattered across the coop's floor in haphazard fashion and the stench emanating from within was terrible, Carmi said.

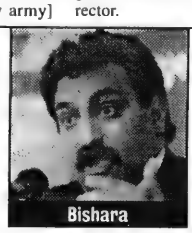
The camp had no running water and no sanitary facilities. Understandably, the refugees were glad to receive the Israeli supplies, the first to reach the camp.

They unloaded crates of bottled water, foam mattresses, blankets, baby food, diapers, powdered milk, soap, tents, clothing and even one ton of chocolate. The young people even made use of the empty supply boxes, Carmi said.

In addition to the Toronto UJA Federation's Kosovo relief fund, close to $35,000 has been raised in a similar fund by Canadian Jewish Congress.

Congress has not yet allocated the funds. "We are looking for a place where it will be most effective," said Jack Silverstone, the organization's national executive director.





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Lipa Green Building, 4600 Bathurst Street, Conference Centre

3-5 p.m. Open house with telephone conferencing from Israel.

7:30 p.m. Election review and analysis, with additional commentary from international experts.

MODERATOR: Mordechai Ben-Dat, Editor, The Canadian Jewish News.

PANELISTS: Professor Michael Brown, York University Centre for Jewish Studies; **Dr. David Goldberg,** Canada-Israel Committee; **Shira Herzog,** Kahanoff Foundation.

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Israeli, PA policies seen as hurting Palestinians

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

TORONTO —The Palestinians' nascent economy in the autonomous areas is being strangled by the double whammy of Palestinian and Israeli policies, says a Canadian analyst who has studied Middle East economies.

As a result, the Palestinian standard of living has decreased noticeably since the signing of the first Oslo agreement, the Declaration of Principles in September 1993.

"In the past two years, for example, the Palestinian real per capita gross domestic product has declined by an annual rate of almost four percent, and unemployment has approached 30 percent," said Randal Slavens.

"These developments have occurred despite the injection of international assistance into Palestinian development projects and government institutions," he added.

Slavens, a consultant with the Tel Aviv-based Info-Prod Research (Middle East) Ltd., blames the Palestinian Authority (PA) and the Israeli government for strangling the Palestinian economy and preventing it from achieving "reasonable levels of growth."

The PA, he said, is riddled with corruption and weighed down by an inflated bureaucracy and an insufficient infrastructure.

And, he charged, the PA does not encourage joint ventures with Israel.

But Slavens said that Israel's closure policy, as well as its control of Palestinian trade, is also damaging the PA's economy.

A 25-year-old Torontonian, he received a master's degree from Carleton University's Norman Patterson School of International Affairs last year. He wrote his thesis on regional economic cooperation in the Middle East.

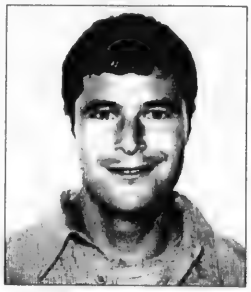
Since then, he has worked for Info-Prod, an Israeli company with an office in Jordan, which specializes in market research and matching up businesses with investment opportunities in the area.

Slavens said that the PA has not permitted even a single significant joint venture with an Israeli firm, despite the fact that Israeli businesses have shown enthusiasm for investing in the Palestinian self-rule areas.

The PA, he pointed out, permits joint ventures only with Israeli monopolies such as Nesher, the cement manufacturer.

"This policy causes potential foreign investors to question the PA's interest in positive economic relations with Israel, and in creating a vibrant private sector and a market economy. It also discourages local Palestinian business leaders."

By contrast, Jordan encourages Jordanian-Israeli joint ventures. "The Jordanian leadership, even during precarious political periods, has given its business leaders a clear signal to differentiate between the political and economic spheres."



Randal Slavens

Asked to explain the rationale behind the PA's policy, Slavens said that the PA fears Israeli economic domination.

As well, he noted, the PA wants to develop an economy independent of Israel.

For these reasons, the PA and some Palestinian think tanks oppose a customs union with Israel. But from a purely economic standpoint the Palestinians would benefit from the establishment of a free trade zone encompassing Israel and PA territory.

Turning to a related topic, Slavens said that even Palestinian investors have become disgruntled with the level of corruption within the PA.

And, he pointed out, a law passed by the PA to encourage investment, mixes politics with economics and thus has the opposite effect.

In addition, wages, rents and production costs are far higher in the PA than in Jordan. Both, he said, compete for foreign investment and trade.

Yet Israel is hardly blameless for the parlous state of economic development in the PA, he said.

In the aftermath of the 1995-96 series of suicide bombings in Israel, the Israeli government closed its borders with the PA in an effort to stop more Palestinian bombers from entering Israel.

Closures have cost the PA dearly. They have increased the unemployment rate in the West Bank to about 30 percent and in the Gaza Strip to some 50 percent. In the early 1990s, an average of 120,000 Palestinian laborers worked in Israel, compared to 50,000 to 60,000 today.

But certain developments, including an influx of foreign workers, large-scale Russian immigration and a recession in the construction sector, have also sharply reduced the demand for Palestinian workers.

According to Slavens, closures have deprived the Palestinian economy of $2.5 million to $7 million a day.

Slavens said that Israel has "used and abused" security considerations to hurt the Palestinian economy, particularly in delaying the shipment of highly perishable agricultural produce.

A lot of PA- manufactured products do not meet Israeli quality-control standards; Israel has used this as an excuse to keep Palestinian goods out of Israel, he said.

In his view, the Arab world will never replace Europe as one of Israel's chief export markets. At present, less than one percent of Israeli exports flow into Egypt and Jordan, the only two Arab countries officially at peace with Israel.

He estimates that Israel's clandestine trade with the Arab world ranges from $400 million to $1 billion per annum.

Slavens, a 1991 graduate of the Community Hebrew Academy, was drawn to the study of Middle East economies by two influences: a one year exchange program at the Hebrew University in 1994-95, and Shimon Peres' vision of a New Middle East consisting of a regional community of nations with a common market and elected centralized parliamentary bodies.

A former research assistant with the Canada-Israel Committee, he is the son of Eric and Marsha Slavens.

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Coast to Coast

Scene in Ottawa

By G.K. SIMCOE

As sure as the May tulips begin to blossom in Ottawa, springtime heralds the commencement of "shuffle fever." Speculation about changes in the composition of the federal Cabinet switch into overdrive, and one can find more betting pools on who is in and who is out than on the favorites to win the Stanley Cup.

This year, however, the rumor mill is super-heated with thoughts about the prime minister's personal plans. In truth, only two people can know for certain what lies ahead for Jean Chrétien's immediate future – Chrétien himself, of course, and his closest advisor, his wife Aline.

Whether he heads for the 19th green now or 12 months hence, there will be a leadership race in the coming year. Its timing will have an impact on the candidates aspiring to succeed him, and that in turn will have some important impacts on the Jewish community.

By everyone's admission, Paul Martin is the leading contender to become the next leader of the Liberal party and prime minister of Canada. But the longer Chrétien holds on, the greater will be the challenge for Martin to "win easy." And that's the conundrum for the Jews.

So long as Paul Martin is seen as a shoo-in, the pressure on certain Jews to place their money and support behind other candidates will be minimal. If, however, the playing field is levelled, ambitious pretenders to the throne will have certain expectations of support.

In previous leadership races, certain politicians felt more than a bit slighted when that support was not forthcoming. Despite objective assessments that their candidacies were doomed, they attributed lackluster performances or aborted leadership bids to the failure by key constituencies – including the Jewish community – to stand with them.

Politicians have awfully long memories and nothing colors their attitudes quite like the resentment of having been rebuffed. At best, it's a case of "dancing with the one who brung you." At worst, it's nothing short of implicit political extortion.

For key figures in the Jewish community, the choice will be between hedging their bets, spreading their support around, or letting it all ride on one candidate, praying he or she wins big enough to offset any perceived snub by the wannabe leaders.

Their decision may be even tougher than the one facing Jean Chrétien.

Bonds set to honor mother, daughter

By MYRON LOVE
Prairies Correspondent

WINNIPEG — State of Israel Bonds is bestowing awards on both a mother and a daughter on May 13.

Winnipeg philanthropist Marion Vickar is the recipient of the Deborah Award. The organization will also be recognizing her daughter, Elaine Scharfe of Saskatoon, with the "Golda Meir brooch" as a second generation M'dor L'dor.

Vickar and her husband, Ed, have been honored by Israel Bonds and other Jewish organizations previously for their generosity. A few years ago, they purchased $1 million worth of Israel Bonds, which they contributed toward the creation of the Marion and Ed Vickar Jewish Museum of Western Canada at the Asper Jewish Community Campus.

The Vickars have been longtime supporters of many organizations, among them Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, the Jewish National Fund, Israel Bonds and the local community.

Scharfe, who grew up in Melfort, Sask., says she learned everything about tzedakah from her parents. She and her husband Sherwood lived in Winnipeg during the early years of their marriage, moving to Saskatoon in 1969 where Sherwood opened his own General Motors dealership.

The Scharfes have four children and nine grandchildren. Their daughters live in Saskatoon and Toronto, their sons in Australia and Israel. "Raising my children is the most important thing I have done," says the Israel Bonds honoree.

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In some areas where there has recently been a significant change in population, it may be necessary to complete a limited door-to-door canvass to identify eligible voters. In these cases, revising agents from Elections Ontario, working in teams of two, will be calling on residences to confirm voter eligibility. If the revising agents come to your door, please make them welcome.

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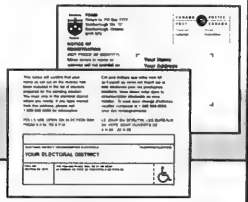
The names of *most* qualified voters in Ontario will already be included on the Voters List for this election as a result of information contained in the Permanent Register of Electors for Ontario. Those voters will receive a Notice of Registration card by mail. This card will confirm that they are on the Voters List, and it will provide their electoral district and the location of the poll where they will vote on election day.

IF YOU DO NOT RECEIVE A NOTICE OF REGISTRATION CARD

If you are qualified to vote and have NOT received your notification card within TWO WEEKS, contact your local returning office for information on how to protect your right to vote on election day. Returning office locations and telephone numbers may be obtained by calling Elections Ontario or by visiting our website.



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Prof. draws fire for views on anti-homophobia education

By MYRON LOVE
Prairies Correspondent

WINNIPEG — Dr. Hymie Rubenstein, a University of Manitoba anthropology professor, is being targeted by hate mail on the Internet because of a public stand he has taken against a proposal to introduce anti-homophobia education in Winnipeg schools.

This stance has also made Rubenstein the subject of a complaint to the university administration by the University of Manitoba Students Union (UMSU), which has charged Rubenstein with violating human rights standards on discrimination.

Rubenstein's problems stem from a Winnipeg School Division meeting on April 13, where he distributed 200 copies of a pamphlet he prepared contrasting what he described as "homosexual myths" and reality.

Claiming that there is no credible scientific evidence, he rejects the commonly held view that homosexuality is genetically acquired. He also says the percentage of committed homosexuals and bisexuals in society is overstated.

Following this meeting, the students union launched the human rights complaints charging that Rubenstein's pamphlet is "hate literature."

Speaking for the union, the communications director, Kelly Friesen, says the UMSU felt that Rubenstein's comments were "inappropriate. We represent all the students on campus, including gay students.

"In doing research on the Internet, I found that most American Psychiatric Association members believe that homosexuality is biologically-based.

"We are most concerned that Dr. Rubenstein is presenting his own subjective opinions as fact and that because he has a PhD and is a professor, people will take his views as facts."

Rubenstein's response has been to come out fighting. "At university, we are supposed to be teaching students to be open-minded and tolerant of different points of view," he says.

"Instead the students union is trying to stifle dissent. I have a growing contempt for political correctness. I despise the term inclusiveness. It has come to represent a misappropriation and gross distortion of such basic social science concepts as norms, values, ideals, cultural relativism and ethnocentrism."

The son of Russian Jewish immigrants, Rubenstein grew up in Toronto's Kensington Market area. Although proud of his Jewish heritage, he proclaims himself an atheist.

"I believe in ecumenicalism and tolerance and respect for everyone," he says.

Although he says he sympathizes with the religious perspective on homosexuality, he approaches the issue from an academic point of view. One of Rubenstein's specialities is the study of human sexuality in its different forms in different societies.

He jumped into the Winnipeg school debate because, he says, he recognizes that there is a "radical homosexual agenda" in North America aimed at making homosexuality acceptable as a normal form of sexual activity. That is a view that he strongly disagrees with.

The University's response to the students' complaint about Rubenstein has been that his views were expressed outside of his work and therefore are not within the university's jurisdiction. The professor has mixed feelings about his employer's response.

Although he appreciates the quick decision, he says he is disappointed that the president and board of the university didn't publically support his right to freely express his views.

"The university response implies that I am being let off on a technicality. "The president should have defended my academic freedom. Instead, I am left under a cloud of doubt."

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Associated Hebrew Schools of Toronto

McGill names new chair

MONTREAL — Robert Rabinovitch, executive vice-president and chief executive officer of Claridge Inc. and a leader in the Jewish community, will become chair of the board of governors of McGill University July 1, succeeding Richard Pound.

Rabinovitch, 56, has been with Claridge, the Bronfman family's management and holding company, since returning to Montreal from Ottawa where he had held a number of senior federal civil service positions.

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Israeli Interior Minister Avigdor Kahalani (left) met with U.S. Ambassador Edward Walker last weekend to discuss the dispute over Orient House. [Isranet photo]

Orient House dispute

Continued from page 1

Israeli police and other security services are worried that an attempt to shut down the offices against the will of the Palestinians may generate rioting and bloodshed.

Kahalani himself came under attack at the inner cabinet meeting. Some ministers accused Kahalani of adopting deliberate foot-dragging tactics over the issue in order to keep his name in the headlines and win support for his Third Way party, which is foundering in the election polls.

With Jerusalem Day on this week, and the Knesset elections next Monday, the Orient House issue has become a hot issue.

Earlier in the day on Sunday, the inner cabinet had decided to implement the closure order for the three offices – one of them run by Faisal Husseini, minister for Jerusalem affairs in the Palestinian Authority – that were issued about two weeks ago. The government claims that the offices are working for the PA and that this is illegal under the terms of the Oslo Accords.

As of late Sunday, Husseini was still talking optimistically about a possible compromise that would leave the three offices in the building open.

As understood by Orient House officials, some of the offices' activity would be moved elsewhere – presumably to the east Jerusalem suburb of Abu Dis – if they were found to conflict with the original mandate the Palestine Liberation Organization had been given to operate in the building. The Palestinians maintain that this mandate dates back to the period of the Madrid Conference in 1991.

However, the Israeli proposal stipulated that Husseini's office could remain in the building but not conduct political activity or receive ministerial or diplomatic missions. The other two offices (a centre for geographical studies and a foreign relations bureau) would be moved to Ramallah in the West Bank.

As soon as Husseini received this formulation, he urgently convened representatives of the different Palestinian groups in Jerusalem and some public figures, and they decided unanimously to reject the Israeli proposal.

"The message of the Israeli proposal is clear: They want the Orient House closed down. Our message is equally clear: We are ready for a confrontation," one of the participants in the meeting said.

Husseini, in the meantime, received British, French and Swedish consuls at the Orient House, and then left to meet with the American consul general in Jerusalem.

Leaflets target Moscow mayor

By LEV KRICHEVSKY
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

MOSCOW — Anti-Semitic leaflets aimed against the mayor of Moscow are being distributed in two Russian cities.

The leaflets reproduce a photo of Yuri Luzhkov wearing a yarmulke at a Jewish event last year. The text that goes along with the picture falsely claims that Luzhkov is Jewish.

Luzhkov is widely seen as a front-runner in Russia's presidential elections, which are slated for June 2000.

The leaflets have been distributed in at least two locations, according to media reports. Earlier this year, some Moscow residents found them stuffed in their mailboxes. This month, residents of Kirov, located 500 miles east of Moscow, found similar leaflets in their mail.

The leaflets use a photo of Luzhkov and Russian Jewish Congress President Vladimir Goussinsky – both sporting skullcaps – taken last September at the opening of the Holocaust Memorial Synagogue inside Moscow's World War II memorial park. The picture taken at the ceremony, also attended by Russian President Boris Yeltsin, was originally published in a Moscow daily.

Luzhkov, who is known to be a close friend of Goussinsky, has won a reputation among Russian Jews for his support of the Jewish community. The leaflets cite several quotes from Luzhkov speaking favorably about Jews.

The leaflets also assert that Moscow mayor's "original" last name is Katz, adding in large print, "And this man wants to become president of Russia!"

Over the past decade, various anti-Semitic and anti-Communist groups have tried to ascribe Jewish roots to several post-Soviet leaders and even to such Soviet figures as Leonid Brezhnev.

The leaflet generated front-page reports in the Moscow press.

Izvestia, a leading daily, described the use of ethnicity as an "alarming feature of the national election campaign."

There are no Jews among likely contenders for the Kremlin seat.

"In the absence of real Jews in the race, you can fight against fake Jewish candidates," says Moscow Chief Rabbi Pinchas Goldschmidt.

"The trend has become obvious in the [Russian] political landscape."

In a separate development, dozens of anti-Semitic stickers were posted last week in several Moscow subway stations.

Also, a few dozen men clad in military-style black uniforms and bearing anti-Semitic banners walked in downtown Moscow on Sunday as part of a counter-demonstration to a rally that marked the Soviet Union's defeat of Nazi Germany in World War II.

Canadian Life and Health Insurance Association Inc. / Association canadienne des compagnies d'assurances de personnes inc.

Information on possible unclaimed insurance proceeds of Holocaust victims, survivors and heirs

Toll free telephone service

In November of 1998, Canada's life and health insurers announced the creation of a dedicated, toll-free telephone information service, in both English and French, to assist anyone seeking information on possible unclaimed insurance proceeds owing to victims, and survivors of the Holocaust and their heirs.

This service is being offered through the Consumer Assistance Centre of the Canadian Life and Health Insurance Association, which for more than 25 years has responded to life and health insurance enquiries, including requests for policy searches.

Although Canadian life insurance companies did not operate in continental Europe between the years **1930** and **1945**, it is possible that Canadian insurers operating in other countries, such as the United Kingdom for example, could have sold policies insuring people who subsequently became victims of the Holocaust.

Since November of last year, the service has received 140 calls, the vast majority from people seeking information about possible lost insurance proceeds. None of the calls related to a Canadian life insurer, and they were therefore referred to the U.S.-based Holocaust Claims Processing Office (HCPO) which has been set up to assist the heirs of Holocaust victims and Holocaust survivors locate possible unclaimed insurance policies on a worldwide basis.

Since the Canadian service has been able to provide some assistance to callers by putting them in touch with the appropriate organizations, the life and health insurance industry wanted to ensure awareness of its existence through this second round of notices in the Jewish community press across Canada.

The service is staffed by knowledgeable industry retirees who will make every effort to be of assistance. They can be reached at the numbers shown below, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday. After these hours, it is possible to leave a message which will be answered promptly the next business day.

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Researchers to study unconventional Jewish identity

By JULIA GOLDMAN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

NEW YORK — Lighting Shabbat candles is a traditional symbol of Jewish identity. But watching a Jewish film festival?

Researchers working on the year 2000 National Jewish Population Survey are looking into unconventional Jewish activity – such as joining Jewish book clubs or attending museum exhibitions – alongside more standard measures of observance and affiliation to gauge what contributes to Americans' sense of Jewish identity.

The Canadian Jewish community will not be included in the survey. A separate census will be conducted for the community in Canada.

This new line of questioning is the result of findings from the last nationwide Jewish population survey in 1990, which showed American Jews moving away from Jewish ritual and membership in synagogues and Jewish organizations.

"There are many forms of being Jewish," Alice Goldstein, a member of the new survey's advisory committee, said in a telephone interview.

"We didn't have a handle on that" in the 1990 survey.

The 2000 survey is being designed to build on the demographic information collected a decade ago, and then to probe deeper into the ways Jewish identity is formed and maintained in American society.

The 1990 survey, sponsored by the Council of Jewish Federations (CJF), sent shockwaves through the Jewish community with its report of a 52 percent Jewish intermarriage rate. As a result of that finding, the organized Jewish community refocused its agenda on examining and promoting Jewish continuity.

Organized by the United Jewish Communities (UJC) – the new national entity formed by the merger of CJF, the United Jewish Appeal and the United Israel Appeal – next year's survey will canvas 5,000 households selected through hundreds of thousands of random phone calls.

With twice the budget and a survey sample twice the size of 1990's, the 2000 survey is planned to be "the most comprehensive, socially graphic portrait ever done of the American Jewish community," said Jim Schwartz, director of the UJC's research department.

The $4 million survey and subsequent studies are being funded largely by private donors, with local federations contributing about $1.7 million.

As with the results of the 1990 survey, Schwartz said, the 2000 findings will be used to help determine communal needs, fundraising strategies and funding allocations, and for followup research.

Next year's survey will be translated into Russian and Yiddish for better coverage of new immigrants and other communities that might otherwise be left out.

The increased number of respondents will allow for more in-depth analyses of responses, particularly in the areas of Jewish education and philanthropic trends, organizers say.

Thus, in a current draft, questions on religious upbringing can be compared to current denominational affiliation and synagogue membership to help draw a "wonderful portrait of denominational mobility," Schwartz said.

A detailed section on charitable giving is now augmented with numerous questions about volunteerism for Jewish and secular causes. It may also ask whether respondents prefer giving to umbrella organizations, such as the United Way or Jewish federations, or to individual charities.

Next to questions about religious observance and theological beliefs, are inquiries into Jewish cultural activities and spirituality: "Do you say any prayers in your own words?" "In the past year have you used the Internet or e-mail to learn about Jewish topics?"

Whereas the 1990 survey asked respondents' levels of Jewish education and that of their children, this time around they will be asked to evaluate the quality of those programs.

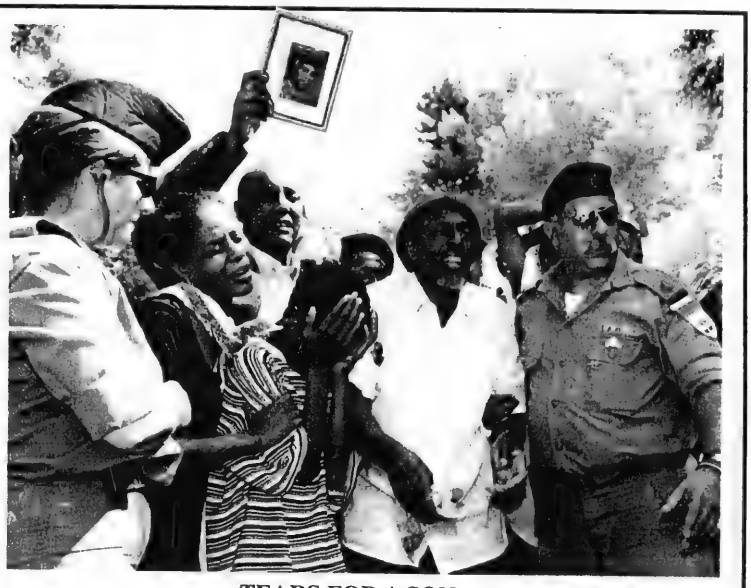
Respondents will also be asked about summer camp experiences and the frequency and quality of Israel trips, as well as the sponsoring organizations.

Sections dealing specifically with social activism and perceptions of anti-Semitism have been pared down.

Still, many questions will be repeated from 1990 so trends can be charted over the past decade.

The last survey found "a clear drop" in the levels of organizational membership, volunteerism, synagogue membership and ritual observance "across the board," said Alice Goldstein.

The 1990 findings reverberated throughout UJA and CJF – American Jewry's most broad-based fundraising and social service organizations – even before their merger into the UJC.



TEARS FOR A SON

The family of Staff Sgt. Molo Negato, 23, of Nes Ziona, killed last week in south Lebanon, mourn their loss at his funeral in the Nes Ziona military cemetery. The deceased was the oldest of eight children. His family immigrated to Israel from Ethiopia nine years ago. Nine soldiers have been killed in south Lebanon this year. [Israel Sun photo]

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Israel Election Notebook

May 17

JIAS CANADA

NOTICE
RE: 1999 Annual Meeting

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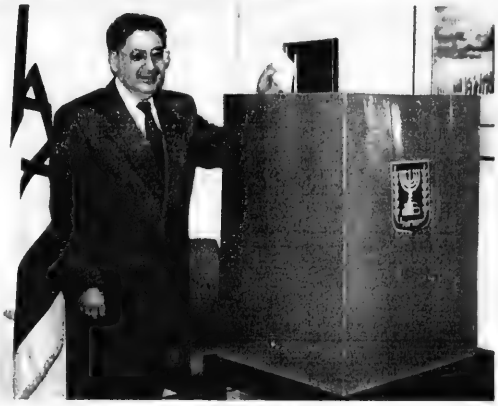

POLLING THE DIPLOMATS
Ambassador to Canada, David Sultan, joins his Israeli diplomatic and emissary colleagues around the world in voting last week for his candidates in the May 17 Israeli elections.

Holocaust imagery misplaced: Cotler

Continued from page 1

Many Serbs, and not a few Jews, invoke images of Serbian-Jewish resistance to the Nazis in World War II, a symbolism inviting, if not justifying, a Serbian-Jewish front against NATO today.

If this were not enough, parallel images are invoked of Albanian "complicity" with the SS in the Holocaust, seeking to "Nazify" the Albanian Kosovars.

Similarly, many Albanians, and not a few Jews, hold out Albanian Kosovars as today's "Jews", victims of the Serbian "Nazis." If this were not enough, many Albanians, and not a few Jews, recall Albania saving "her Jews" in World War II while also invoking Serbian complicity with the Nazis.

It does not end there.

If the Holocaust is a metaphor to understand or manipulate the understanding of what is happening in Kosovo today, many commentators and critics, including not a few Israelis and Jews, invoke Kosovo as metaphor for the Holocaust.

For them, the desperate Kosovo refugee of 1999 evokes the fleeing Jewish refugee of World War II; shocking television footage of crowded trains of Kosovars in 1999 evoke grainy film images of train deportations to Auschwitz during the Holocaust. The coercive detention of Albanian Kosovars in 1999 is the cruel "selection" of Jews in the death camps of 1943.

The problem with all this, is that while Kosovo is a humanitarian tragedy, replete with criminal violations of human rights, it is not a Holocaust.

Kosovar refugees suffer terribly as refugees, but in the Holocaust, a refugee was a "privileged" status, a step ahead of death. In Kosovo, expulsions are to Albania or Macedonia; in the Holocaust the deportations were to planet Auschwitz.

Indeed, to suggest that Kosovo is another Holocaust, runs the risk of trivializing the Holocaust, while minimizing the evil of Kosovo. For if Kosovo is a Holocaust, then the Holocaust was like Kosovo, which means that in the Holocaust there were no gas chambers, no death camps, no "final solution" to kill every Jew anywhere simply because they were Jews.

Similarly, to require of Kosovo to be a Holocaust in order to characterize it as radical evil, is to deny its essential evil even when it is not a Holocaust. For while Kosovo is not a Holocaust, what is happening there – forced detentions, disappearances, expulsions, rape, murder – is evil enough.

Indeed, invoking the Holocaust to justify humanitarian intervention in Kosovo today, results more from a failure of memory than from a parallel analogy.

Bosnia, and not the Holocaust, is metaphor and message for Kosovo.

It was the criminal indifference and silence by NATO in Bosnia from 1991 to 1995 – and in Kosovo for a decade now – that allowed Milosovic to develop, refine, and perfect the policy and practice of murderous ethnic cleansing.

And so it was then, as NATO and the world watched and did nothing, that Serb troops under Milosevic's command during six weeks in the spring of 1992, "cleansed" more than 70 percent of Bosnian territory, and that Serbian Gen. Ratko Mladic, a CNN interviewee, in less than a week in July 1995, expelled some 25,000 women, children, and old people from Serbia and murdered some 7,000 men of "fighting age."

Remembrance and the reality of the Holocaust need not be diminished or distorted to justify interventions in Kosovo today.

The remembrance and reality of Bosnia, and the failure to indict Milosovic as a war criminal, are lesson enough.

The Week in Israel

May 3

• Relatives of Israelis killed in suicide bombings complained publicly after the Likud used photos of suicide bus bombings in their television ads on behalf of Prime Minister Benjamin-Netanyahu.

May 4

• Diplomats serving abroad, cast their ballots for the upcoming election. The first polling station that opened was at the Israeli mission in Wellington, New Zealand. Some 3,650 permanent Israeli diplomatic staff and emissaries at 102 missions around the world are eligible to vote. *(Please see photo this page.)*

• Israeli soldiers clashed in Hebron with hundreds of Palestinian protesters who disagreed with the decision by PA chairman Yasser Arafat not to declare independent statehood today.

• Israeli jets and helicopters struck at Hezbollah targets in the Bekaa valley and in south Lebanon. The attacks were in retaliation for the roadside bombing death of Staff Sgt. Molo Negato, 23, on Monday.

May 5

• PA chairman Yasser Arafat has reportedly postponed, until July, a decision on whether to declare an independent state, *Ha'aretz* reported.

• A Knesset committee voted to defer, until after the elections, a decision on whether to suspend the parliamentary standing of Aryeh Deri.

May 6

• Officials within the Centre party and the right-wing National Unity party are calling on their candidates, Yitzhak Mordechai and Benny Begin, respectively, to drop out of the race for prime minister. Both men, however, said they would remain in the race.

May 7

• Israeli airplanes attacked suspected Hezbollah bases south of Tyre in retaliation for the Thursday shelling of IDF outposts in south Lebanon and of Israeli towns along the northern border.

Files from JTA and Ha'aretz.

Bridge victims vent pain

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Victims of the Maccabiah bridge collapse, and their families, vented their pain and anger during a unique satellite video conference recently that linked them with a Knesset subcommittee investigating the incident.

The words were harsh and the message blunt from Colin Elterman, whose daughter Sasha was among the dozens of Australian athletes injured when a footbridge across the polluted Yarkon River collapsed. Four members of the Australian delegation died in the incident.

Speaking in Sydney, Elterman said the pain and anger in the Australian community was due to the "stupidity and negligence that resulted in the disaster, but also because of the absolutely immoral and un-Jewish way in which the Maccabi World Union (MWU) leaders have acted in the 22 months since the disaster."

He argued the MWU must be completely overhauled, and he called for a comprehensive, independent investigation of the organization.

Elterman provided *The CJN* with a copy of his address to the committee as well as a news release outlining the views of the bridge disaster victims.

Lynn Zines, whose husband Warren died in the incident, was more circumspect in her choice of wording. Referring to the attitude of MWU officials in the wake of the disaster, she said, "Where we come from, we do not behave in this manner," the *Jerusalem Post* (*JP*) reported.

"I find it hard to adequately express the anger and distress that I deal with daily," she said. "I find it most distasteful that some 22 months after the tragedy, the president and chair of MWU are still holding their positions."

Peter Wertheim, vice-president of the Executive Council for Australian Jewry, said "all we got [from the MWU] was prevarication, an attempt to avoid responsibility, buck-passing, all depressingly familiar phenomenons of human nature, which we see whenever there has been a foul-up."

Others to address the Knesset subcommittee included Andrew Simons for the family of the late Yette Bennett, and Edgar Small, father of the late Greg Small. They called for the resignations of senior MWU officials Ronald Bakalarz and Uzi Netanel.

Amir Peled, a member of the executive of the Maccabiah movement, rejected suggestions the MWU was indifferent to the victims of the disaster. "Nothing has ever been taken so seriously, ever," the *JP* reported him saying. He said Bakalarz and Netanel would not step down, and he asserted they had the backing of international Maccabi organizations.

Roy Salomon, president of Maccabi Canada, has on numerous occasions come to the defence of the MWU organization, and rejected calls for its top officials to resign.

In other developments, Maccabi Australia (MA) recently adopted a resolution that called on Bakalarz and Netanel to "stand aside from their MWU positions until completion of the Knesset inquiry."

MA also resolved not to participate in any Maccabiah activity until minimum health and safety standards are met. Another resolution stated MA would not take part in Maccabiah activities until "there be an offer of compensation made to the victims by a court appointed mediator or judge...or there be an offer arising from negotiation."

The *Australian Jewish News* (*AJN*) recently reported that victims' families that wish to receive funds from the MWU can do so only by agreeing not to pursue other legal avenues against the organization. That condition was met with bitterness by victims' families and claims that such a condition would limit their rights, the *AJN* reported.

Following the bridge collapse MA president Tom Goldman secured an agreement with the Israeli government and MWU to loan the victims or their families $500,000, repayable upon compensation settlements. To date, only funds from the Israeli government have been distributed, though $125,000 of MWU loan funds sit untouched in an Australian bank account.

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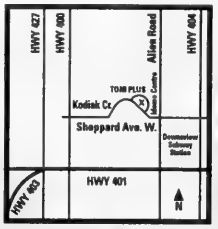

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TRAVEL TALK

BY BILL GLADSTONE

TORONTO AUTHOR WINS ORDER OF CANADA

Sheldon Godfrey, co-author with his wife **Judith Godfrey** of several books and scholarly articles on Canadian Jews, has been awarded the Order of Canada.

Godfrey, a lawyer, first received word that he had been chosen for the honor when he received a certificate last October. The official induction ceremony took place in Rideau Hall in Ottawa in April. Last week, the Godfreys celebrated the honor by holding an afternoon gathering in their home in midtown Toronto.

The Godfreys are authors of *Search Out the Land: The Jews and the Growth of Equality in British Colonial America, 1740-1867*. A previous book, *Burn This Gossip*, focused on the little-known personage of **George Benjamin**, the first Jewish MP in Canada.

Godfrey is active in matters concerning Canadian heritage, having restored several old and historically important buildings, including Canada's first post office and the oldest bank building in the country.

He and his wife are pillars of several historical and other societies, and have also become known for their various acts of philanthropy. In making the award, the government alluded to all of these accomplishments without singling out any of them in particular.

"It feels great," Godfrey said, on receiving the award. "It's a great honor, and it validates the various things I've been doing. People do things because they think they're important, not because they think they'll get recognized some day.

So it's great when your work does get recognized. Not only does it give you credibility, it gives you status – which is a tool to enable you to do more."

* * *

Cranbrooke Friendship Club: The public is invited to a screening of the video *The Time of Your Life*, focusing on the accomplishments of multimedia artist **Tutzi Haspel-Seguin**, to be followed by a brief talk by the artist. Monday May 17, 12:30 p.m.

The Cranbrooke Friendship Club is a seniors' organization affiliated with the Winchevsky Centre and the United Jewish People's Order, a progressive Jewish fraternal organization. $5 admission, includes lunch. Winchevsky Centre, 585 Cranbrooke Ave.

* * *

For Kids: For four days in June, kids and parents will be able to meet wizards, unicorns and winged dragons, paint a blossoming balloon tree, dance with a princess and watch the Fantasy Dreammaker spin dreams out of rice toffee.

There's much more at this year's International Children's Festival, at the Living Arts Centre in Mississauga, as well as at Mississauga's Civic Square and Central Library. A weekend day pass is $10, and the cost for the full weekend is $15. June 12 to 15. 306-6000.

* * *

Alexander Singers: Under the artistic direction of **Angela Hawaleshka**, six music students formed a summer choir a decade ago and, after delighting audiences, have continued to the present day. The Alexander Singers celebrate their 12th season with the production of **Franz Lehar's** *The Merry Widow*, at the Leah Posluns Theatre, May 14 to 23. 785-0333.

* * *

Guitar Demonstration: Renowned guitar maker and musician **Grit Laskin** presents a lecture with slides, and a concert, May 16, 7:30 p.m. (doors open 7 p.m.) This "Event by Sharyn" includes refreshments, discussion, and mix and mingle. $12 in advance, $15 at the door. 788 Marlee Ave. 785-7020.

* * *

Dance News: Maxine Heppner produces two new dance works at Dancemakers Studio, on June 2 to 5. Tickets $12-$15. 927 Dupont at Ossington. 967-0151.

* * *

Howl: **Allen Ginsberg's** celebrated beat poem *Howl* is the basis of a new theatrical presentation by the same name, presented May 26 to 30 at Buddies in Bad Times Theatre, 12 Alexander St.

Directed by **Mark Cassidy**, *Howl* features **Parveen Bakshi** as Jack Kerouac, **Hume Baugh** as Neal Cassady, **Patrick Conner** as William Burroughs, and **Alon Nashman** as Allen Ginsberg.

The Threshold Theatre production "explores the rhythms and images found within the text and weaves in aspects of Ginsberg's life and relationships." $15. 975-8555.

***

This Just In: If it's not too late, be sure to catch **Beyond the Pale** showcase their eclectic blend of "swingin' gypsy klezgrass," May 12 at Clinton's Tavern (Bloor St. W. at Christie.)

The band is currently performing there each Wednesday. This week the group will be joined by special guest **Jonno Lightstone** for a Spring Klezmer Dance Party, staged in association with the Jewish Campus Services of Greater Toronto. 482-2699.

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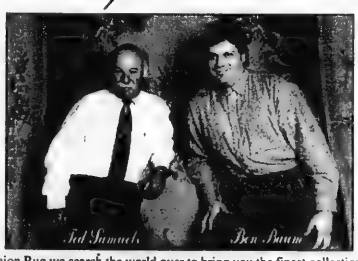

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Yiddish music energizes Patinkin

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — No matter how many times he sings his Yiddish repertoire, it's hard for Mandy Patinkin to imagine growing tired of the songs.

"Whenever I'm away from them for any length of time and I come back to the music, either the Yiddish or the English, I feel like I get a transfusion. [It's] like I was anemic," he said last week, speaking on a cellphone from Los Angeles.

Torontonians will be able to get their own boost next week when Patinkin – who is also known for his work on Broadway and in films like *Yentl* and *The Princess Bride* – performs at the Hummingbird Centre on May 17. He will perform his English-language "pops" concert at Montreal's Place des Arts.

The concerts differ sartorially as well as musically. For the Yiddish concert, instead of his usual black T-shirt, loose black pants and gym shoes, Patinkin wears a tuxedo (albeit with a black T-shirt) and "grown-up" shoes.

He wanted the music to have "a formality and a respect," he explained.

Shortly after his Yiddish-language CD, *Mamaloshen*, was released last year, he told *The CJN* the album was "the only real professional goal that ever really mattered…I felt it was my duty to do my share in passing on my heritage."

Patinkin, 46, takes his work seriously, but not stodgily – as if the latter adverb could ever be applied to someone whose performing style is frequently described as over the top. Fanciful versions of *The Hokey Pokey* or *Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious*, in translation, provide a bracing counterpoint to poignant Yiddish standards like *Belz* and *Papirosen*. On stage, Paul Simon's *American Tune* links the diverse elements of the concert.

Recently, Patinkin has done some soul-searching, prompted by television news of events in Kosovo and the high school shooting in Colorado. "How do you entertain when this kind of thing is going on?" he asked.

He began to address the issue at his concerts, and by asking for contributions at his nine most recent performances, has raised about $120,000 for Doctors Without Borders and Pax, an organization dedicated to stricter gun control laws. "That gave me a reason to sing," he said.

In his upcoming Toronto concert, a portion of the tickets are being sold through Canadian Friends of Tel Aviv University as a fundraiser.

Patinkin grew up in Chicago not knowing a word of Yiddish. But hearing popular American songs in his ancestors' tongue, as he puts it, has been a very moving experience. He finds the language "unbelievably rich and colorful."

His audience runs the gamut from Holocaust survivors to Japanese, African American, Hispanic and Irish Catholic. Because the songs reflect basic life experiences like death, love and survival, "this is everyone's story," he said.

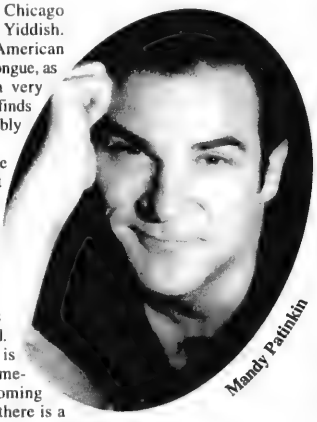
The basic concert is entirely in Yiddish (sometimes, as in the upcoming Toronto performance, there is a separate portion of English songs), but a brief sentence projected in English conveys the essence of each Yiddish song.

A related upcoming project is a *Mamaloshen* book. Before tackling that, however, Patinkin will record a new, English-language album called *Kidults*, songs for children and "for the child in the adult."

And – undoubtedly to the delight of his fans – he is returning to the weekly television series *Chicago Hope*.

In fact, when he spoke to *The CJN* last week, he had just finished the day-long taping of the season finale.

It felt great to be back on the set, he enthused. He is reprising the role of the temperamental cardiologist Jeffrey Geiger, for which he won an Emmy, but only after being assured he would still have time to do concerts and "plenty of time" to spend with his family.



Mandy Patinkin

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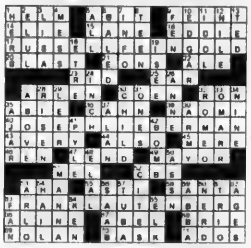

TRAVEL TALK

BY BILL GLADSTONE

SACRED SITES FOR FIRST NATION TRIBES

As in Jewish history, the burial sites of patriarchs and matriarchs in North American aboriginal culture are sacred spots.

North American history is a relatively recent phenomenon when compared to the 5759-year-old Jewish calendar, but artifacts and excavations have illuminated details of an aboriginal prehistory that extends back several millenia.

Situated on a grassy knoll overlooking the north shore of Rice Lake, near Peterborough, Ont., are a series of eight ovoid mounds, each housing about 20 graves. Nearby is a larger serpentine mound that winds through the neighboring woods for some 60 metres, housing more than 100 graves.

These burial sites, known collectively as the Serpent Mounds, were left by a nation that archeologists call the Point Peninsula or Anishnaabeg People. They date from about 100 CE, almost contemporaneous to the destruction of the Jerusalem Temple, on the other side of the world.

Over the last century, three teams of scientists have excavated sections of the burial sites. The first recorded excavation was in 1895, the last around 1955. The finds associated with these digs have revealed significant details about the Anishnaabeg.

Most of those buried were not lying prone; rather, they were in a flexed position. Artifacts indicate that these people were connected to an extensive, continental trading network. Apparently, they returned to the site annually from approximately 128 to 400 CE, after which the site was abandoned. However, despite our scientific probes, these people remain a mystery.

Similar ovoid mounds are found in the Ohio Valley, but the serpentine mound is considered unique. Today this hallowed and protected spot lies within Serpent Mounds Park, a campground operated by the Hiawatha First Nation. For more information, phone 705-295-6879.

* * *

Deep within a forest northeast of Peterborough is an extraordinary collection of picture-words, called petroglyphs. Prehistoric Algonkians carved this assortment of shapes and figures on a slab of limestone between 500 and 1,000 years ago. Depicting turtles, snakes, humans and other beings and objects, the petroglyphs number about 900 and comprise one of the largest concentrations of aboriginal rock art in North America.

In a classic 1962 study, anthropologists Selwyn Dewdney and Kenneth Kidd noted that Ontario pictograph drawings generally lack studious detail, so that animal forms are often indistinguishable from each other, and humans and animals often show great distortion, often moving from realism into a fantastic world of dream images.

These images feature dragon-like beasts with antlers, human forms with fishtails, and other nameless hybrids. "To all appearances," write Dewdney and Kidd, "the aboriginal artist was groping toward the expression of the magical aspect of his life, rather than taking pleasure in the world of form around him. Essentially, however, the origin and purpose of these deceptively simple paintings remain a mystery."

Charles Kingam, a member of the Peterborough Historical Society, found the petroglyphs in 1924, but the discovery went unpublicized until 1954, when members of a geological team encountered them after sitting down on a rock to eat their lunch. Today the petroglyphs are protected beneath a glass enclosure in Petroglyphs Provincial Park.

* * *

The canoe was a vital implement of Native culture and an essential survival tool for early explorers and travellers in the Canadian wilderness.

Kirk Wipper, a retired Toronto-area university professor, devoted several decades to amassing more than 1,000 canoes, kayaks and similar vessels. The collection, considered the largest in the world, is the focus of a new Peterborough facility, the Canadian Canoe Museum, that is set to open on Canada Dav.

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Festival featured eclectic fare

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

It's a wrap. The seventh annual Toronto Jewish Film Festival is over. From a viewer's point of view, it was a success because virtually all the movies were of high quality, and catered to eclectic tastes.

By way of illustrating this point, I will review six films which exhibited these qualities – two from Israel, one each from Sweden and Iceland, one from the United States and one from Russia.

Florentene, an Israeli TV drama set in a trendy, working class district in southern Tel Aviv in 1995, reminded me of the American sitcom *Friends*. Unfolding in six half-hour episodes, *Florentene* was generally hip and cool, focusing on twenty-something secular Israelis coping with their daily lives.

Rather than being a tiresome exercise in self-indullgent narcissism and frivolity, *Florentene* transcended itself by also examining serious socio-political issues – the integration of new Russian immigrants into Israeli society, homosexuality and Yitzhak Rabin's assassination.

Beyond all that, I liked its fresh, appealing and down-to-earth characters.

Shira, the bubbly host of a children's TV show, lives with Maor, a gardener whose clients include a wealthy, flirtatious older woman. Tomer, recently back from an extended trip to India, searches for meaning in life and love. Gali, a vivacious newspaper columnist, flits around like a butterfly. Tutti, virginal and vulnerable, finds a mature companion in Sasha, a soulful immigrant from Russia whose wife and daughter have yet to join him in Israel.

Directed by Eytan Fox, *Florentene* is quite explicit secually, far more so than the average Canadian or American television drama. This expresses itself in Tutti's brief relationship with Sasha, Tomer's dalliance with a painter, and Shira's impulsive encounter with a stranger.

Best of all, in the segments concerning Rabin's cold-blooded murder, *Florentene* has a knack for translating personal pain into national pain.

***

Kalinka Maya, a sweet confection from Israel, turns on two young Russian women, Irena and Natasha, and their Israeli suitors, Motti and Eran.

Eran, a macho man, invites his reticent friend, Motti, to join him on a night out in town. As the lustful bachelors cruise around Jerusalem, they stumble into Mea Shearim, the haredi enclave. It's a mistake, because the Sabbath has already started.

At last, they arrive at Irena's place. Eran and Irena are romantically involved, but Motti and Natasha do not know each other. As Eran and Irena make out in the kitchen, and then in the bedroom, Motti and Natasha struggle without much success to converse in English, their common language.

Natasha, who has no feelings for Israel, hardly appreciates Motti. And she is less than pleased when he makes a half-hearted pass at her. But soon enough, she loosens up, and he grows on her.

Kalinka Maya, written and directed by Eitan Londoner, is alternately droll and amusing. And as a portrait of cultural dysfunction in a country whose raison d'etre is immigrant absorption, it is quite effective.

***

Isaac Bashevis Singer "...About A Hidden God..." is an affectionate tribute to the late novelist and Nobel laureate.

Isy Morgensztern starts with a view of Singer in a plush chair, taking questions following a lecture. "Ask any question," he says teasingly. "I'll answer even if I don't know the answer." The audience bursts into laughter, thereby setting the mirthful tone of this enjoyable documentary.

It explores every facet of his personality: his childhood in Poland, his years in America, his philosophy, his beliefs and his relationships. It does so with the help of old file footage of pre-war Poland and of a youthful Singer. Better still, we're treated to narrated excerpts from his novels and short stories.

The man is revealed.

***

Stateless, Arrogant and Lunatic takes its title from a condescending comment made by a British diplomat about Gilel Storch, a Latvian Jew who tried to save Jews during the Holocaust. Lena Einhorn's film, excellent in every respect, is a profile of an unusual person and a black era. A highly creative mix of interviews, archival footage and re-enactments, it is vivid and riveting.

Storch arrived in Sweden in 1940 with a temporary business visa, leaving his family behind in Riga. Once he had brought them to Stockholm, he turned his attention to rescuing Latvian Jewry and, subsequently, European Jewry. In his attempt to achieve his objective, he initiated talks with none other than Heinrich Himmler, the diabolical SS leader.

Restless and driven, Storch is credited with saving 60,000 Jews, and with devising a plan for sending 70,000 food packages to concentration camp inmates. It's a fascinating, little-known tale of foreign intrigue, featuring an unlikely cast starring a Jewish Nazi spy, an ethnic German masseur, a World Jewish Congress official and a Swedish aristocrat.

***

Tears of Stone, the first feature film from Iceland with a Jewish theme that has come my way, tells the true story of Jon Leifs, the Icelandic composer who was forced to choose between his promising career in Nazi Germany and his German-Jewish wife.

Judging by Hilmar Oddsson's sombre film, whose theme resonates with intimations of conscience and morality, Leifs did everything in his power to save his marriage without jeopardizing his career. Yet, in his desperate quest to square a circle, he compromised the very marriage he yearned to preserve.

Amid mounting anti-Semitic indignities which affected him, his wife and two daughters, Leifs finally had to confront the ugly truth.

***

Chopin's Nocturne, a wordless mood piece by Ephraim Sevela set to crystalline classical music, takes place in Russia during the Holocaust. Two young lovers, one of whom is Jewish, enjoy a glorious summer holiday in a seaside resort. When German soldiers begin rounding up Jews, the lovers seem trapped by the swirl of events. The film is poetic yet puzzling.

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Health

Orthodox address problem of eating disorders

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The problem of eating disorders was addressed by the Orthodox community, for the first time in a formal way, at an all-day program held recently at the Lipa Green building.

The event, called Mirror, Mirror On the Wall; a Symposium on Body Image and Eating Disorders, the Orthodox Jewish Perspective, was sponsored by Emunah Women of Toronto, Jewish Family & Child Service, Netivot HaTorah, and Ulpanat Orot Girls' School, and was endorsed by the Vaad Harabonim of Toronto.

The focus was on anorexia, a severe restriction of food intake, and bulimia, relatively normal or binge eating followed by vomiting, purging by excessive laxative use, or the use of diuretics. There may be combinations of the two, as well.

In a moving introduction to the day, chair Shawna Magence, herself a recovered anorexic, urged participants to respect the "sensitive nature" of the topic.

Commenting on the presence of a number of young women who either have, or have had, eating disorders, she noted that "one [offhand] comment can trigger a negative reaction."

Keynote speaker Carla Rice was unable to attend, but her speech was delivered by Esther Libman, a Thornhill family physician. Rice described eating disorders as "compulsive, emotional eating." In the general population, one to two percent of women are anorexic, three to five percent have bulimia, and 50 percent of those have serious eating problems.

She said that 80 to 90 percent of adult women, and 85 percent of adolescent girls are dissatisfied with their bodies, even those who are within recommended weight ranges.

The message from the outside world, that one must be thin to be considered attractive, has more effect on people than their own families do on this subject, said Rice.

Child psychiatrist Leora Pinhas, director of the Eating Disorder Treatment Program at York County Hospital, and a lecturer with the Women's Mental Health Program, Department of Psychiatry, University of Toronto, said that in young women, the rate of eating disorders is "closer to 10 percent".

Anorexia and bulimia are potentially fatal diseases, Pinhas said, echoing Libman's sombre description of them as "the only psychiatric disorder with a mortality rate of 20 percent."

Complications may include fluid and electrolyte imbalances, heart failure, esophageal or stomach perforation, liver disease, and osteoporosis.

She urged parents and physicians to be aware of warning signals: lanugo hair (an excess of soft hair all over the body), as well as a loss of hair where it is supposed to be; cessation of menstruation; swelling of the parotid glands in the neck; and dental cavities, which can be caused by self-induced vomiting.

Some of these problems begin even before the person becomes seriously ill, Pinhas said, and "should be considered evidence of an eating disorder unless otherwise proved."

Anorexia and bulimia seem to "affect the brain at a biochemical level," she said, and recovery can take as long as seven years.

Sherri Wise, who teaches English at Beth Jacob High School, and is a frequent speaker on issues relating to women and Judaism, said that just as in the non-Orthodox world, girls from religious homes "from a sense of bousha (embarassment), may deny the severity of the problem and avoid getting help. If they do get help, the whole thing is shrouded in secrecy."

Particularly for those who rely on shidduchim for marriage, eating disorders are seen as an impediment to marriage, not just for the person who has one, but for their siblings as well, she said.

"Education is needed – to know is to forgive," Wise said.

Jews have "taken the messages of the outside world, and made them our own criteria [for beauty and worth], she said, rather than Jewish values such as kindness, modesty, and internal beauty .

"If we want to decrease our children's vulnerability, we must separate our child's sense of worth from his or her achievement. They have intrinsic value because of their neshamah," she said.

The key to having a healthy weight is moderation, the panelists and audience agreed. They also agreed on the necessity of education in proper eating and exercise, and in maintaining a generally healthy lifestyle.

Pinhas spoke strongly against the whole idea of "dieting," saying it doesn't work, and actually leads to higher weights.

Perhaps the most emotional part of the day came from testimony from young Orthodox women who have had eating disorders, who spoke about the lack of understanding of the problem, the lack of services, especially Jewish ones, and their personal emotional and physical pain.

Other participants condemned Orthodox young men (and their mothers) for demanding very thin girls as brides, some going so far as to demand thin mothers-in-law as well.

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REAL ESTATE LIMITED REALTOR

Listen to CHIN radio 1540 AM Sunday Mornings at 9:35 a.m. and 100.7 FM Thursday mornings at 10:45 a.m. for the Toronto Women's Hadassah-Wizo Report. Proudly sponsored by Harvey Kalles Real Estate Ltd.

4 BEDROOM SOUTH OF WILSON
$269,900 - Child safe street. Finished basement. Close to shops, worship, TTC & Hwy. #401. Paula G. Bernstein*

PERFECT FAMILY HOME
On best crescent in Rosedale North. 4 bdrms., 4 baths. Finished basement. Don't miss it! $334,900. Corinne Kalles*

4 BEDROOM SPLIT ON 64 FT. LOT $599K
North York, Exc. Street. Convenient to downtown, Allen & Synagogues. Build or renovate. Paula G. Bernstein*

A FABULOUS 4 BEDROOM SHOWPIECE!
In a demand Thornhill area! Main floor family room, large lot. Backs onto park. Won't last. Call Brenda Abramson*

EXECUTIVE HOME
Prestigious York Mills/Bayview. Great for entertaining. Indoor Pool/solarium. $999,000. Corinne Kalles*

FOREST HILL CLASSIC $1,239,000
Elegant tudor. Fabulous main floor family room. Private treed lot. Exquisite oak library. Sherry Mandell*

BEST STREET IN WILMINGTON
69 Blue Forest Dr. Over 6,500 sq. ft. of living space, 5 bdrms., 5 baths, family + library, renovated in 98. Chaim Talpalar*

Sales Representative ** Associate Broker

A percentage of all our sales will be donated to supporting the homeless through "PROJECT WARMTH"

(416) 441-2888 www.harveykalles.com

WARNING!

BEFORE YOU SELL YOUR HOME, this industry insider has important consumer information about a new program that can **save you thousands of dollars** when you sell your home. Avoiding the mistake other Home Sellers have made can save you frustration, inconvenience & money.

For a **FREE SPECIAL REPORT,** outlining the details of this new Program, just call our Free Recorded Message Line anytime, 24 hours, 7 days a week: 1-800-550-0059 and enter #ID 5618. Your Report will be sent by mail, free, no cost, no obligation. Get this Report before making any selling decisions.

Compliments of HomeLife/Partners Realty Inc.
Not intended to solicit properties presently listed with another broker

ROYAL LEPAGE

THORNHILL BEAUTY
Custom built 5 bedroom modern home, professionally finished basement with a 2nd kitchen and nanny's quarters, approx. 3,500 sq. ft. Won't Last! A Real Beauty!
MARINA YUSUFOV
(416) 221-5515

387 York Hill Blvd.
OPEN HOUSE
Sunday 2-4 p.m.
Fabulous, detached, 4 bedrooms, hardwood flrs., fin. basement w/side entrance. Terrific location. Call...
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HomeLife/Partners Realty
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80 ANTIBES DRIVE 3 bdrms., 2 baths, all appliances, high floor, $185,000, immediately!

BATHURST / WORTH. 2 storey 4 bdrm. home, fin. bsmt., shows like a model, $425,000.

Call **Sol Goldkind**
Sutton Group Admiral Realty
416-739-7200

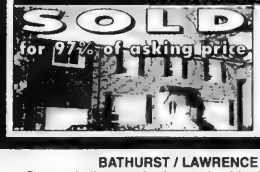
BATHURST / STEELES
Newly built luxury custom home on 63 x 298 ft. lot, 4 bdrms., app. 3,850 sq. ft., fin. bsmt. + in-law suite. Loads of extras — call for details!

Call **Jacob Florans**
Sutton Group Admiral Realty
416-739-7200

HOUSES FOR SALE

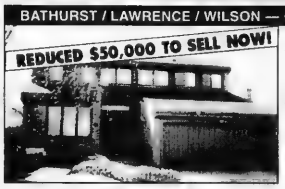
DAVID EICHORN REALTY LIMITED
787-1712

UPPER FOREST HILL



Executive 4 bdrm. + family room, breakfast room overlooks garden, 50 x 125 ft. lot, gleaming hardwood floors, fabulous location. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.
SOLD

BATHURST / LAWRENCE / WILSON — CUSTOM BUILT!



Modern design, open concept, quality craftsmanship, 4 + 2 bedrooms, large principal rooms, ideal for entertaining, cathedral ceilings. Only $549,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN — NEW LISTING!
Brand new custom-built 4 + 1 bdrm., family room, gorgeous dream kitchen, ceramics, hardwood floors, Jacuzzi, sep. entry to in-law suite, only $499,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

AVENUE ROAD / WILSON / 401 CONDO — MAKE AN OFFER!
2 bedrooms + solarium, 2 parking spaces, ensuite laundry, priced for immediate sale at $209,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / WILSON
Fabulous building lot! 40 x 130 ft., close to all amenities, only $299,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / YORK DOWNS

Spacious side-split on gorgeous 70 x 200 ft. lot (irreg.), backs onto Earl Bales Park, serene private setting. Asking $679,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / LAWRENCE — EXCLUSIVE
Custom-built executive home, 4 + 1 bedrooms, family room, finished basement, dream kitchen, fabulous location, only $649,000. Call Richard Cash (416) 787-1712.

• • •

AVENUE ROAD / BRIAR HILL
Executive 4 + 1 bedrooms, fam. rm., blend of contemporary & traditional, hardwood floors, marble fireplace, leaded windows, wainscotting ++, only $569,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

THORNHILL — BATHURST / CLARK
2 storey, 3 bedroom home on generous lot, family room, finished basement, only $269,900. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

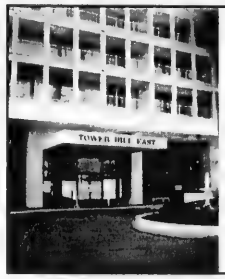
BATHURST / LAWRENCE — EXECUTIVE RENTAL
Spacious side-split, family room, sun room addition, private street, asking $3,400 / month. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

REAL ESTATE Section

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

CLANTON PARK DR. - $249,900
*Very rare Semi-Detached home *Totally updated *Three large bedrooms *Modern eat-in kitchen with walk-out to deck *Gleaming hardwood floors *Nanny suite with separate entrance *Detached garage *Huge 35'x179' lot *Absolutely IMMACULATE *WALK TO SHUL, SCHOOLS, SHOPPING, etc...call
JOEL LAZARUS
COLDWELL BANKER TERREQUITY REALTY
(416) 496-9220 (24 hrs.)
Trustworthy Professional Service

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT



FOREST HILL
EXCLUSIVE
RESIDENCE
TOWER HILL EAST
330 SPADINA ROAD
Luxury, spacious suites, magnificent view, bachelor, 1,2 and 3 bedrooms (some of the 3 bedrooms are 2-storey), valet parking.
416-929-0579
or
416-966-9054

SEIDMAN
REAL ESTATE LIMITED REALTOR
633-7373

BATHURST YORK DOWNS
1st time offered, 4 plex, 4 - 2 bedrooms + aptartment, fully rented, 4 garages + parking, great location, don't miss!

• • •

FINCH BATHURST
Spacious 3 bedroom, den, family room, 3 baths, modern kitchen, lge. lot, double garage.

• • •

AVENUE ROAD WILSON
Store + 2 apts., completely renovated, fully rented, good income, A-1 location.

• • •

OVERBROOK WILMINGTON
3 bdrm., 4 baths, white modern kitchen, liv. & din. combo, fam. room, fin. basement, dble. gar.

• • •

BUILDING LOT 67' X 133'
Willowdale. Build or renovate existing home, great location.

• • •

A. & D. SEIDMAN 633-7373

30 CONDOMINIUMS FOR SALE

AVANT-GARDE

It's about a Lifestyle!

AVENUE ROAD / BLOOR

$2,500,000 Unlike any, this Wonderful Luxury **Penthouse** offers:
• 3 bedrooms + ensuite baths • Approx. 3,800 sq. ft.
• Fireplace, 10' ceilings • Fabulous 2,000 sq. ft. terrace
AND MUCH MORE!

$299,900 Luxury spacious 1 bdrm., 1 1/2 baths, high ceilings

$699,900 ST. CLAIR / YONGE. 1 BALMORAL. Luxury 2 bdrms. + den. Never occupied. Redesign your own space.

JAMNA DAYARAM BROKER **416.975.3811**
AVANT GARDE REAL ESTATE LIMITED

125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE

Century Village, Boca Raton, Deluxe, 2 bdrm., 2 bth., CAC, newly reno'd., 2 shuls on site. $59,900 US. 410-578-1601.

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

Aventura Bch. Resort, 1 bdrm. studio w/kit., ocean front, sec. & fac., high flr. Wkly & mo. avail. 305-262-3955 or 305-975-7442

Boca Raton, bchfront, 1brm., 2 bth, excl. area, 24 hour sec., close to all amen., $2000/mo US. 736-6052 or 905-731-4620.

Hemispheres - 2 bdrm., 2 bth., oceanfront, high flr., furn., tennis, etc. Yearly rental only. Call 416-963-8469.

238 PROGRESSIVE POSITIONS

Principal req'd for small, liberal, Sunday morning congregational school for upcoming academic year. Experience & references required. Please contact Sharna Cohen at 416-783-3680

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Day Camp counsellors & head staff, age 15-up.785-4600, eves

GP - Psychotherapists
Positions available at a busy clinic at Bloor & Dundas in Toronto, part time, day or evg, no on call hours. Semi-retired welcome. Excellent financial and service arrangements. Comfortable offices, active referrals, we provide all patients. Please call for further info at (416)516-6969

Part-time teaching positions available in Jewish supplementary schools. Knowledge of the Hebrew language would be an asset. Call The Board of Jewish Education, 633-7770, ext. 258.

Secretary: Assistant to the Educational director of a school in the Bloor JCC; P/T or F/T, flex hours but including most Sundays + some Wednesday evenings. Excellent typist, MAC computer skills + organizational & people skills. Experience working with children an asset. FAX resume & references to Doris: 416-924-0442.

Warm, loving, ECE teachers for Sept. '99. P/T. Call Goldie at 905-886-0420 or fax resume to 905-886-0421.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

NEED A NANNY?
• No Fee to Employer
APPLE
DOMESTICS
(416) 730-0127

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PLACEMENT SERVICES
Looking for a reliable nanny-housekeeper? Live in & live out nannies available. Reasonable rates. Specializing in Toronto.
416-567-3933
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There's *no place* like HOME!
*Exper. Senior Caregivers, HCA's, PSW's & nurses. Live-in & Live-out
*Reference & Police Checks
*We only hire **THE BEST!**
*In-hospital hourly care
THE BEST PERSONAL SERVICE
Honey Hecker
665-4229 or 665-1435

Babysitter/housekeeper avail. immed.Excel refs.905-294-8778

Caribbean lady, reliable, resp., good worker, avail to babysit or for domestic help. 235-2511.

Cleaning lady w/10 years exp. avail for days work. 264-0912.

Energetic & organized live in or out req'd immediately for extensive cleaning, laundry, ironing, cooking, school age children. Refs. req'd. 416-785-8614.

Exp. companion/home maker seeking jobs in homes for elderly. Refs. 416-265-3809.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

Sponsor Qualified Filipino Nannies, Nurses, Caregivers
Amazing Selection
Screened + references
ShineX Caregivers Inc.
416-218-9537
No fee for Employers • We supply temps & do your paper work

Frustrated by trying to find a suitable nanny? Let us help you. We have dependable, caring nannies who are thoroughly qualified, personally interviewed & pre-screened. All refs. are checked. Some are CPR trained. Low finders fee.
Wee Care Placement Agency
416-789-3070

Harvscott Domestic Services
"Five stars above the rest"
Housekeepers, elderly care, nannies, cleaning ladies, party helpers. 905-771-6543.

High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

Nannies, live-in &out, full &part-time, cleaning. In-home elderly care by RN's & nurses aides. Bonded, refs. **416-224-9907.**
Servicing Toronto since 1985.
NUMBER 1 DOMESTICS.

Solid, exp. Polish cleaning person for houses. 416-699-3265.

257 HEALTHCARE AVAILABLE

A lady w/3 yrs. exp. of HCA in hospitals & homecare seeks F/T or P/T job. 416-782-5415.

Exp. nurse avail to care for elderly or kids. 416-742-0501.

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

INTERNET DATING SITE.
416-545-3283.
jewish.qualitysoulmates.com

Jewish Singles Registry. Over 1730 registered. **416-483-4151.**

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Handsome SJM, 50 years young, prof., greened eyed, 5'6" healthy body & mind, enjoys convertible cars, boating, cottage life & Latin dancing. Looking for an attractive,slim, bubbly SJF 30-47. Sol, 905-889-6135.

I am looking for an outgoing, educated, assertive lady for my kind, handsome, prof. non-assertive son in early his 30's. Apply to Mom, CJN Box # 7180.

This pretty, petite female sees you at the symphony, theatre, dining, reading, walking. You are 65-70, affectionate, intelligent, caring. You and I must finally meet. We hum the same tunes. CJN Box # 7179.

Very attractive, slim, classy petite, brunette who enjoys life to the fullest is looking for a special man, 55-65 good health, n/smkr., slim, financially secure for a serious relationship. Reply with picture to 5334 Yonge St. # 603, North York, M2N 6V1.

Replying to a Companion ad with a CJN Box Number?

Address your mail to:

The Canadian Jewish News
1500 Don Mills Rd.
Suite 205
North York, Ontario
M3B 3K4
Box # _____

10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

Atkinson/Centre - Lge. 2 stry., 4 bdrm., main flr. fam. plus study, fin. bsmnt., huge deck, many extras, move in. Asking $495K.No agents 905-764-8243

Bath./Lawrence - 3 bdrm. bungalow, 2 bth., lge lot. 782-9782.

Forest Hill - Open House
52 Fairleigh Cres. Sat. & Sun., 2-4pm. $365K. Det. 3 bdrm., fin. bsmnt. Or by appt. 787-9479.

No agents please! Bathurst & Lawrence area, brick, 2 stry., 3,000 s.f., 4 bdrm., 2 car gar., fin. bsmt., CAC, huge kit., main flr fam. rm. $469,900. 783-8335

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

3000 Bathurst-2 bdr, 2 bth, upgrades, pkg., excellent cond., 3 appl. $219,500. Call 364-1063.

Bath./Steeles - 11 Townsgate, 2 bdrm, 2 bth, sol., balc. $240K. Private. Miriam, 905-882-9251 or Sam at 905-886-5522.

BATHURST/TORRESDALE
Reduced to $223,000. Gorgeous 2 bedroom condo, huge solarium, 1,500 sq. ft., 2 baths. Quiet secure building, close to all amenities.
SALLY ROSEN, Sales Rep.
(905) 884-4425
CENTURY 21 SMITH LTD. BROKER

10 TORRESDALE AVE.
2 Bdrm., 2 Bath,
Balcony, Low Floor
$199,000
Call... **ED GELERNTER**
RE/MAX GOLDENWAY RLTY.
(416) 299-4488

40 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE/ RENT

Bathurst - Primrose 3.
Lux. 2 bdrm. + sol., lge. windows in kit., 2 bth., parquet & ceramic flrs., huge patio w/priv. entry to apt., 5 appl., tennis, pool, gym, sec., etc., etc. $259K OBO or may possibly rent $1795. Please leave message at 739-0105 (Brokers protected)

60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

Seeking female, non/smkr. to share 2 bdrm., 2 bth. apt. at Yonge/Eglinton for July 1, $560 per mo. Call 416-544-1552.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

BATHURST-SHEPPARD
Very lg. 1, 2, 3 Bedrooms., ample closets, some 1½ baths & 2 balc., roof, laundry, ravine setting, pool, ind. pkg., 6 apts. per flr. From $900.
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377 or 631-0388 - Super

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

BATHURST WILSON

CONVENIENT NORTH YORK LOCATION

NEWLY DECORATED SPACIOUS 1, 2 & 3 BDRMS.
- Large balconies
- Central air conditioning and heating
- Hardwood Floors
- Sunken living rooms
- Surveillance cameras and card access system
- Outdoor swimming pool
- Close to conveniences and TTC
- Underground parking available

125 Neptune Dr.
(416) 787-7171

Bath./York Downs, lge bsmnt. apt., private entrance, or bsmnt fumished avail. Please fax 416-638-1504 or call 416-782-4872.

Bath/Lawrence-new bsmt., lau, A/C, TTC, n/smkr, n/pets. Avail immed. $750/mo. 416-781-5372

81 APARTMENT TO SUBLET

Bath./Eglinton - 1 bdr to sublet in 2 bdr apt. Avail June 1 - Oct 31. Bright, complete kit. & bath (w/jacuzzi), wood flrs., shared lau., a/c. $500/mo + util. Call Heather at 416-781-5906.

105 COTTAGE FOR SALE

Belle Ewart - Lakefront, shared lot, 3 bdrm., equipped, no agents. 905-881-3317.

Muskoka/Bracebridge,modern 3 bdrm, lkfrnt, encl. porch, sale, sandy bch., Jewish community, low carrying cost, 905-731-4466

110 COTTAGE FOR RENT

Belle Ewart - Lakefront, 3 bdr., near shul. Avail Aug. 597-1222.

Muskoka/Gravenhurst - lkfrnt., 4 bdrm. cottage. 416-630-2975.

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

ANBER MOVERS
(LOCAL MOVING)
SPECIALIST IN:
TORONTO ↔ VANCOUVER
NEW YORK ↔ FLORIDA
(514) 735-8148
1-800-561-MOVE

192 FURNISHED VACATION PROPERTIES

20 Min. N.W. of Collingwood. 3 bdrm., lge yard, w/in 5 min. walking dist. to beach, harbour, pool, public boat launch, fishing! June-Sept. Mos./bi-wkly. Days: 416-742-9956, eves:

210 LAND/LOTS FOR SALE/LEASE

Lot for sale. Thornhill. Franklin Avenue. 71x128 ft. irregular. $375,000. 416-223-8111.

SANTEE REALTY INC. (416) 441-2003

SKYMARK
DON MILLS & FINCH (TORONTO)
SKYMARK II: Estate Sale - Renovated, open concept, 2 bdrm. + sun den, approx. 1,700 s. f., S. exp., overlooks skyline.
ELEGANCE: S. expos., 1,775 s.f., 2 bdrm. + fam.
ZENITH: rental, 2 bdrm. + fam. + sol. For our updated inventory, contact Santee Leung, F.R.I., Skymark Specialist.
THE MULTI-LINGUAL CONNECTION

280 ANNOUNCEMENTS

New Bridge Group for hearing impaired players. Call 932-3303 or fax 932-8894.

300 ARTICLES FOR SALE

Stand up 15 cu.ft freezer, bdrm set & fridge. Cheap! 781-1611.

305 ARTICLES WANTED

Cash for jewellery, diamonds, coins & stamps. 416-605-1640.

Clothing wanted for consignment business. High end, gently worn. Higher return for your items. Will pickup 905-945-5539

330 OBITUARIES

BENJAMIN'S LANDMARK MONUMENTS

ALL MONUMENTS ARE NOT CREATED EQUAL

BENJAMIN'S LANDMARK MONUMENTS

3429 Bathurst (corner of Melrose)

(416) 780-0635

330 OBITUARIES

IZENBERG GOLDBERG Monuments

Serving the Jewish community for over 80 years

- Finest quality memorials crafted in our own factory - under our supervision
- Very reasonable prices

LIFETIME GUARANTEE ON ALL MONUMENTS

EXPERIENCE QUALITY - SERVICE

3173 BATHURST ST.

(just north of Lawrence)

(416) 787-0319

331 MEMORIAM

We note with sadness, the passing of

Dr. Andrew L. Karp ז"ל

May 1, 1999 - Iyar, 5759

Donations may be made to Brain Tumor Foundation of Canada – 1-800-265-5106

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late

MINNIE GOLINSKY ז"ל

will take place

Sunday, May 16th, 11:30 a.m.

Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park

Kielcer Section

Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late

LILLIAN KRAISMAN ז"ל

will take place

Sunday, May 16th, 10:30 a.m.

Dawes Road Cemetery

Farband Section

Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late

EMIL KOHL ז"ל

will take place

Sunday, May 16th, 1:30 a.m.

Pardes Shalom Cemetary

Labour Zionist Section (Worker's Circle)

Relatives and friends are invited to attend

336 SHIVA CATERING

KING SOLOMON'S CATERING COR **630-0666** **SHIVA** CATERING

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late

LOUIS GOLDENBERG ז"ל

loving husband, father and grandfather

will take place

Sunday, May 16th, at 11:00 a.m.

Pardes Shalom Cemetery

(Dufferin St., north of Major Mackenzie)

Community Section CCC

Relatives and friends are invited to attend

336 SHIVA CATERING

SAME DAY SERVICE

*Tasteful Presentation
*Hot/Cold Platters
and Full Course Meals

• DELIVERY AVAILABLE

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3457 BATHURST ST.

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milk 'n honey

THE DAIRY RESTAURANT

The Canadian Jewish news

CLASSIFIED/SERVICE DIRECTORY

PLEASE NOTE:

EARLY DEADLINES FOR THE FOLLOWING ISSUE:

MAY 27th

Deadline

Monday, May 17, 1:00 p.m.

The office of The Canadian Jewish News will be closed on the following days:

Friday, May 21st & Monday, May 24th

To **Listen** & **Respond** To Ads call **1-900-451-4552 *Ext.#* 65**

The cost of the 900# is only $2.49 per minute

To Place Your **FREE** Ad **call 905-276-6167 *Ext.#* 65**

The Meeting Place

Brought to you by the Canadian Jewish News

Women seeking Men

To respond to an ad, call 1-900-451-4552 Ext. 65

LIFE IS BEST SHARED

Single Jewish female, 45, with a positive attitude and a great sense of humour, who knows how to enjoy life. Seeking a fun, honest, intelligent, and affectionate male for a committed relationship AD#2116

ENJOY HAVING FUN

Attractive Jewish female, brown eyes & hair, 5'4", good sense of humour, bright, good personality. Seeking a male with same qualities AD#1516

COUNTRY DRIVES

Single female, 40's, beautiful, blond, employed, great sense of humour, family oriented, enjoy dancing, movies, get aways in the country. Seeking a male, great sense of humour, wonderful. AD#2030

BOARD WALKS

Single female, 36, 5'5", blue eyes, brunette hair, non smoker or drinker, outgoing, enjoy movies, dining in and out, walks along the board walks. Seeking a Jewish male, 30-45, down to earth, trustworthy, honest. AD#2031

DEVOTED

Divorced female, 26, bright, professional, funny, a hockey fan, love dancing and dining, established. Seeking a devoted male, 45-56, how is a hockey fan, stable, knows what he likes, great sense of humour. AD#2033

KNIGHT IN SHINING ARMOR

Single female, 36, 5'4", attractive, slim, brunette, enjoy cottage life, weekend get aways, true romance. Seeking a male, 36-46, non smoker, good set of values, honest, romantic, down to earth, attractive - inside and outside. AD#1188

GOOD FRIEND

Single female, mid 50's, classy, attractive, artistic background, educated, caring, honest, truthful, enjoy arts, travelling, old movies, animals, romance. Seeking a male with a good sense of humour, 55-68, non smoker. AD#2034

NATURE LOVER

Single Jewish female, Orthodox, early 30's, fit, attractive, petite, easy going, good sense of humour, enjoy long walks, hiking, travelling, movies, good conversation. Seeking a male, active, Traditional Orthodox, with similar interests. AD#2025

LONG TERM RELATIONSHIP

Single Jewish female, professional, non-smoker, attractive, warm, kind, fun loving, many interests. Seeking a male, 55+, stable, down to earth, good sense of humour, with serious intentions. AD#2026

SERIOUS RELATIONSHIP

Widowed female, late 50's, attractive, petite, good sense of humour, enjoy travelling, dining & dancing, bowling. Seeking a male with similar interests. AD#2028

BRIGHT AND WITTY MIND

Single Jewish female, professional, 40, non-smoker, fun loving, down to earth, attractive, compassionate, enjoy outdoor activities, movies, dancing, theater. Seeking a kind and gentle spirited male, who is true, honest, bright, romantic at heart. AD#2020

TRUE ROMANTIC

Divorced female, early 50's, blond hair, blue eyes, non-smoker & drinker, enjoy travelling, long walks, quiet times, romantic, compassionate, kind, good values. Seeking a male, down to earth, kind, compassionate, single, 47-60, for serious relationship leading to marriage. AD#2024

TRYING NEW THINGS

Jewish female, 20, collage student, enjoys movies, dining out, willing to try new things. Seeking a Jewish male, 21-26, with similar interests. AD#2022

LIFE IS WHAT YOU MAKE IT

Divorced mom of 2, early 30's, fit, playful, witty, goal oriented, opinionated, caring, sensitive, with a sense of humour, enjoy theater, music, ballet, hiking, tennis. Seeking a Jewish male, 30-45, fit, educated, self assured, financially secure, spontaneous, passionate, adventurous. AD#2018

A MAN FOR ALL TIMES

Single female, late 40's, professional, fit, blond hair, blue eyes, Ribinesk. Seeking a male, educated, a mench, good character, good personality. AD#2016

TRADITIONAL VALUES

Single Jewish female, professional, petite, 5'2", blue eyes, blond hair, attractive, attentive, affectionate, enjoy reading, movies, relaxing at home, evenings in or out. Seeking a male, caring, considerate, kind, honest, with traditional values. AD#2015

DANCE DOUBLES AND LIFE PARTNER

Single female, Jewish, 36, 5', dark hair, dynamic, employed, fit, enjoy sports, travelling, financially stable. Seeking a male, Jewish, single dads, Latin or European, mature, intelligent. AD#2019

INNER & OUTER BEAUTY

Single female, slim, fit, 37, attractive, bright, sincere, outgoing. Seeking a male, 35-42, with similar interests, for a fun loving times, possibly more. AD#2009

To renew your ad call 416-236-6644

Questions?? 416-236-6644

Men seeking Women

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AFFECTIONATE

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Sports

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The Canadian Jewish news

Israel posts best results yet at IIHF tournament

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Break out the champagne and sunflower seeds. Israel has finally done it.

After years as a tournament also-ran, Israel's senior hockey team has won a medal. The boys in blue are basking in the glow of a silver medal, knowing it coulda', it shoulda' been gold.

They came within a hair's breadth of winning it all at a recent International Ice Hockey Federation (IIHF) Pool D tournament in Krugersdorp, South Africa. The Israelis finished the tournament medal round tied in top spot with Spain, but a tie-breaking formula awarded the gold to Spain because they had scored more goals than Israel.

Adding to the Israelis' frustration was a referee's failure in the crucial matchup with Spain to count a goal that was in and out of the Spaniards' net in the blink of an eye. Neither the ref nor the goal judge saw it go in, even though TV cameras clearly showed the puck hit the back of the net, said Larry Bloch, a member of Team Israel. That key game ended in a 3-3 tie.

"It was a disappointment, yet we were really happy," said Bloch, one of seven Canadian "ringers" who bolstered the Israeli lineup. "We know what could have been, but not everything makes sense in this world."

Bloch, 38, was joined by six other Israeli passport holders: Ron Berman, Ron Soreanu, Brian Friedman, Eli Oosterhuis, all from Toronto, and Shlomo Levi and Sharon Peretz from Montreal.

Israel's silver-medal-winning hockey team

Berman, 18, wasn't quite as philosophical as Bloch regarding the loss. "We should've gotten the gold," he said. "It was stolen away from us."

Berman, a defenceman who plays Junior A hockey for the North York Rangers, is especially upset by the referee's missed call. It was his slapshot that bounced out of the Spaniards' net before the officials could see it.

Bloch, whose resume includes Junior A experience with Toronto Red Wings about 20 years ago, said the Canadian contingent added crucial depth and skill to the Israeli lineup.

"This was the best team I've played for. We were outstanding," Bloch said.

Israeli skater Sergei Zak,who played in the Russian league for part of this past winter, was named tournament MVP, while goaltender Evgeni Gusin was strong, allowing only five goals in four games – three at even strength.

Bloch said Israel played mostly a trap throughout the tournament. In its first game, Israel flummoxed Iceland, running up a 5-0 first period lead before going on cruise control and winning 11-0.

Game two was a dicier affair, as Israel faced off against its rival, Belgium. Prior to the opening faceoff, the Belgians tried to put the Israelis off their game by filing a protest over team colors. They claimed Israel's goalie was wearing the wrong color pants and that three skaters were wearing black helmets, not blue.

The IIHF rejected those "lame protests," so the Belgians turned to a physical game to try to keep the pressure on Israel, Bloch said. The move backfired, as Israeli popped three goals past the Belgian netminder in the first four minutes and went on to win, 6-2.

"They haven't beaten us in a few years and they were doing everything they could to throw us off," he said.

Israel played a disciplined game, clogging up centre ice, he added.

The two wins vaulted Israel into the medal round, where they faced Australia in Game 1 of a three-game round robin. Spain was the other medal round team.

"We played an outstanding game," Bloch said. "It was a huge victory for us. We haven't beaten them in years. Every year they come out and intimidate us.

"We checked well and they didn't have that much pressure on us. We played a pretty defensive game, but we got chances…That was probably the best game we've played."

Berman said Australia tried to play a hitting game, while Israel relied on better team speed and good teamwork.

Israel shut out the Aussies, 2-0.

Their second playoff game was against Spain. The two teams were tied 2-2 midway through the third period when Berman unleashed a cannonading slapshot that hit the back of the net and bounced out quickly.

The play continued, and when Israel finally got a chance to talk to the referee, he ignored a request that he consult with the linesmen. Despite being deprived of the goal, Israel kept its composure and went up 3-2 late in the game. But with a minute and a half left and the Spaniards pressing, a wicked slapshot from the top of the circle got past Gusin. The game ended in a tie. In its last game, Spain defeated Australia 5-3.

Since both Spain and Israel were plus-two in the medal round, officials used the second tie-breaker: goals scored during the medal round. Since Spain scored more playoff round goals, they got the gold.

"If we had scored an empty net goal against Australia, we would've won the goal differential," Bloch said.

A win would have vaulted Israel into C Pool play next year. As it is, Israel will return to D Pool though Bloch and Berman are confident Israel is not that far away from moving up.

Berman, who has played for the senior team twice, as well as for the junior under 18 and under 20 squads, sees consistent improvement in the Israeli teams. A lot of the team's best players are young guys, and Israel now has good depth, he said.

He'll be ready to answer the call next year again. "It's really good hockey. It's fun and it's a great experience, playing for your country," he said.

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The Inside Back

Israeli politics inherently unstable

By JONATHAN SHIFF

Even before the government of Benjamin Netanyahu was brought down, calls were made to change the electoral system, and a rare alliance of Labor and Likud members of Knesset was pushing legislation to reverse the changes enacted at the beginning of this decade, which seem to have made a bad situation worse.

In fact, the public memory is short, and we tend to forget the fact that the changes came about because the old system seemed paralyzed, with governments vulnerable to Knesset members who would sell their votes for positions of power and influence.

The original system of government in Israel was very democratic: Any party which ran would gain Knesset representation in proportion to the percentage of votes it received. Thus, for example, a party receiving 10 percent of the vote should elect 12 out of 120 members. As in other parts of the world, this system of proportional representation led to a fracturing of the vote and the proliferation of small parties which, in other systems, would not gain a seat.

On election day, Israelis now cast two ballots: one for a Knesset party and one for prime minister. If no candidate for the top job gets 50 percent of the vote, a runoff is held between the top two contenders. It is now clear who the prime minister is, regardless of the coalition manoeuvring.

Other stabilizing factors were added: Parties now need at least 1.5 percent of the popular vote to gain seats in the Knesset, and the legislature can only vote non-confidence if more than 60 MKs support the motion. As happened this year, such a non-confidence vote also brings about general Knesset elections; so MKs will presumably be hesitant to endanger their own seats by bringing down the government. Elections may be held for prime minister alone only if 80 members of the Knesset or more support the motion. One MK quipped that it is easier to go from 60 to 80 supporters of non-confidence than from 60 to 61.

At the same time, Israelis can now split their ballot, and small parties have actually gained from the change because a citizen can choose a sectoral party and still support the candidate of choice. Furthermore, prime ministerial candidates, in practical terms, run independently of their parties, further weakening the large parties which had created some stability in the old system.

Netanyahu was the first prime minister directly elected, and the pundits spent the first year or two of his term complaining that he had too much power, as he seemed not to need his party. Now it seems he is too weak, as he was forced to swerve left and right to keep his government together, and then MKs proved themselves willing to bring down his government anyway.

In fact, I agree that the system needs change, and that a proper set of checks and balances are required. Having said that, it may be that a fractious society divided on basic issues and split almost evenly on the main one (as Israel has been for 20 years) will almost always produce an inherent instability. It seems unlikely that the problems were created by the system or that systemic reform will solve them.

Before tinkering more, Israelis need to ask themselves how much of the problem is due to the law and how much derives from other sources. Under the old system, the National Unity governments brought Israel mostly out of Lebanon and completely restructured the economy, while the late prime minister Yitzhak Rabin made vast changes (many of which half the country opposed) resting on a shaky coalition.

The new system, which was designed to allow the leader to lead, has not succeeded. Unless representatives in all parties who behave irresponsibly are punished by the electorate, they will survive and prosper under any system.

There are many examples of countries which seemed to be floundering until a more stable system of government was set up. It is clear that Israel's constitution will not be complete without a better resolution of this issue. At the same time, blaming the electoral system for the problems in Israel is inaccurate and will likely lead to further disappointment if another reform doesn't do the job. More importantly it will enable Israelis and their leaders to avoid their responsibility to seek solutions to the real problems we face.

Jonathan Shiff practises law in Israel. He can be reached by e-mail at tzaly_r@goldnet.net.il.

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1 11 oz. loaf angel food cake, cut into 1/2" slices
1/2 cup brewed espresso or strong coffee
2 tblsps. dark rum
1 oz. semisweet chocolate, grated

Combine Marsala, 1/4 cup + 1 tblsp. sugar and eggs in top of double boiler. Whisk mixture over gently simmering water until thickened and foamy and mixture registers 160°F on candy thermometer, about 2 minutes. Remove from over water; whisk in light sour cream. Cool to room temperature. Beat cream cheese until light and fluffy. Beat in 1/3 of egg mixture. Fold in remaining egg mixture in 2 additions. Line bottom and sides of 9x5" loaf pan with plastic wrap. Line bottom of prepared pan with angel food cake slices, trimming cake to fit bottom evenly. Combine coffee, rum, remaining sugar in small bowl. Brush cake in pan generously with coffee mixture. Pour filling over cake in pan. Brush enough remaining cake slices to cover filling lightly with coffee mixture. Place slices atop filling, coffee side down, trimming cake to fit pan evenly. Sprinkle top with grated chocolate. Cover and refrigerate 8 hrs. or overnight. Serves 6.

About Life

Dear Ella,

My boyfriend Michael and I have been seeing each other for close to a year. We have many friends.

I used to look forward to my weekends, as we always had a party to attend and usually had a great time, but it seems lately that every weekend we end up having a major fight and it's always about the same thing.

He wants to leave early and I want to stay late. I have suggested that we take separate cars so that he can leave whenever he feels the urge, but he will have no part of that. He says we are a couple and should arrive and leave together. Personally I don't think he trusts me enough to let me stay at the parties on my own. He says I should be happy that he cares enough about me not to want to leave me alone.

Do you think he is being unreasonable or am I?

Couple Crisis

Dear Couple Crisis

Whether it is right or wrong for Michael to feel uncomfortable, leaving you alone at the party is really not the issue. The fact is that he doesn't like it, and you need to find out why, if you are going to solve this problem.

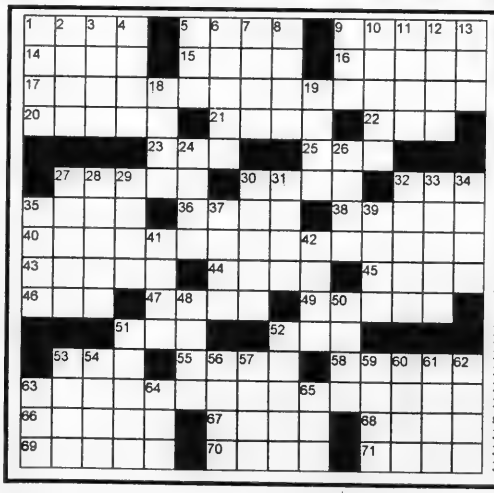
If the issue is one of trust, then leaving a party together or separately is only a symptom of something much greater. There could be many other reasons Michael is uncomfortable leaving you alone at a party. Could it possibly be that he feels there is a safety issue and would prefer seeing you to your door? Or maybe he feels like spending some of the evening alone with you? These are questions only the two of you can work out together.

Communication is the most important thing. There is no point in guessing. Talk. Listen. Be receptive to and respectful of each other's feelings.

Maybe you could compromise by not going to a party every weekend. Don't put yourselves in a situation you know will end up in an argument.

With enough will and love, you'll get through this and come out a stronger and happier couple.

Readers may submit their questions to Ella at The CJN. *But Ella is not a professional counsellor. She brings to the questions posed by readers her unique brand of earthy wisdom. Her advice is not a replacement for medical, legal or any other advice. For serious problems, consult a professional.*



The Canadian Jewish news

Minyan on the Hill

By Matt Gaffney and David Bianco (QSyndicate@aol.com)

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12 Cleopatra's river
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62 Lets sit
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64 Author Kesey
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(This week's answers are on page 38.)

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This Week

National

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UN declaration on school funding expected in July. *Page 5*

Five people to be honored by Ve'ahavta *Page 23*

Arts

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Documentary guilty of exacerbating racial tensions. *Opinion* *Page 40*

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Can Israel unite around Ehud Barak?

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu casts his ballot in Jerusalem. *[Israel Sun photo]*

By YOSSI VERTER
Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

JERUSALEM — One Israel coalition leader Ehud Barak announced that the Centre party would be "an important part" of any government coalition he forms.

Speaking at a press conference after both Yitzhak Mordechai and Benny Begin pulled out of the race for prime minister, Barak declared that he had not cut any deal with Mordechai.

Barak said that he "respected and welcomed" the decision of the Centre party leader, and insisted – as Mordechai had – that the decision "was his [Mordechai's] and his alone."

Barak noted that he has known Mordechai as a soldier and commander for 30 years. "I've also seen him as a politician. Today he again demonstrated the essence of responsibility, political wisdom and how one should act for the good of the state."

Barak pledged to work to repair the damage caused by "the prime minister's divisive and inflammatory campaign" and reiterated his hopes of forming a broad coalition.

He said the government he hopes to form would be open to any party that expresses its support for One Israel's program.

He called One Israel a new party "that breaks down barriers" and is "changing the political scene in the state of Israel."

In related developments, the National Religious Party (NRP) did not rule out negotiating with Barak and joining a coalition headed by him, NRP leader Yitzhak Levy said. "We are not ruling out a coalition with anybody, certainly not with Ehud Barak."

Ehud Barak, leader of the One Israel coalition votes Monday morning in his town of Kochav Yair. *[Israel Sun photo]*

Centre Party leader Yitzhak Mordechai is comforted by a supporter after he announced his withdrawal from the race for prime minister.

Mordechai's exit preceded a similar announcement by Benny Begin, leader *[Isranet photo]*

ISRAELI ELECTION RESULTS

When this issue of *The CJN* went to press, Israelis were still voting. Full election result coverage will appear next week.

—The Editor

Netanyahu campaign unravels — please see page 35

The News in Brief

ISRAEL

More Kosovars Admitted

JERUSALEM — Israel's cabinet decided last Wednesday to admit 100 refugees from Kosovo for a period of six months, in addition to the 100 Kosovars received last month. The United States asked Israel, among other countries, to give temporary shelter to more refugees because of the worsening situation in the Balkans. The Foreign Ministry, in coordination with the Jewish Agency for Israel, will be responsible for bringing the refugees to Israel.

Underwater Parks Planned

JERUSALEM — Israel is building underwater archaeological parks for scuba-diving tourists off the Mediterranean coast. The parks, one of which is being built off the southern coastal city of Ashkelon, will feature ancient shipwrecks and submerged neolithic villages. Waterproof plastic pages will describe the exhibits.

Offensive Ad Pulled

JERUSALEM — The Likud party has pulled a radio ad that compared the Oslo accords to the 1938 Munich pact aimed at appeasing Adolf Hitler. "It was a mistake," a Likud spokesperson said.

WORLD

Extremists Were Involved

BUENOS AIRES — Members of Hezbollah and Islamic Jihad were responsible for the 1992 bombing of the Israeli Embassy in Buenos Aires, Argentina's Supreme Court said Monday. The statement came days after a tape-recorded conversation was discovered in which police officers are heard ordering a patrol car away from the embassy minutes before the explosion, which killed 29 people. Israeli officials, who have long maintained that both groups were involved, said the court's statement was overdue.

Law To Protect Camps

WARSAW — Polish President Aleksander Kwasniewski has signed a bill into law that would set up protective zones around former Nazi death camps in Poland. The government now plans to remove hundreds of crosses that have been erected near the site of Auschwitz, according to a presidential spokesperson.

Slave Labor Talks

WASHINGTON — German Chancellery Minister Bodo Hombach arrived in Washington last week for two days of talks on the creation of a fund aimed at resolving class-action lawsuits filed by former Nazi-era slave laborers. At least a dozen German firms have already agreed to participate in the fund, which the German government is trying to organize.

Shoah Tax Exemption?

WASHINGTON — U.S. House and Senate lawmakers called for quick passage of legislation that would exempt restitution paid to Holocaust survivors from federal income taxes. The bill would apply to all settlements reached with survivors, including payments already made.

Trial Could Lag

VIENNA — The trial of a prominent Austrian psychiatrist suspected of murdering children in a Nazi clinic during World War II could take months to begin after the doctor's lawyer filed a motion objecting to the charges this month. Heinrich Gross, 84, was charged in April with acting as an accessory to the murder of nine physically and mentally handicapped children while he was head of the clinic in 1944.

Tribe Has Distinctive DNA

NEW YORK — A tribe in southern Africa may be of Jewish ancestry, according to research that was reported in the *New York Times*. Genetic tests reveal that males in the Lemba tribe carry a DNA sequence which is distinctive to the Jewish priestly class of kohanim.

The Lemba reportedly practise circumcision, keep one day a week holy and do not eat pork. A scholar says he has discovered that the Lemba, who currently live in South Africa and Zimbabwe, emigrated there from a Yemeni village that was once the site of a Jewish community.

Satmar Chassidim Dealt Legal Blow

NEW YORK — New York state's highest court has dealt another in a string of defeats to efforts to set up a special school district for a chassidic community 80 kilometres north of New York City.

The New York Court of Appeals ruled last week that a 1997 state law that created a special district for Kiryas Joel – a village whose residents are all Satmar Chassidim – violates the constitutionally mandated separation of church and state.

The 4-3 ruling marks the third time courts have struck down state legislators' attempts to carve out an autonomous school district for Kiryas Joel.

The dispute began in 1985, when a U.S. Supreme Court ruling barred public school teachers from offering remedial education services in parochial schools.

In 1989, New York state created a special school district for the Satmars. The state School Boards Association, however, opposed the district. The U.S. Supreme Court ultimately agreed, issuing a 1994 ruling that ordered the dismantling of the district.

In striking down the latest law, the Court of Appeals ruled that the creation of a special district "has the primary effect of advancing one religion over others and constitutes an impermissible religious accommodation."

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Survivors gather at conference

Rift with war claims agency revealed

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO —A rift between Shoah survivors and official agencies which distribute money to them, was revealed at the first international conference for aging survivors, held recently at the Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care.

"There is a sense in the community that the conference is an arm of the German government," said Greg Schneider, director of institutional allocations and special projects, for the Conference on Jewish Material War Claims Against Germany (CJMWCG).

The Conference has just appointed Gideon Taylor as the new executive vice-president and has plans to improve communications with survivors, Schneider said.

His comment came after survivors in the audience of 250 complained about the absence of compensation for hidden children, delays in property settlements in East Germany, and the requirement that survivors travel to Hungary to pick up a paltry sum of $150 as compensation.

Under liberalized criteria for Article 2 or the "hardship fund" set up by the German government, the conference has received 100,000 applications, but only 50,000 qualify, Schneider said.

"I regret that we have had to reject 50,000, and I speak to you as I would to my own family."

Complaints regarding the forthcoming $500 settlement from the Swiss humanitarian fund to Canadian survivors were led by Dr.

Continued on page 22

REMEMBERING VICTORY

Russian-Jewish war veterans gathered recently at the Yad Vashem Holocaust Monument in Earl Bales Park to commemorate the 54th anniversary of Victory in Europe Day. [Ron Csillag photo]

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Tragedy Has Struck

An extraordinary woman in our community—a 50 year old, single mother of 10 children, has tragically passed away after a serious illness.

Her modest salary as a secretary for one of our local Jewish Day Schools, allowed her to barely cover the basic family expenses, let alone the cost of expensive medical treatment and nursing care.

The children have been left with about $200k in debts and no further means of financial support. Funds are required for basic necessities such as food, clothing, housing and Jewish education.

The family desperately wants to stay together, with the older children taking on the responsibility of raising and ultimately marrying off the younger ones and themselves.

We appeal to you to support our community's efforts to establish a trust fund for these children. All cheques over $10 will receive charitable tax receipts. In the spirit of Jewish compassion and generosity at this holiday time, please open your hearts and donate generously. Thank you.

Rabbi Menachem Adler
Zale Newman
Campaign Chairmen

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From the editor's desk

Damaged by 'nasty'

As these words are being written, the election campaign in Israel is winding down.

There are merely a handful of hours left before voters, in the secrecy of the makeshift, cardboard polling booths, actually cast their ballots for the candidates of their choice.

Two weeks ago in this space, I commented upon the nature of the "political fare offered for viewing on Israeli television," ruefully pointing out that much of it seemed "calculated to divide Israelis into increasingly smaller and more fractious factions."

Last week, in Ontario, the three contending parties in the June 3 provincial election launched their own political fare on television.

The largest Toronto newspaper described the ad campaign as "mean and nasty."

Professional advertisers and political strategists rather proudly describe them as "attack ads."

Like their Israeli counterparts, the Ontario television ads are aggressive, insulting and exceedingly disparaging.

Undoubtedly, these hard-hitting ads appeal to diehard, party loyalists atavistically, even tribally, in much the same way that schoolyard scrums do, exacting bruises, scrapes, cuts and gashes as the price of playing the game.

For those many of us, however, who left our schoolyard games when we left childhood and adolescence, the attack ads are simply offensive and irritating.

Worse than that, and even though many of us simply "click" off the commercials when they appear on the screen or on the radio, they are also potentially quite damaging.

The ads merely fertilize the dark, dismissive cynicism now deeply rooting inside the hearts of most ordinary folk towards politicians, politics and government.

Such cynicism, unabated, and reinforced with every mud-slinging commercial, impoverishes us all.

It robs us and our society of the notion that public service is a noble service, that government is altruism's vocation, not self-interest's instrument.

A young generation, increasingly exposed to their parents' cynicism and to the televised churlishness from which, in part, it derives, absorbs those negative attitudes like a dried sponge absorbs droplets of water. They mimic their parents' derision, and adopt their parents' disrespect.

Thus, saturated with a distrusting attitude towards politicians and politics, our children are "turned off;" they "turn away" from the possibility of building a better, more ideal world through public service.

How can we, as parents and as a society, not lament the in-creeping of this kind of socially and individually debilitating cynicism among our children?

One of the important ways to combat the cynicism, to restore in our children a belief in the possibility of public service, is for our politicians to set a better example, an example that inspires rather than deflates and that bends aspiration toward light rather than darkness.

* * *

In sharp contrast with the low example of the "mean and nasty" television behavior of our political leaders, is the high example of the classroom behavior of a Toronto educator who was honored last week by his students.

In an award ceremony sponsored by Jewish Campus Services, the UJA Federation-funded umbrella organization that helps to coordinate and energize activities and programs for the more than 15,000 post-secondary Jewish students in the greater Toronto area, Prof. Martin Lockshin, associate director of York University's Centre for Jewish Studies, received a special award for his "unparalleled commitment to Jewish life on campus." *(Please see news story on page 28.)*

As the following excerpt from his remarks that night will attest, Lockshin stirs our youngsters to strive towards their highest capabilities. He inspires them to believe in their highest possibilities because he believes in their highest possibilities. And he tells them so:

"I'd like to say one more thing before I sit down, a word of advice to the students, a word of advice that I received almost 30 years ago from a teacher of mine at CHAT, the late Rabbi Schochet, father of the Rabbi Immanuel Schochet whom many of you know.

"A year after I graduated CHAT, I told Rabbi Schochet that I was going to study in a yeshiva for a while and I expected that one day I would be a Jewish educator. He was delighted (shocked, too, I think), but he told me something that I'll never forget.

"He said: 'Once you become a professional Jew, you may touch the odd student, but most students won't take you seriously. They'll say, "He's a professional Jew. He's only saying what he's saying 'cause it's his job to say that."

" 'The time for you to influence people, Marty, is now, now that you are a student, now that you are not yet a professional Jew. Now, no one can write you off. Now you have credibility.'

"That's what I would like to say to all the wonderful students who were honored tonight. You have much power in your hands to reach many Jewish students and to be taken seriously by them. *I've got a lot of confidence in people like you. Go do it."* (My emphasis)

MBD

SEE JN

TORAH PROCESSION FOR NEW VILLAGE SHUL

A joyous, carnival-like atmosphere marked the recent dedication of the new Village Shul, located at 1072 Eglinton Ave. West. Torah scrolls were paraded from the old location, a few blocks east, amid music and dancing. Pictured, from left, are shul member John Gasner; benefactor Leslie Dan; Rabbi Noah Weinberg, dean and founder of Aish Hatorah in Jerusalem; and Village Shul president Peter Friedmann. The new synagogue will feature programs by Aish Hatorah, an afternoon and pre-school, two smaller sanctuaries and a mikvah. [Ron Csillag photo]

Greater Toronto Area

UN declaration on school funding expected in July

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A United Nations declaration on Ontario's school funding practices is expected in July – and the lawyer who presented the legal arguments believes the results are a foregone conclusion.

"I think the case is very clear cut," said Anne Bayefsky. "The result is inevitable."

Bayefsky, professor of law at York University, said she expects the UN Human Rights Committee will find that Ontario's school funding practices are discriminatory and violate Canada's international treaty obligations.

"I cannot fathom that they will not find a violation," she said.

Though the UN body does not have an enforcement mechanism, Bayefsky believes the finding will have a practical effect on education funding because "Canada, generally speaking, takes its treaty obligations very seriously."

The initial complaint regarding Ontario's funding practices was launched three years ago by Arieh Waldman, a Toronto parent with two children in the Jewish day school system at the time. The UN was expected to issue its findings in April but was delayed until the summer after lawyers for Canada, representing the province, filed additional materials "at the last minute. We consider it a delaying tactic because they've had lots of time" to file the materials, he said.

Delaying tactic

Waldman filed the complaint because he believes Ontario is in violation of the 1976 UN Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, signed by Canada with the approval of all the provinces. The covenant (treaty) states no country can discriminate against its citizens on the basis of religious beliefs.

"Canada does indeed discriminate against its non-Roman Catholic citizens in Ontario through its education funding practices," he said.

In Ontario, public and Roman Catholic schools are fully funded by the province while Jewish and other independent religious schools receive no government support. The schools rely on tuition fees and financial aid from community organizations.

Bayefsky said compliance with the 1976 treaty is "a legally binding obligation on Canada...Canada will have an internationally, legally binding obligation to adhere to the covenant's obligations."

While there is no international jail or police force to compel compliance, Bayefsky said there is precedent to show Canada changes its laws to comply with decisions of the UN Human Rights Committee. The Lovelace case shows the UN's views can have teeth, she said.

In that case, the UN Human Rights Committee found Canadian legislation discriminated against native women. A native man who married a non-native woman could bring her onto a reserve and she would enjoy all the rights and benefits of Indian status. A native woman who married a non-native man lost her Indian status.

Canada changed its law to comply with the UN finding, even though the Supreme Court of Canada (SCC) had upheld the practice. Bayefsky said the UN won't be influenced in the school funding case by the SCC decision that justified the discrimination based on the operation of the 1867 Canadian Constitution.

"That argument is irrelevant in international law," she said.

Bayefsky, who has three children in the Jewish day school system, was critical of the federal government for arguing Ontario's case before the UN body. "It could have gone back to Ontario and said, it's a violation of the law, change it," she contended.

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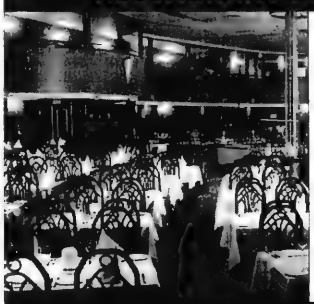

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Ontario Election '99

York Centre

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Two newcomers to politics are challenging a veteran in the new riding of York Centre in Ontario's June 3 election.

Liberal Monte Kwinter, '68, represented the old riding of Wilson Heights, most of which is in York Centre, for 15 years. Challenging him are Roberto Hausman, 45, a teacher and educational consultant, the Progressive Conservative hopeful; and Norm Jesin, 43, a lawyer, the NDP contender.

Monte Kwinter

York Centre, with a population of 103,889, includes part of the old riding of Downsview and a slice of the old riding of Willowdale. The riding has more homeowners than tenants. It includes a lot of the Bathurst core region.

It is bound by the 401 in the south, Jane Street north to Grandravine Drive and further north along the Allen Expressway, to Steeles Avenue and south along Bathurst Street.

The candidates agree that Jews and Italians make up 50 percent of the electorate.

All the contenders in York Centre are Jewish, and on the key issue of public funding for the core component of religious schools, including Jewish day schools, Kwinter and Jesin say they will advocate for it, even though their parties are opposed, with Jesin insisting that all religions be treated equally. Hausman says he supports the present government's position.

Roberto Hausman

Kwinter says he is "totally supportive" of public funding for these schools, pointing to his sponsorship of a recent rally at Queen's Park attended by over 3,000 people.

Jesin, the father of five children, with three attending the United Synagogue Day School, says he is also supportive but insists that the public school system be maintained.

Hausman, who born in Uruguay to Hungarian parents, also has three children in a Jewish day school.

On the issue of better services for the riding's seniors, all three candidates agree with Kwinter in pledging to work out a plan whereby Orthodox Jews can walk to the nearest hospital.

Kwinter notes that he worked to have Branson hospital's closing put off for two years.

Jesin said he supports a moratorium on the closing of Branson Hospital, which he considers essential for the health of seniors. Referring to the death of his parents in Canada at the ages of 93 and 87, Hausman said he gives care for seniors the highest priority.

All three favor more affordable housing, Jesin pointing to the $250 million earmarked for public housing in the NDP platform, and Kwinter noting that the demand for affordable housing is so great, that people have to wait up to 10 years.

Norm Jesin

Hausman said people need housing at prices they can afford.

Jesin believes that the riding's westward expansion from Dufferin Street to Jane Street will help the NDP, judging from the number of signs in the area supporting him. He claims it is the most important election in Ontario in 50 years, and says the NDP contingent at Queen's Park has to be strengthened to keep the other parties "in line."

Hausman, who speaks eight languages, says the riding is one of the most multicultural in the greater Toronto area , and says his knowledge of the various immigrant groups will be an asset to the legislature.

Kwinter is upbeat about the riding's new boundaries, claiming he has no serious competitors for the seat, and pointing out that he canvassed the new areas thoroughly in bringing 8,000 new members into the Liberal fold to win the party's nomination.

This bed of tulips was planted in the memory of the 15 million children who were victims of the Holocaust; on
ANNE FRANK DAY
November 2, 1989

TULIPS IN BLOOM

Pupils of grades 5 and 6 of Browns Public School recently gathered with their teacher Gail Nathanson, to admire the white Anne Frank tulips at the Amsterdam Parkette at Avenue Road and St. Clair Avenue. The pupils had assisted in planting these tulips last November. Students have helped in planting these tulips since November 1989, when then Toronto mayor, Art Eggleton, proclaimed that day Anne Frank Day.

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Challengers target Harris in St. Paul's campaign

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

Ontario Election '99

TORONTO — Incumbent MPP Isabel Bassett is carrying the Tory colors in the midtown Toronto riding of St. Paul's, but the two opponents to her left don't appear to be running against her.

Instead they've targeted Ontario Premier Mike Harris, saying voters are dissatisfied because of changes he's made to Ontario's health and education infrastructures.

In interviews with Liberal hopeful Michael Bryant and New Democratic candidate Larry Solway, Harris came in for withering attack.

Solway, a longstanding broadcasting personality, said he entered politics for the first time because of his "fury at the way the province is being run...He [Harris] is Attila the Hun. He's got to be stopped."

Larry Solway

Bryant was more circumspect in his choice of language, saying voters he's met "are telling me they can't trust Mike Harris with health care."

For her part, Bassett conceded she's heard negative comments about her party leader. But that's a result of Harris' strong leadership and voter discomfort at the strong medicine he's imposed on the province while revamping the education and health systems, she said.

St. Paul's, which includes the mansions of Forest Hill and the modest working class homes at Davenport and Ossington, stretches from Bayview Avenue in the east, more or less along Eglinton Avenue in the north, to Winona/Marlee in the west, and to the CP tracks below Davenport in the south.

An estimated 20,000 Jews reside in the area (about 20% of the population), according to Jay Brodbar, director of research for UJA Federation.

Speaking shortly after her return from campaigning on Dewbourne Avenue, Bassett acknowledged voters on the street were upset that Roman Catholic schools receive full government support while Jewish schools receive none.

"I don't think we should be funding one religion without funding other religions," Bassett said. "We want to have a system that treats everybody the same way."

She qualified her remarks by pointing out the Tories' first priority remains the public and Roman Catholic systems. After changes have been made there, "in five to 10 years, we're going to have to look at this issue," she said.

Isabel Bassett

Solway said "my general rule is that I want to support public education in Ontario. Anything that takes away from that is not the kind of thing I want.

"If there's another plan that's feasible, I'm prepared to listen to it," he added.

"I understand the issue and I'm looking forward to raising it in caucus," Bryant said.

"There's an advocate of this issue in my home," he noted, referring to his wife, Susan Abramovitch, an alumna of two Jewish schools in Montreal. But, "we should restore confidence in the public education system and then turn to see how much can be done" for independent schools, he added.

On the issue of home care, Solway blasted the government for "gutting it. I want to put it back. We want to bring back fairness, concern and compassion," he said.

Michael Bryant

Bryant said the Liberals believe in continuity of care from institutional settings to home care. If elected, the Liberals would allocate $510 million for long-term care and home care, he said.

Bassett said the government is responding to concerns over home care services and has earmarked $60 million this year for home care. "We recognize that is something we have to look at," she said.

Turning to the question of social housing, Bassett said the government "is trying to encourage developers to build more housing." It has eliminated PST on construction of lower rent apartments and has streamlined the approval process.

The Liberals are committed to build on the Golden report by providing PST rebates to assist with the construction of affordable housing. The Grits would also encourage the federal government to provide a similar GST rebate, he said.

Solway said with vacancies in Toronto near zero percent and with a crying need for more apartments, he "would like to see the government get in the business of building subsidized housing units."

All candidates voiced their support for anti-racist initiatives and supported the laying of hate charges when appropriate.

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A Secret Getaway Revealed

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The time has come to expose one of the best-kept social secrets of the summer.

For the past 6 years, a growing number of people between the ages of 25 and 40 have been disappearing for a long weekend during the summer to a place up north called Camp Manitou-Wabing. The event is called Adult Camp and it is just that. Adults attend as campers and have the run of the complex for one weekend each summer. Sound like an adventure? Read on.

The first thing that newcomers to Camp Manitou-Wabing notice is the beauty of the grounds. The new owners, Mark Diamond and Jeff Wilson, are proud of the first rate property, and all the fine facilities Manitou has to offer.

A typical day at adult camp begins with a delicious breakfast. Pancakes, waffles, crepes, eggs, fruit salad - I don't remember eating that well in my camp days. After breakfast there is a broad range of activities to choose from. The main attractions are water-skiing, tennis and golf. Don't play? Not very good? Never tried? - Not to worry. Included in the weekend are professional instructors who teach the novice, improve the intermediate and challenge the expert. Many of them are top ranked athletes, a fact I only learned after challenging the tennis pro last year. He turned out to be ranked number 2 in Mexico.

Around noon, everyone gathers for lunch. The dining hall provides the venue for another great meal and many excited conversations about the morning's activities. Many delight in describing their first time experiences water skiing, golfing, or playing volleyball, and how they have made great strides. The afternoon should really be televised. Have you ever seen 70 people play in one mammoth baseball game? Those who aren't playing sit in the stands laughing and enjoy the show. Whether you are a great baseball player or the kind of person who runs to third base first, it really doesn't matter in this game. Next is a giant beach volleyball game that is governed by similar rules - there are no rules. Pro or amateur, everyone makes a good showing.

Bunk bed or rock, it is siesta time for an hour before getting ready for dinner.

Refreshed and washed up, everyone meets for an informal outdoor barbecue. Stomachs full, we all trek down to the waterfront to participate in the famous age-old ritual of the pontoon boat ride.

Everyone boards one of the two large pontoon boats and the journey gets underway. After a 20-minute ride, the boats meet somewhere in the middle of the lake and are tied together. As millions of stars stare down at us, someone starts strumming a guitar. Everyone joins in singing songs we all know from when we were kids. Hot chocolate blended with traces of rum is passed around and adds just the right touch. You can't help but be caught up in the serenity of it all.

Later we make our way back to camp where we all sit around a huge bonfire. The guitar and singing resume. Some sing, others just relax, listen and breathe in the night's fresh air.

And that is the essence of the weekend in a nutshell.

A big part of the success of the weekend is due to the efforts of Mitchell Korman. Mitchell is a successful Toronto lawyer who takes time off each summer to help teach water-skiing at Manitou. Years ago he had an idea about organizing a weekend for some of his adult friends to come experience the pleasures that Manitou has to offer. Through the years Mitchell realized that the weekend could offer a special outlet, especially (though not exclusively) for single Jewish people who are fun at heart and athletic. He foresaw an event where many could get to know one another in a friendly informal setting, free of pressure, with only the promise of a great time.

The capacity for the weekend is capped at 150 people, and rumor has it that this year there will be some attendees from New York and Vancouver. Last year the cost was $350.00 all-inclusive, and I am told the price is expected to remain the same this season. This year's festivities will be held June 17th to the 20th. The cut off date for making reservations is Friday, June 4th, but I suggest you act well in advance in order to secure a reservation. A non-refundable $50.00 deposit is required. For more information and to make reservations, contact Mitchell Korman at (416) 777-2566 or by e-mail at korman@globalserve.net.

This weekend is an opportunity to get away, relax, and meet new people while having a great time. See you there!

Written by S. Jonathan Kirshblum
jonathan_kirshblum@scotia-mcleod.com

(Mr. Kirshblum has not received any remuneration for writing this article, nor does he have any financial interest in Camp Manitou-Wabing).

Editorials and Letters

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Shavuot

A mere 50 days passed between the exodus of the children of Israel from Egypt and their receiving the Torah at Mount Sinai. But seven weeks was hardly enough time for physical freedom to evolve into spiritual and existential freedom. For in its full, dignity-denying essence, slavery is much more than a physical condition; it is an intellectual, psychological and emotional condition. It is a way of life more than it is a way of working.

In truth, therefore, the children of Israel were still a rabble of unruly slaves when they assembled at the foot of the lowly desert mountain to receive the law from God Himself.

Though a rabble, still they were able to burst through their bonds to commit personally, then, and for all time, to bring justice, purpose, order and God into human history. At that unprecedented, daring instant of human commitment, their slavery ended and a new destiny for the entire world began.

But it must have been frightening.

"As morning dawned, there was thunder and lightning and a heavy cloud upon the mountain and a strong loud blast of the shofar; and all the people in the camp trembled…

"And Mount Sinai was all in smoke, for the Lord had come down upon it in fire; the smoke rose like smoke from a kiln, and the whole mountain shook violently. The blast of the shofar grew louder and louder."

In the midst of this terrifying, fiery turmoil, God's laws were handed down to the children of Israel, and ultimately, to the world.

That epoch-making moment – when law joined with liberty and when responsibility joined with emancipation – is the cause of our celebration tonight.

Shavuot commemorates the advent of true human freedom.

Thus, at midnight, when the stars are in heaven and many Jews around the world, in the tradition of "the old ways," delve into the ancient and modern texts of our great sages, let us remember what real freedom is, and how precious it is and why it was bestowed upon us in the first place.

…and the election

This year, by coincidence, Shavuot falls three days after the Israeli election. The campaign appears to have highlighted if not actually aggravated, the internal fissures ever-widening within Israel society. In the aftermath of the voting, therefore, the key challenge facing Israel's leaders is to attempt to close those fissures.

Shavuot can help.

Among the many important symbols and lessons embodied in the holiday, there is one that leaps forward from its history.

Unity.

The Torah is quite unambiguous in recording that the entirety of the people, without faction, without division, stood at the mountain:

"*All the people* witnessed the thunder and lightning and the blasts of the shofar and the mountain surrounded by smoke."*(Our emphasis)*

To underscore the point that the Torah does not differentiate among Jews, Moses uses very precise language when he speaks, just before his death, to the children of the exodus generation, of the covenant their parents entered into with God at Sinai 40 years earlier: "You stand this day, *all of you,* before the Lord your God…not with you alone do I enter into this covenant; but *with those who are with us here this day before the Lord our God and with those who are not with us here this day.*" (Our emphasis)

A broadly-based government that not only talks about unity but actually does something to achieve unity, should be Israel's highest priority now. Unity is the only bridge that can span those fissures.

WISDOM OF THE AGES

"Where you go, I will go; where you lodge, I will lodge; your people, my people; your God, my God." *(Book of Ruth)*

Dry Bones

IS THERE ROOM FOR JEWS ON THE WEST BANK?
WILL THE ALBANIANS RETURN TO HOMES IN KOSOVO?
THE GREAT ISSUES OF THE DAY ARE ALL...
QUESTIONS OF HOUSING AND REAL ESTATE?!

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The magic of tradition in South Africa

On a recent trip to South Africa I had a "once-in-a-lifetime" experience in Oudtshoorn, a rural community best known for its ostrich farms and an impressive network of subterranean caves.

At the turn of the century, Oudtshoorn was home to approximately 600 Jewish families. Many made their fortunes as ostrich farmers during the "feather boom" when ostrich plumes adorned women's hats, necks and dresses throughout the fashion capitals of the world.

Today, 17 Jewish families remain. Several still operate successful ostrich farms and live in magnificent, turn-of-the-century "feather palaces." In addition to feathers, the farmers produce and export ostrich meat and skins for leather products.

It was at Welgeluk, a restored feather palace, built in 1910 and purchased by the Lipschitz family, that my husband and I joined members of Oudtshoorn community for a wedding and brit milah.

The groom was Stanley Lipschitz, a third generation ostrich farmer. He and his wife, Bernadette, born a Portuguese Roman Catholic, had been married in a civil wedding ceremony in 1984. They had three sons, the eldest of whom died of leukemia four years ago.

Following this tragedy, Bernadette began studying for an Orthodox conversion. On March 1 of this year, at the age of 44, she gave birth to a healthy baby boy. Eight days later, the 70 guests gathered on the lawn of Welgeluk in full view of a hand-held chupah. Surrounded by family and friends, the middle-aged couple restated their marriage vows, this time in a traditional ceremony conducted by an Orthodox rabbi

Following cheers of mazel tov, the guests moved inside the historic home where the rabbi donned a white coat and became the mohel, as those present prepared to witness the infant son of Stanley and Bernadette Lipschitz enter into the covenant of the Jewish people.

I marvel at the magic of our Jewish tradition that transcends unfamiliarity and allows strangers to feel warmly welcomed in a foreign land.

Wendy Eisen
Toronto

Appeasement of dictators is useless

The world seems to have forgotten some circumstances that led to World War II. When Britain's prime minister went to Hitler begging for peace in our time, all he found was that appeasement did not work. It still doesn't. Dictators like Slobodan Milosevic, Saddam Hussein, Muammar Khadafi, and a slew of Ayatollahs in Iran, who spill blood of innocent people, in the name of their God or ethnicity, found out that the world is past appeasing them. It will use diplomacy, and failing that, military power.

Hitler started his butchery, with Kristallnacht (night of the broken glass). This turned into Umsiedlung (resettlement). Another Nazi synonym was Nacht und Nebel (night and fog). This served for murder, beating, imprisonment in Dachau, Sachsenhausen and Buchenwald. Those camps became templates for extermination, gas chambers, crematoria and genocide.

These synonyms were easily translated by present day dictators, be they in Europe, Africa, or South America, who are into ethnic cleansing, or any other words, no matter how dubious, having a semblance of law. There is an old saying: "An ounce of prevention is worth more than a pound of cure." NATO is now administering the cure.

S. Schweitzer
Montreal

TV program on Conversos deserves rebroadcast

Some time ago, I saw a television program called *The Conversos*. It was about Jews in Spain who were forced to convert to Catholicism during the Spanish Inquisition, but remained secretly Jews and practise Judaism to this day. The program was shown only once and many people did not see this wonderful documentary. I wonder if there is a Jewish group who could arrange to have this program shown again.

Muriel Natanson
Toronto

Canadians who fought for Israel deserve honor

Your article "Canadians fought for Israel's Independence" by Eddy Kaplansky (*CJN*, Apr. 22) was most interesting, yet somewhat disappointing.

Surely, the selfless sacrifices of those brave volunteers had a more profound significance in the establishment of Israel than the generous donations of others.

It saddens me that they were, really, never formally acknowledged by Canadian Jewry.

Gerry Wal
Toronto

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures. Letters sent by e-mail must also include the sender's municipal address.

Perspectives

Meditations for Tikun leil Shavout

It is traditional on Shavuot to stay awake through the night in contemplation and reflection, studying texts and wisdoms of our ancient and modern sages.

To assist readers in their moonlight Shavuot meditations, we offer our readers two texts, one by Rabbi Irving Greenberg, the other by Rabbi Abraham Isaac Kook.

May your study be inspired and your insights, longlasting.

***

This world is not an illusion, says Judaism, nor does God want humans to surrender and let God do it. Nor will some divine fiat bring the final redemption into being. True, God loves humans. But although God yearns for a messianic consummation of history and even promises that it will come to be, God will not force humans to be free. In truth, freedom cannot be given to another. Freedom bestowed is dependency. Freedom must be earned.

How then can we reach this goal? Nothing less than a partnership between God and humanity will achieve the dream of perfection. By a process of voluntary self-limitation, God summons humanity to participate in the process of creating a redeemed world. Each partner enters into this treaty of total redemption; each brings a pledge to this binding covenant.

God pledges that seeking perfection is not an exercise in futility. God promises to accompany humanity every step of the way. The human partner pledges to start the process of redemption, to go as far as possible in his or her lifetime, to create life and pass on the vision and the responsibility to the next generation – and not to relent or settle until the final goal is reached.

This covenant means that God has accepted human agency. But this leads to a further covenant – the one between God and Israel. The people of Israel take on a binding commitment to teach the message of redemption. Israel promises to walk the way of the Lord.

In faithfulness to that commitment, the people of Israel pledge to teach the way of justice and righteousness as best it can; to remain distinctive and unassimilated in the world and thus hold up the message for all people to see; to create a model community showing how the world can go about realizing the dream; and to work alongside others to move society toward the end goal of redemption.

Thus the Jewish covenant mission will be a blessing for all families of the earth. For its part, the Divine is pledged never to abandon Israel, to protect and safeguard the people, to help in the realization of the dream. The divine promise includes the pledge of eternal life to the Jewish people: "You who hold fast to the Lord your God are all alive today." (Deut. 4:4)

The covenant of Israel turns the Exodus into an ongoing process. On Passover, God committed to the covenant by an act of redemption. On Shavuot, standing at Sinai, the Jewish people responded by accepting the Torah. The teaching that guides the way of the Jews, the Torah, became the constitution of the ongoing relationship of God and the Jewish people.

The subjects of the Torah are the stuff of infinity and eternity: a God beyond measurement or dimension, beyond human grasp or ken; a destiny that will outlast history. Such concepts are not commensurate with the limited, fragmented, imperfect world we inhabit. But through the mechanism of the covenant, infinity and eternity are converted into finite, temporal usable forms – without losing their ground in the absolute. The covenant makes possible Judaism's functioning in history.

Rabbi Irving Greenberg

(Excerpted from *The Jewish Way: Living the Holidays*, Simon & Schuster, 1988)

Moses with the tablets of the law by Rembrandt

The Whispers of Existence

All existence whispers to me a secret:
I have life to offer, take it, take it –
If you have a heart and in the heart red blood courses,
Which despair has not soiled.

But if your heart is dulled
And beauty holds no spell to you
– existence whispers –
Leave me, leave,
I am forbidden to you.
If every gentle sound,
Every living beauty,
Stir you not to a holy song,
But to some alien thought,
Then leave me, leave, I am forbidden to you.

And a generation will yet arise
And sing to beauty and to life
And draw delight unending
From the dew of heaven.

And a people returned to life will hear
The wealth of life's secrets
From the vistas of the Carmel and the Sharon,
And from the delight of song and life's beauty
A holy light will abound.
And all existence will whisper,
My beloved, I am permitted to you.

Rabbi Abraham Isaac Kook

(Reproduced from *Abraham Isaac Kook – The lights of Penitence, The Moral Principles, Lights of Holiness, Essays, Letters and Poems*, Edited by Ben Zion Bokser, Paulist Press, 1978)

Opinions

Sikhs resemble Jews

We see them everywhere in greater Toronto, especially on the streets of Mississauga and Brampton; we find them as drivers in limousines and cabs; their bearded presence makes itself felt in our police force – they have become part of our Canadian scene. They are Sikhs.

Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

There are many more of them than we know, because the majority do not wear orthodox attire; no turban, no beard, women in short dresses; we would not recognize non-orthodox Sikhs if we met them anywhere. Sikhs have about the same number of orthodox members as we Jews have amongst our people. Depending on the locale, between 10-20 percent of the Sikh population are following the orthodox demands of their religion.

Just who are these people who once were known as the finest element in the British army? They resemble Jews because they too join peoplehood and religion – their modern tradition is some 300 years old, and this year they observe a special anniversary. It remembers persecution and the taking up of arms to fight it.

Sikhs resemble us also for the prejudice that others have against them. Being enterprising and independent, they quickly chart their way in their new environment – however far it is from their native India. They become entrepreneurs and do precisely what Jews have always aimed to do: make their new environment their true home, in which they can live peacefully as well as successfully.

How many of them are there in our midst? Estimates for the Greater Toronto Area vary between 100,000 to 150,000. I have come to know many of them because it was once my privilege to preside at a trial in Human Rights court. A teacher had sued the Peel Board of Education for having dismissed him because he was an orthodox Sikh and insisted on wearing a small kirpan, a ceremonial sheathed dagger, which is part of Sikh tradition. Though it is worn under the clothing and secured, and though in the 100+ years of Sikh residence in Canada, a kirpan has never been used for aggressive purposes, the Peel Board felt that Sikhs were endangering the safety of the schools. After a two-year trial, I ruled that with proper safeguards observed, the wearing of a kirpan represented a fundamental right of any Sikh. An appeal against my decision was turned down, and today Sikhs everywhere in Canada have the privilege of exercising their religion within the bounds then set.

In the process, I learned that many Sikh family values resemble those that we Jews would like to call our own. I also found that the tensions between the first and second generation are not unlike those that our people met when we first made the trek from Europe to Canada.

The next time you encounter a Sikh limousine or cab driver, engage him in conversation. You will find him most interesting, especially if he is willing to tell you his family's migratory experience. Canada has many faces, and that is one of its great attractions.

Words as sharp as swords

The Balkan crisis may have pushed reports on high school violence off our front pages, but to me the issue of how our children lead their lives outside of our homes should have more long-lasting resonance than the usual 15 minutes of horror and fame.

Jean M. Gerber in Vancouver

Certainly, the recent deaths of children at the hands of other children have horrified parents. Can their child become a victim of this kind of unanticipated violence? Can their children become so depressed and alienated that they could murder their classmates?

It seems that these terrible things all have a common thread. The children are taunted, bullied or ignored by the peers they look to for admiration and friendship. They feel rejected by their classmates, and scorned for their appearance, interests, even their skills and achievements. Spending eight hours a day in an atmosphere like that, perhaps without feeling they can tell their families what is happening to them, surely takes its toll on the fragile self-esteem of teenagers.

Well, fine you say, my children would never (a) be so angry and misunderstood, or (b) they would never say the things to others that have been reported. I wonder.

High school for me was one unending torment. A newcomer to a school that had long since set in stone its hierarchy of in- and out-siders, I was definitely on the outside.

I was smart, so in class I was a useful appendage to the trend-setters, but outside of class my clothes, my demeanor, my social status relegated me to the margins.

Fortunately, I found friends who were equally intelligent, interesting and accepting. I still keep in touch with them.

True, we never considered murdering our fellow classmates; but we knew we were on the outside. I hated every moment of high school, and burst into college determined to never, never be in that position again. (Thank goodness, I wasn't.) But did I learn kindness and humility? Let's say that is a work in progress.

As for my own children – did I teach them to welcome the stranger in their class, to look for goodness in every classmate, to keep their cruel and cutting remarks to themselves? I tried, but I don't know if I succeeded.

And who knows if they learned from us, as parents, the ways of speaking about people we didn't like or agree with. Did they then turn around and use these weapons of speech, words as sharp as swords, on their peers?

The Jewish community is not blameless. (I do not refer to the putative Jewish origins of one of the Denver teens.) In the day school my children attended, in their high school cliques, and even in the youth groups where, we were assured, they would find meaningful Jewish experiences, there were children who were different, and therefore cruelly excluded from the kids who mattered.

I don't know if teachers or advisers noticed or tried to do anything about it. I do know that if they, or parents, did intervene, their efforts made no difference. Of the excluded children, who knows what their relationship to Judaism is today? Alienation for some, I know, and lingering bitterness.

Since our children probably do not have mini-arsenals in our homes, there is less opportunity for their anger to become deadly. But the gnawing worm of rejection and anger can be just as devastating to their self-esteem and to their feelings about Judaism. Losing them in this way would be a great tragedy.

We, as adults, have formed opinions about our peers, judgments which are reflected in our individual and communal action. Jews are supposed to be well-educated, middle-class, successful folk who can afford to live in the right places, attend the right schools, exhibit the right symbols of status and achievements. The many Jews in our community who do not share these attributes, or who, by virtue of poverty, disability, origin or political incorrectness do not fit our tidy mold, are "other."

My suggestion for all of us: Let's do a quick checkup, first in our own minds, as to how we speak about those others, or indeed, anyone whose differences affect us. Then let's do a reality check with our children.

Are they being victimized, or even more frightening, are they part of the persecution which has had such a deadly effect? My children are past their teen years. Will I have the courage to ask them which side of the fence they were on? What their feelings were? Let's hope that such deadly hatred does not touch us, and let's try to make sure it doesn't.

This is the season for lernen

A colleague of mine told me this wonderful story: His mother has suffered a number of strokes and is in a nursing home in Toronto. One day, my friend and his son were visiting his mother. They were arguing about when a fetus becomes viable. In an attempt to involve his mother in the conversation, my friend turned to her and said: "So mother, when do you think a fetus becomes viable?" His mother seemed to ponder the question and then replied: "When they finish law school or medical school."

Bruce Elman in Edmonton

This is an extremely poignant story. A number of different lessons can be derived from it. The story says something very powerful about the continuing commitment of Jewish mothers to their children. The gestation period for Jewish children clearly extends well beyond the nine months of normal pregnancies.

The story also displays the Jewish concern – indeed obsession – with education. Individuals more scholarly than I can undoubtedly explain the Jewish penchant for education. It could be, that during the long years of persecution, when we were driven from country to country, education was a portable asset that we could take with us when other more material goods had to be left behind. Or perhaps, we recognized that education was the vehicle to achieve acceptance and success in the non-Jewish world. Or maybe, our long history of studying Jewish texts has had a carry-over effect into the secular world. We are, after all, known as the People of the Book.

Jews, as a people, have never been more learned in secular matters than we are today. Unfortunately, we have never been more ignorant in Jewish matters. Jewishly, we are illiterate! We may still be the People of the Book but the book is not the Tanach or the Talmud – the book now is *Gray's Anatomy* or *Black's Law Dictionary*! We know more about medical or legal ethics than we know about the Ethics of our Ancestors (Fathers).

The tradition tells us that Rabbi Akiva began to study Torah at the age of 40. Look how much he learned! Rabbi Tarfon is quoted in Pirkei Avot as saying: "The day is short and the task is great; You are not required to complete the task but you are not free to withdraw from it." We can cure Jewish illiteracy if we each begin to learn at least a few hours each week. The great oddity is that it has never been easier to learn than it is now.

If one wants to study the weekly Torah portion, one should start with Artscroll's *Stone Chumash*. There are numerous other books that provide commentaries on the Torah – Rabbi Joseph Telushkin's *Biblical Literacy* is one. The Internet also has a number of sites that post Torah commentaries (Divrei Torah). My favourites are Rabbi Ismar Schorsch and other members of the faculty at the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, Rabbi Shlomo Riskin of Ohr Torah Stone Yeshiva and the *Jerusalem Post*, and Rabbinit Chana Henkin of Nishmat Institute for Women. My friends each have their own favorites. A little Torah Net surfing can put one in touch with a great many interesting sites. It is traditional to study Pirkei Avot between Pesach and Rosh Hashanah. At our synagogue, we have been studying this text on Sunday mornings after minyan. We use the Artscroll *Pirkei Avot Treasury*. As we do not have a rabbi, this book has provided excellent guidance for our co-operative study of the text.

My Saturday Minchah/seudah chavurah recently decided to study Talmud in a somewhat non-traditional way. Instead of taking one tractate of the Talmud and studying it (which I do in another shiur that I attend), we have adopted a book entitled *Swimming in a Sea of Talmud* by rabbis Michael Katz and Gershon Schwartz. This book provides the reader with a selection of talmudic maxims (each known as a pitgam), the surrounding text and the historical context, and a modern explanation for the purposes of discussion. So far, this has been a big hit with the group.

When I would return to Sydney, at the end of the university year, my friends and I would usually go to visit Rabbi Israel Kenner and his wife in their home. We would sit in the rabbi's study, and he would ask us what we had been lernen (the Yiddish phrase for the study of traditional text) while we were away. When we told him Shakespeare, or organic chemistry or calculus or abnormal psychology, he seemed suitably impressed but also a bit saddened by the fact that we had not done any Torah lernen. I think he wanted to prod us to do some studying during the summer when the days are longer and we were free of our other commitments.

Rabbi Kenner knew that this is the season for lernen. As it says in Pirkei Avot: "If not now, when?"

The Kirshner File

Columnist Max Lerner exerted much influence

If you're under the age of 30, chances are you've never heard of Max Lerner. But if you're well into middle age, his name will probably ring a bell.

Sheldon Kirshner in Toronto

In his time, Lerner was a university lecturer, an author and essayist, a television and radio commentator and one of the leading syndicated newspaper columnists in the United States.

Lerner, a liberal who later embraced neo-conservatism, was enamored by words and ideas. At the height of his influence, from the 1940s to the 1970s, he pontificated on the pertinent issues of the day: democracy and capitalism, fascism and the New Deal, the Cold War and the Cuban missile crisis, Vietnam and the Watergate scandal.

And as the Holocaust unfolded, Lerner – a secular Jew who identified with "the whole of Jewish history" – waxed indignant about this human tragedy.

Lerner, too, never wavered in his passionate support for Israel's independence and security, and urged Israel to consider territorial compromise as a means of coexistence with its Arab neighbors.

Born in a shtetl near Minsk in 1902, he wrote for the *The Nation* and *The New Republic*, as well as for the now-defunct *PM* and the *New York Post*, and his columns were anthologized in a succession of books. As an essayist, his magnum opus was *America as a Civilization*.

Such was his standing as a political pundit that the *New Yorker* once ran a droll cartoon in which a wife archly asks her husband, "Now that you've read James Reston, William F. Buckley and Max Lerner, what's your opinion?"

Lerner, whose acolytes included the historian James MacGregor Burns and the editor Martin Peretz, was a journalist who not only witnessed events but shaped and reflected the attitudes of his readers.

Seven years after his death, Sanford Lakoff, a political scientist at the University of California, has written what appears to be the first biography of this gifted man, *Max Lerner, Pilgrim in the Promised Land* (University of Chicago Press). Thoroughly researched and felicitously written, it is a balanced account suffused with cross-generational appeal.

As Lakoff relates, Lerner's parents, Benjamin and Basha who were related to Shimon Peres, a future prime minister of Israel, left White Russia because of the pogroms sweeping through their corner of Europe. Benjamin emigrated shortly after Lerner's birth and in 1907 he sent for his family. Possessing no real trade, he drifted from one menial job to another, becoming something of a *Luftmensch* in America.

Given the success Lerner attained, one imagines that his immigrant parents lived vicariously through their son. Indeed, they did not have to wait too long before he registered his first accomplishment, acceptance by Yale University as a freshman.

He majored in English literature and excelled in it, despite having to work his way through college. Lerner's life at Yale was dogged by endemic anti-Semitism. "No one was deliberately cruel or openly anti-Semitic," he recalled. "But the ... anti-Jewish feeling was none the less strong for being tacit."

On the eve of his graduation, he learned that, as a Jew, he had no hope of obtaining a teaching post at an Ivy League university. Feeling the chill, he enrolled in Yale's law school, only to drop out to study economics at the Brookings Graduate School in Washington.

Even there, racism was never far from the surface. In a perverse letter of recommendation, his professor described Lerner as a brilliant student, but then added: "He won't impress you at first, because he is rather unprepossessing in appearance – a little Jew who doesn't perhaps amount to much. But when you get acquainted with him, you will find that he is about two laps ahead of you on any question."

Lakoff speculates that the racist climate of the times had a profound effect on him. Though Jewishness would be a source of pride to him, he initially considered it a barrier to the full acceptance he craved and thought he could achieve only by complete cultural integration and intermarriage.

In 1927, after receiving his PhD, Lerner found employment as managing editor of the soon-to-be-launched *Encyclopedia of the Social Sciences*. Lerner, Lakoff observes, was one of the relatively few American Jews to establish an intellectual career in the 1920s and 1930s.

As his work there drew to a close, Lerner was offered a teaching job at Sarah Lawrence, a highly rated liberal arts women's college. In 1934, he was briefly director of a New Deal agency in Washington, but quit to return to Sarah Lawrence and to teach a course at Harvard. There he began a long friendship with Felix Frankfurter, a law professor who would be elevated to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Shortly afterward, Lerner was invited to be *The Nation's* political editor, a position he held for some years. Lerner broke into newspaper writing through book reviews for the *New York Post*.

This led him into fulltime journalism as chief editorial writer for *PM*, a New York daily which had been launched in 1940. *PM* fought corruption and racial and religious prejudice, championed the policies of the New Deal and was warmly supportive of Zionist efforts to establish a Jewish state in Palestine. As Lakoff notes, Lerner used the podium to become the Walter Lippmann of the democratic left.

In 1949, after *PM* closed, Lerner joined the *New York Post* as a columnist, and was appointed to the faculty of Brandeis University, which would be his academic home for 25 years.

Max Lerner (in 1972)

Lerner was a Cold War liberal. He backed the containment of the Soviet Union, convinced it was an aggressive totalitarian state whose aim was to undermine freedom everywhere.

He opposed the Pentagon's notion of preventive war, but endorsed American participation in limited wars in Korea and Vietnam to prevent Communist expansion into the Third World. Later, he had second thoughts about the wisdom of America's involvement in Vietnam.

At first, he agreed with the imposition of the death penalty on Julius and Ethel Rosenberg, the convicted Soviet spies. But when experts testified that the Rosenberg's espionage had not been as serious as the government claimed, he vainly urged President Dwight Eisenhower to commute the sentence to life imprisonment.

As for his personal life, Lerner was a congenital libertine, being unfaithful to his two wives (who bore him six children). Lakoff dwells on his infidelity at length, describing his sexual escapades at New Age retreats like Sandstone and Esalen and at High Hefner's Playboy mansion in Los Angeles.

One of his paramours was none other than film star Elizabeth Taylor, who had a yen for Jewish men (Mike Todd and Eddy Fisher, to name but two), and who affectionately referred to Lerner as "my little professor." According to Lakoff, he would have asked her to marry him had she not run off with actor Richard Burton on the set of *Cleopatra*.

In 1980, as Lerner's health declined, he wrestled with his own mortality. Throughout these debilitating years, he continued to write his column, which, in Lakoff's view, deteriorated. He also churned out books, lectured and travelled widely.

He died of cancer in June 1992, two months after he had written his last column and two years after his final book – a bittersweet valedictory celebrating his victory over illness – had been published.

He went out with a bang, not a whimper.

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Vol. 1, No. 11 • May 20, 1999

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Pickle Guy Background Information

Here's some background information on me to help you come up with a great name.

- I have a lot of panache.
- I believe in Pickle Power.
- I am zesty, and often sweet.
- I relish attending parties of all kinds.
- I'm a real cut up with a great sense of humour.
- I've got great taste.

You can enter as often as you like, but please send only one nomination per post card or e-mail. Send your entries to:

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e-mail: STRUBPICKL@AOL.COM

Remember, send your letters, pictures, and postcards to me:

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c/o Strub's Pickle Corner
100 Roy Boulevard
BRANTFORD, ON N3R 7K2
e-mail: STRUBPICKL@AOL.COM

I answer ALL my mail, so keep those letters, recipes and ideas coming. If I use your letter in "Pickle Corner", I'll send you one of my "Pickle Guy" T-shirts and Hats. Thanks, and talk to you next month.

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Simple truth of our Torah need not rely on glitz, glamor

By
RABBI ELIE KARFUNKEL

Let us close our eyes and try to envision the most remarkable and awe-inspiring episode in human history, the receiving of the Torah at Mount Sinai. The Jewish people – men, women, and children – standing at the foot of the mountain, all crying out "Na-ase V'nishma" "We will do and we will listen."

Picturing this moment, one might be shocked at the simplicity of the surroundings. The location was seemingly unbecoming of such a historic event. Couldn't there have been a better place than the desert, for God to bestow the holy Torah upon us? What about Israel, the land flowing with milk and honey?

Mount Sinai was also an interesting choice, a modest mountain dwarfed by many beautiful ones surrounding it. Our rabbis tell us that the accepting of the Torah at Mount Sinai was the wedding ceremony between HaShem and the Jewish people. Is a barren desert where one would expect such a ceremony to take place?

Rabbi Henry Hyman gave a fitting parable, shedding some light on this difficulty. The following conversation was overheard on a bus: A young man was told by the bus driver to put his cigarette out. The driver motioned to the No Smoking sign in the front of the bus. The young man defended himself by pointing to the back of the bus, which displayed two signs, one reading Smoke Luckies and the other: Smoke Camels. The bus driver smiled and answered, "the two signs in the back are in different colors, and are decorated with designs, while the No Smoking sign is in black and white. Never believe anything that is decorated. Believe in something that is simple and straightforward like the No Smoking sign."

In our times, we are inundated with hype. Every boxing match is the fight of the century. Every movie is the thriller of the decade. All of this rhetoric tries to make these events something they will never be. The Torah doesn't need all the hype. It gives 100 percent joy to all that embrace it, 100 percent fulfilment to all that live by its message. Truth does not need embellishment; rather it is diminished by it. A modest setting was therefore necessary in order not to dilute the eternal message given to us at that moment.

Let us not be deceived by glitz and glamor of other interests and venues. Rather, on this Shavuot let us find our comfort and joy through the simple truth of our Torah.

Shavuot palates turn to dairy

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

From cholent to chicken soup, much of the Jewish gastronomic year seems to revolve around meat and poultry. But with the longer days and warmer temperatures of the Shavuot season – our palates turn to dairy foods.

Today, some of the finest kosher dairy recipes on the Jewish Highway.

Shavuot is best known for the giving of the Torah, so why the association with dairy foods? Virtual Jerusalem lists seven reasons **[http://www.vjholidays.com/shavuot/dairy.htm]**. Two of the most famous: On Shavuot, the Jewish people received a new code of law, which included the dietary restrictions that became part of their daily life. Since the new laws of separating meat and milk were still unclear, only dairy products were eaten on Shavuot to avoid transgressing the unfamiliar laws. Another reason: The Torah is compared to milk, as it is written, "Sweetness drops/ From your lips, O bride; Honey and milk/ Are under your tongue." (Song of Songs, 4:11) **[http://www1. snunit. k12.il/kodesh/bible/msir004.html]**.

Let's start with some of the dairy classics. You can find recipes for blintzes (regular and low fat) at Beit Chatulim **http://www. geocities. com/Heartland/Hills/1259/shvdairy.htm]**. The Jewish-Food Blintz Archives has over 30 variations, including Asparagus and Cheese, Fruit-topped and Henny Youngman's **[http://www. eskimo. com/ ~jefffree/ recipes/ bliindex. htm]**. (Take his cheese blintz, please?)

Gil Marks gives us his secret to 11 kinds of cheesecakes (including chocolate mint, chocolate peanut butter swirl and piña coloda) at Shavuot Summer Feasting **[http://www.jcn18.com/newstand/MARKS/blintzes.htm]**. Want to go beyond blintzes and cheesecake? You can strike up a conversation at Dairy Recipe Swap **[http://www.jewishfamily.com/scripts/NewJfl/forum/forum.idc?ForumID=88]** or at the rec.food. cuisine.jewish newsgroup **[news: rec.food.cuisine.jewish]**. Better still, check out the newsgroup's large Shavuot recipe archives where you'll find out how to prepare goat cheese and scallion kugel, carrot vichyssoise with orange nectar and some good old Montreal cheese bagels **[http://www.cyber-kitchen.com/rfcj/category.cgi?category=SHAVUOT]**. At Let's All Eat Dairy, Rosalyn Manesse has prepared a menu of Sephardic-Style fish, Linguine primavera and dairy scones **[http://www.jcn18.com/scripts/jcn18/paper/Article.asp?ArticleID =1683]**.

One Shavuot tradition is to stay up and learn the first night of Shavuot in anticipation of the giving of the Torah **[http:// www.virtual.co.il/education/education/ohr/special/shavuos/index.htm]**.

But what to eat during those long hours? How about low fat vegetable dip and a Pineapple-Raspberry Eye-Opener. You can find those recipes and links to some thought-provoking articles at JewishHolidays.com **[http://www.jewishfamily.com/scripts/NewJfl/paper/Index.asp?ColumnID=39]**.

The recipes mentioned above are undeniably delicious. But I believe that the tastiest part of any holiday is its memories. I'm sure that Cyndi and her beloved Auntie Rivka would agree **[http://www.empirekosher.com/shavuotblintzes.htm]**. It seems that Cyndi's family had mouse problems in their home and decided to lay out some mousetraps. When Auntie Rivka dropped by to make some Shavuot blintzes, her niece quickly scooped the traps up and hid them in the freezer. When her aunt reached into the freezer to put away the cream cheese... well, the rest is family history.

May we all be blessed with sweet holiday memories.

■■■

Mark Mietkiewicz is a Toronto-based television producer who writes, lectures and teaches about the Jewish Internet. He can be contacted at mdm@inforamp.net.

The subject of evil

Books
Bernard Baskin

***For The Time Being*, by Annie Dillard (Penguin, $29.99).**

Evil seems to be everywhere. Nelly Sachs, the renowned Nobel Prize winning poet, cried out, "Who is like You, O Lord, among the silent, remaining silent through the suffering of His children?" It took only a few typhoon waves to drown 138,000 Bangladeshi on April 30, 1991. On June 15, 1896, a seismic sea wave killed 27,000 in Northeast Japan.

Twenty-two hundred years ago the Chinese emperor Q'in buried 10,000 clay, life-like figures to guard his grave. Later, this tyrant buried a multitude of his followers alive.

Why did God let the Romans flay Rabbi Akiva, using currycombs to separate the skin and muscles from his bones? Why are some children born looking like grotesque gargoyles, "with feet growing directly out of their loins, faceless or spotted or mewing infants, 'bird-headed dwarfs' with huge eyes and tiny chins?"

Annie Dillard, the author of 10 well-received books, dissects the subject of evil – among many others – in this unusual compendium that is filled with disjointed, but disquieting, insightful and often beautiful quotations and reflections on the meaning and significance of life.

A surprising amount of the material is derived from Jewish sources and tradition – largely chassidic. In 19th-century Poland the Rebbe of Ger asked, "How can evil exist in a world created by God, the Beneficent One?" He answered, "It can exist, because entrapped deep inside the force of evil there is a spark of goodness. This spark is the source of life of the evil tendency…Now, it is the specific mission of the Jew to free the entrapped holy sparks from the grip of the forces of evil by means of Torah study and prayer. Once the holy sparks are released, evil, having lost its life-giving core, will cease to exist."

There is about this book an aura of melancholy or resignation. Every year, 60 million people die; of these, half are children under five. "Excavating the Combe Grenal cave in France, paleontologists found 60 different layers of human occupation." The total number of persons who have ever lived comes to about 85 billion. The dead outnumber us, (now at about six billion), by 14 to one.

The author visits China and Israel, and finds inspiration in the thought and writings of the Baal Shem Tov, Isaac Luria, Martin Buber, the religious thinker Pierre Teilhard de Chardin who discovered Peking Man, Paul Tillich – and many others.

But ultimately, human beings are of supreme importance. "For the Jew, the world is not completed; people must complete it." So said a 19th-century Frenchman, Edmund Fleg.

Recently Rabbi Lawrence Kushner stated the same idea powerfully and bluntly: "God does not have hands, we do. Our hands are God's. It is up to us, what God will see and hear, up to us, what God will do. Humanity is the organ of consciousness of the universe…Without our eyes, the Holy One of Being would be blind."

The author states, that Aryeh Kaplan cites the paradox that the God of the galaxies, for whom a galaxy is of no more significance than a bacterium, is at the same time great enough that a single human being can be as significant as an entire universe.

There are perhaps 80 billion galaxies. "Each galaxy harbors at least 100 billion suns. In our galaxy, the Milky Way, there are 400 billion suns – give or take 50 percent – or 69 suns for each person alive. The Hubble Telescope shows that the stars are 'not 12, but 13 billon years old.' Two galaxies, nine galaxies… 100 billion suns, 400 billion suns …12 billion years, 13 billion years …These astronomers are nickel-and-diming us to death."

Musing on the tranquillity of clouds, the ubiquity of sand, the mystery of good and evil, the insecurity and holiness of life, Dillard weaves a poetic tapestry of contemplation and beauty. She informs us that according to the Talmud, God prays. What about? "May it be my will that my mercy overcome my anger." May that divine prayer prevail.

Maccabiah's positive messages

By IRVIN STUDIN

Guest Voices

I have it on good word that the stated purpose of the Maccabiah Games is to provide "an international gathering of Jewish amateur sportsmen and women, to promote the athletic prowess of the Jewish people, to strengthen the spiritual values of Judaism and to reinforce the links of the participation with the Old-New Land of Israel."

I joined the Maccabi movement in 1997, and was fortunate enough to represent Canada at the World Maccabiah in mini-football. The tragedy at the 1997 opening ceremonies notwithstanding, I do not hesitate for one moment to vouch for the integrity of the Games and their trueness to their stated raison d'être.

The Maccabiah preaches the perpetuation of the tenets of *positive* Judaism: dignity, modesty, diligence, kindness and pride devoid of hubris. And while the level of athletic competition is doubtless a main draw, it is these fundamentally Jewish values that drive the Maccabiah, and differentiate it so strongly from other brands of international sporting events.

Much more than dreams of athletic glory, it is surely this theme of positive Judaism that keeps athletes coming back to the Maccabiah Games every two and four years, to renew friendships, to party amongst brethren, to feel themselves Jews. Sport is subsumed under the much broader, more visionary purpose of reuniting the Diaspora, if only for three weeks at a time. The athletes participate in tacit approval of, and respect for, the spirit of the Games.

And so I find myself returning to the Maccabi Games – this time the Pan-American version, hosted by Mexico – not because I have been salivating for athletic redemption since Israel 1997, but rather, because I continue to tacitly support the positive Jewish message (and experience) of the Maccabiah.

Perhaps, however, tacitness no longer cuts it.

A fundraising package circulated by the head of the Canadian Maccabi men's soccer team, of which I am a member, flies in the face of everything I believe the Maccabiah to be about. One of the leading flyers in the package contains a picture of three men being liberated from the Dachau death camp in 1945. The flyer uses Jewish suffering during the Holocaust to justify a plea for financial support from prospective donors. (The soccer team needs $50,000 to travel to Mexico this summer). While not explicit, the invocation of Jewish suffering as a rationale for giving to a Jewish cause is clearly understood.

The end certainly does not justify the means in this case. Surely, exploiting the Holocaust for fundraising purposes is not what the founders of the Maccabiah had in mind. This is negative Judaism!

This cynical message is not representative of the belief of the members of the Maccabi soccer team. The positive components of the pamphlet that profiles the Canadian soccer team is much more an accurate reflection of why Maccabi sports teams – and the Maccabiah in general, should be supported by our community.

Irvin Studin was recently named a Rhodes Scholar.

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JWI/C president outlines goals

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
CJN Staff

TORONTO – Paula Mittleman, newly installed president of Jewish Women International of Canada (JWI/C), sees as one of her greatest challenges, attracting new women into the organization.

"[Our membership] is decreasing, while at the same time, we know there are women who want to connect to a Jewish women's organization. The busy women of today demand new models for outreach and affiliation. We must be willing to meet her needs," Mittleman says.

The organization is trying "to refocus and redirect our efforts so that everyone who wants to join, can fit it into her schedule. We're totally flexible."

Mittleman, who came to Toronto from Montreal in 1975, has been a member of JWI since 1987. Since moving here, she has taken Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto's leadership development program, and co-chaired Sholom Toronto, a program geared to welcoming immigrants to the city. "I am a strong believer in giving back to the community."

Paula Mittleman

Since joining JWI she says, she has met her closest friends, and has developed writing, communication and leadership skills. "I've also developed a confidence in my abilities. I really feel that the organization has given me far more than I have given."

Doing community work, she says, is a whole package. "You get something, you give something back. Many women today do not realize how important it is for them to go outside of their home and do something extra. They don't understand how much they will get out of it themselves. It is possible to have it all – work, volunteer work and of course, family and friends."

As with every organization, says Mittleman, money is tight, and she is looking for innovative ways to raise money for JWI's residential treatment centre in Israel, and for ASTAH, short-term emergency housing for women in Toronto, Montreal and Winnipeg.

"The Residential Treatment Centre is the heart of our international involvement and the boys and girls at the facility depend on us. We will focus on the Tikvah Campaign, JWI/C's personal giving campaign, the National Walk-a-thon Walk for Hope, as well as new fundraising opportunities which will reach out beyond ourselves and increase our donor base."

Enthusiasm, says Mittleman, comes from the top, and if the president is excited about the organization "it is infectious. I think my excitement will filter down."

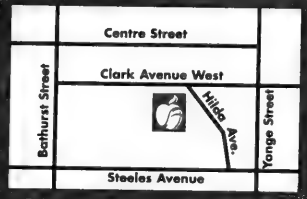
TWO LEGS...AND FOUR, FOR BAYCREST

The Lipson family and friends, with their canine pal Glue, were decked out in Baycrest Challenge t-shirts at the 1999 annual event held Mother's Day. More than 1,400 participants came out to walk or run for Baycrest. Proceeds from the event will support Baycrest's new Apotex Centre, Jewish Home for the Aged and the Centre for Cognitive Studies.

IGA

Wishing Everyone an enjoyable & meaningful Shavuot

IGA brings down the cost of keeping kosher



441 CLARK (AT HILDA)

Whole Chickens
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4.61 kg
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Regular or Light
500 mL Tub
.99 ea.

Astro Cream Cheese
Regular or Light, From The Deli
.99 /100 g
4.49 lb.

Whole Watermelon
Product of USA
15 lb Average
2.99 ea.

Perl's Wieners 450 g Pkg. 3.49 ea.

Zoglos Crepes Assorted Varieties Frozen, 425 g Box 2.99 ea.

Levitt's Veal Roll From The Deli 3.52 /100 g 15.99 lb.

Hot House Tomatoes Product of Ontario Canada No. 1 2.18 kg 99 lb.

Valu Club Pack Chicken Thighs Back Attached 3.70 kg 1.68 lb.

Western Pressed Cottage Cheese 250 g Pkg. 1.89 ea.

Nestle Parlour Ice Cream Assorted Varieties 2 L Drum 2.99 ea.

Mandlebrot Chocolate or White 300 g 3.19

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Help us move into our new home.

The new Apotex Centre, Jewish Home for the Aged, and The Centre for Cognitive Disorders is going up.

It's going up at a tremendous pace.

The concrete shell of the building will be completed this winter. Anticipation is building. In those areas already poured, the walls of residents rooms are going up, the plumbing's going in and the wiring is being installed. Residents are looking forward to moving into a new facility that's much better equipped to meet the needs of seniors.

And, their anticipation will be rewarded. The rooms will be bigger, and all rooms will be private. Each room will have an entrance foyer and an ensuite washroom almost twice as large as in the current building.

This excellent new facility has been made possible by the generosity of our community. It's a wonderful achievement. If you have made a gift, please accept our thanks. If you haven't, please consider making a contribution to the ongoing work of one of the finest seniors' facilities anywhere.

For more information on how you can be part of completing the Apotex Centre, Jewish Home for the Aged, and the Centre for Cognitive Disorders, call Shirley Worth in the Baycrest Centre Foundation at (416) 785-2500, Ext. 2013.

Baycrest Centre
for Geriatric Care

Photos by Orah Buck, from the permanent installation; "Time in Faces".

jewish toronto

Jewish Schools On Line

More and more schools are discovering that going on line is as easy as A-B-C thanks to *www.jewishtoronto.net*.

Designed to make plugging into cyberspace simple and easy, the *jewishtoronto.net* website has attracted close to a dozen Jewish day and supplementary schools as part of a pilot project coordinated by UJA Federation's Board of Jewish Education.

"It all started when Bialik Hebrew Day School and Netivot HaTorah applied for funds to start a website," explains Joyce Levine, the BJE's Director of Inter-school Programming. "UJA Federation saw it as a great opportunity to develop an easy-to-use system that would allow even the most inexperienced computer users to set up a site."

Grade 8 Bialik students (l-r) Jessica Freiman, Danielle Schwartz, Maya Adler and Carly Ruderman browse their school's website.

Levine says accessing the site, through which schools can communicate with students and staff and connect to other organizations, requires minimal computer and internet knowledge.

"It's a simple and direct way for schools to showcase themselves and communicate with others under one umbrella," says educational computer consultant Jonathan Allen, who has been working with Bialik's website team. "You just plug in and play."

Although many sites are still in the development stage, community members are invited to visit school sites which feature school registration information, event calendars, newsletters, articles and photos. Some schools are exploring the possibility of posting homework assignments for students who are unable to attend class.

"We plan to be up and running by fall '99," says Alan Steinfeld, Netivot HaTorah's Executive Administrator. "Everyone is very excited about the project."

Web browsers can also access the BJE site which features updated information on everything from inter-school programming to reviews of CD-ROMS and links to other educational websites.

Around jewish toronto

award winner

Congratulations to **Peter Ekstein** who is the winner of the 1999 UJA Federation **Granovsky Award for Campaign Excellence**. Ekstein will be presented with the award, honouring the late Phil Granovsky, at UJA Federation's Annual General Meeting on June 2.

community walks

Join thousands of community members at the **UJA Federation's Israel FunWalk 99, Sunday, May 30** at Nathan Phillips Square to be followed by a Festival BBQ at Ontario Place. For sponsorship kits or more information call **(416) 631-5700**. See next week's issue of *jewish toronto* for complete details.

announcing...

Debbie Kimel

UJA Federation proudly announces **Debbie Kimel, Howard Price** and **Abe Glowinsky** as its new Campaign 2000 Vice-Chairs.

Abe Glowinsky

refugee relief

UJA Federation's **Kosovo Refugee Relief Fund** has raised over $50,000. To make a donation call **(416) 631-5705** or mail a cheque to UJA Kosovo Relief Fund, 4600 Bathurst Street, Toronto, Ontario, M2R 3V2.

Howard Price

Sterling Steps In

The new Chair of UJA Federation's Women's Campaign, Carole Sterling, is stressing the importance of maintaining the strength and vitality of Toronto's Jewish community.

Sterling, who recently took over from outgoing Women's Campaign Chair Judy Engel, will lead the campaign, which raises $4 million annually, into the year 2000 together with Vice-Chair Dodi Weill, and fourteen executive members.

As the daughter of a Holocaust survivor, Sterling has carried out her personal vow to uphold Jewish values and the centrality of the State of Israel through a wide range of volunteer activities. She has served as Chair of the 1997 Walk for Israel, Vice-Chair of the 1999 Women's Campaign and is currently a member of the UJA Federation Board of Directors. In 1998 she was the recipient of the organization's Leadership Development Award. Sterling is also active in the Canadian Council for Reform Judaism and a participant in the prestigious Wexner Foundation program for leadership development.

"UJA Federation has provided me with a doorway into Jewish communal life, a sense of belonging to the bigger picture and the chance to make a difference," Sterling told more than 200 installation attendees. "We must continue to reach out to those currently uninvolved, recruit and develop future leadership."

In her farewell address, outgoing Chair Judy Engel, said "it's been a privilege to see the miracles of what we do at UJA Federation." Sterling described Engel's warmth, generosity and commitment as "legendary."

*UJA Federation Women's Campaign Executive (l-r –back row) Agi Mandel, Marlene Rochwerg, Sarena Koschitzky, Claudette Edghill, Susan Gudofsky, Maura Cooperberg, Judith Finer-Freedman, Frances Goldstein, Helen Silverstein, Lynn Catzman. (l-r front) Alison Himel, Dodi Weill, Carole Sterling, Judy Engel, Vicki Campbell. **Missing:** Janice Langer, Jill Reitman, Fran Sonshine.*

UJA Visits Refugees

By Ilana Hirt

UJA Federation's Past Campaign Chair, Leo Goldhar, has met with poverty stricken Jews in the former Soviet Union and welcomed new immigrants to Israel. However, he has never witnessed what he recently saw in the refugee camps of Albania.

Goldhar was the only Toronto representative on a North American mission to deliver relief supplies to Albania from the Jewish Agency, funded by the worldwide UJA Federation movement. There he saw, first hand, the anguish and frustration of the Kosovar refugees who fled the bombings and persecutions in Kosovo.

Over 5000 refugees overflow Albania's main community centre in Piscina.

"While sanitary conditions are not yet life threatening, it's a very stressful environment," he said at a meeting last week with the UJA Federation Women's Campaign Executive. Eight to ten people, according to Goldhar, must squeeze into a single tent in an environment where patience is at an all time low.

When it came time to distribute relief supplies, Goldhar said, "I saw the desperation as men, women and children crowded around the supply trucks." The Jewish Agency has delivered over 100 tons of supplies, including 15,000 blankets to the Albanian refugee camps. "I think that what Israel and the Jewish Agency do best is set the standards. They are setting an example for others to follow."

The Agency is also financing trips to Israel for Jewish refugees to consider aliyah. "While some families have chosen the aliyah option it has been a difficult task," explained Goldhar, because so many women and children fear they will never see their husbands or fathers again.

In Budapest, he witnessed the humanitarian efforts of Hungary's small Jewish community that is sheltering over 800 Jewish refugees from Belgrade, Yugoslavia's capital. Most of them are women and children fleeing the bombing back home. Males from the ages of 14-65 are not permitted to leave the Yugoslavian borders.

" I saw something that we don't see very often. One Jewish community taking in another without any reservations."

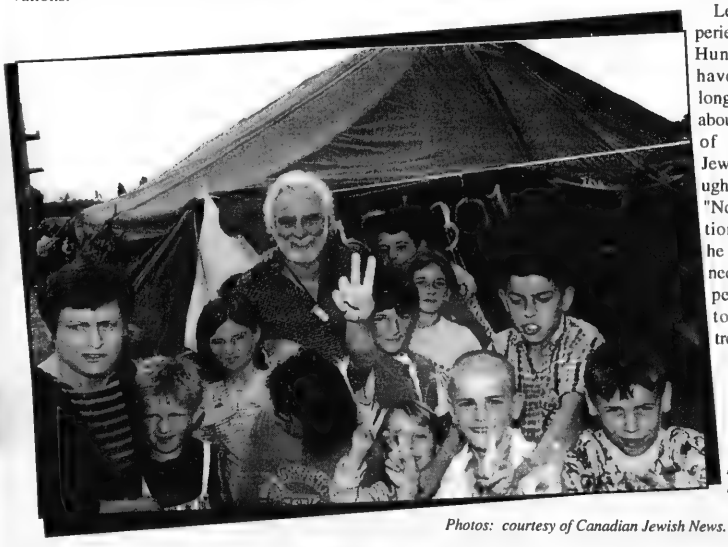
UJA mission participants, including Carol Solomon, National Chairman of United Jewish Communities (centre) help unload supplies in the Tirana refugee camp.

"Our news desensitizes everything," Goldhar added. "When you speak to Kosovar Albanians and Jews from Yugoslavia personally, you realize that each one is a person. Each and everyone is in a terrible situation. It is tragic."

During the Israel portion of his mission, Goldhar watched a mother at an absorption centre break down as she spoke on the phone to her Yugoslavian husband, who serves in the country's reserve forces and cannot leave.

However, accompanying all these tragic tales were stories of optimism and hope. Many of the young refugees, Goldhar noted, were talented, well educated and eager to learn. Among them was 22-year-old Anita Patakea, a pianist who hopes to be a successful candidate in one of Israel's music programs. Like many others, she had to leave her family and friends behind in Belgrade.

Leo Goldhar's experiences in Albania, Hungary and Israel have reinforced his long-held conviction about the importance of supporting the Jewish Agency through UJA Federation. "No other organization in the world," he said, "is so connected to the Jewish people, especially to those in distress."



Leo Goldhar with Kosovar children.

Photos: courtesy of Canadian Jewish News.

jewish toronto

Bronfman Invests In Jewish Future

The Edward Bronfman Family Foundation has established a $1 million donor advised endowment fund as part of a new UJA Federation initiative to help finance the future growth and development of Toronto's Jewish community. UJA Federation will soon be launching Jewish Toronto Tomorrow, a forward looking community vision that involves partnerships with other organizations to secure funding for the future.

"I feel it's important to demonstrate leadership in order to motivate others," said Edward Bronfman, who, along with son David, recently visited UJA Federation offices to personally present the cheque for $1 million. "I learned about tzedakah from my father and I am proud to be carrying on the tradition with my own family. My family and I are fortunate to be a part of Toronto's Jewish community and we are pleased to be in a position to contribute and influence others."

(L-R) Leslie Gales, Barry Sherman, Edward and David Bronfman and David Goldstein.

The foundation will be recommending allocations for the income earned from this endowment fund on an annual basis. Bronfman Foundation director, Dayle Rakowsky, said the family has always placed special importance on projects involving innovative community services, which will be explored for future support.

"Donor advised funds enable contributors to become real partners with the community," noted Rakowsky. "It's definitely the best way to secure the future of our community."

Live From Albania

Israeli film producer Dan Carmi recently spoke to UJA Federation supporters about the documentary he produced depicting the Jewish Agency's relief efforts for Kosovar refugees.

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and the family of the late
MINA BLAUFELD ז"ל
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For more information, phone Deborah Tameanko, Member Services Director **(416) 789-3291, ext. 265**
Membership dues are voluntary in your first year including High Holiday Worship

Cantor Steinhouse celebrating 25 years at Temple Har Zion

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

Cantor Martin Steinhouse

TORONTO — Celebrating his 25th anniversary at Temple Har Zion on May 16 Cantor Martin Steinhouse looked back on his career: a learning disability kept him out of high school, but never spoiled his love of singing.

At West Preparatory School in Forest Hill, the future cantor was plagued with what has come to be called – attention deficit. He had difficulty concentrating and as a consequence, he never went on to high school.

But as a baritone soloist, he was taken in hand by the late Cantor Zvee Aroni of Beth Emeth Synagogue. Steinhouse launched his career 30 years ago.

He says his learning disability – he still has to work around it — has sparked a special interest in working with youth.

At Temple Har Zion he has introduced a peer-tutoring system, which encourages the older youth to maintain their self-esteem and remain involved with the synagogue, while the younger youth learn from the older kids by trying to emulate them.

He has reached out to youths with learning disabilities, and has prepared them for bnei/bnot mitzvah. He has also inspired the tutors to work with learning disabled children.

Steinhouse went to work at age 16 as a shipper in a ladies' dress factory, before going into sales and management in the car business.

As a teenager he sang in the Farband choir with his late father George and his uncle, the late Cecil Roebuck.

Later he sang in the choirs at Adath Israel and Bais Yehuda congregations.

At the concert marking his silver anniversary, seven cantors and the Temple Har Zion choir performed. The guests were cantors Eli Kirshblum, of Adath Israel; Anna Trubashnik, of Temple Emanu-El; Efraim Sapir, of Beth Tikvah; Benjamin Maissner, of Holy Blossom; Thomas Schwarz, formerly of Temple Sinai and now retired; and David Goldstein, of Temple Beth Zion, Buffalo.

Steinhouse is proud that in the 600-family temple he has 100 children involved in three choirs, primary, religious school, and youth. In addition there is an adult volunteer choir.

The first and only cantor Temple Har Zion has ever had, Steinhouse began working full time five years ago.

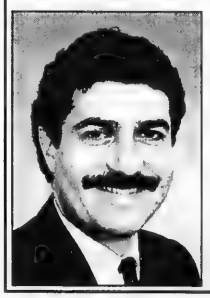
"I love davening and I like to help kids," he said.

Steinhouse and his wife, Rachel, have two married children, Rivka Garson, and David, and one grandchild, Hailey Garson, who is seven months old.

MINYANIM IN THE GTA
WEEK OF MAY 21-27/'99

Synagogue	Address & Tel.	Fri. Night	Shabbat	Sun. A.M.	Daily A.M.	Daily P.M.
Adath Sholom (C)	864 Sheppard Ave. W. (416) 635-0131	7:00 PM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	8:00 AM	----------
Aish HaTorah (O)	949 Clark Ave. W. (905) 764-1818	7:00 PM	8:45 AM	8:00 AM	6:30 AM	8:35 PM
Beth HaMinyan (C)	70 Ridge Hill Dr. (416) 785-3655	----------	9:30 AM	----------	----------	----------
Beth Sholom (C)	1445 Eglinton Ave. W. (416) 783-6103	8:45 PM	8:45 AM	8:30 AM	7:30 & 9:00 AM	6:00 PM
Beth Torah (C)	47 Glenbrook Ave. (416) 782-4495	----------	9:00 AM	----------	----------	----------
Chabad of Markham (O)	83 Green Lane (905) 886-0420	7:00 PM	9:30 AM	8:30 AM	6:45 AM	----------
Emunah Shleima (O)	4120 Bathurst St. (416) 638-6115	7:00 PM	8:45 AM	8:00 AM	7:00 AM	8:35 PM
Shaarei Tefillah (O)	3600 Bathurst St. (416) 787-1631	7:00 PM	8:45 AM	8:30 AM	6:30 & 7:30 AM	8:35 PM
Temple Har Zion (R)	7360 Bayview Ave. (905) 889-2252	8:30 PM	10:30 AM	9:00 AM	7:15 AM	----------
Tifereth Yisrael (O)	756 Sheppard Ave. W. (416) 487-4161	7:00 PM	8:30 AM	8:00 AM	Mon. Thurs. 6:30 Tues. Wed. Fri. 6:45	8:35 PM

This is not a comprehensive listing of the synagogues in the Greater Toronto area. The information is provided by the Vaad Haraboniim of Toronto and the Toronto Board of Rabbis. The Vaad and the Board will periodically revise the listings. For Shavuot davening times, please call the Synagogue which you wish to attend.

DAN RONEN - LIBERAL candidate in the provincial riding of Thornhill

Dan understands the Thornhill community, its diversity and its strength.
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For more information or to get involved in Dan's campaign call
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7670 Yonge St. Unit 5 Thornhill ON, L4J 1W1
Email: danronen@ontarioliberal.com Authorized by the CFO for the Ronen Campaign

With your support, this whole page could be filled with educated young Jews.

Look into all the eyes in the upper left-hand corner. In each pair lies the spirit and hope of a new generation, as well as the spark of 3000 years of Jewish knowledge. These young people are intelligent, well-rounded and self-aware, with an understanding of their value to American society.

They are the students in Jewish High Schools across the country, from all backgrounds across the spectrum of Jewish life.

The schools listed to the right are the latest in a growing movement of Jewish High Schools. They have all received AVI CHAI grants to promote their educational vision to the community and recruit more students. Jewish High Schools are striving to provide Jewish youth with critical thinking, morality, spirituality and deep knowledge of the core texts of our heritage. As well as an outstanding general education that is allowing graduates to be accepted to top universities.

Most of the space above is empty. Unfortunately, only a small percentage of Jewish youth are receiving this education. We need to make Day Schools available to more students. Schools must exist wherever there is a Jewish population. They must be affordable. And they must maintain standards of excellence.

In our free brochure, you will see the faces and hear the stories of Day School alumni who are going on to live extraordinary lives. Of educators and their commitment to teaching a new generation. Of funders and their vision of a bright Jewish future.

By supporting your local Jewish Day School, you can help fill the empty space with the educated and excited faces that will assure our Jewish future. Learn how by calling 1-800-240-5989.

אבי חי AVI CHAI

THE AVI CHAI FOUNDATION
52 Vanderbilt Avenue New York, NY 10017

Akiva Jewish Academy, St. Louis Park, MN

Bais Hamedrash and Mesivta of Baltimore, Baltimore, MD

Bais Yaakov Girls High School of Minneapolis, St. Louis Park, MN

Bais Yaakov High School of St. Louis, St. Louis, MO

Bais Yaakov of Boston High School for Girls, Newton Centre, MA

Chabad High School of Sharon, Sharon, MA

HALB Yeshiva High School for Boys, Lawrence, NY

Hebrew High School of New England, West Hartford, CT

Ilan High School, Elberon, NJ

Kushner Yeshiva High School, Livingston, NJ

Long Island Yeshiva High School for Girls, Smithtown, NY

Ma'ayanot-Yeshiva High School for Girls, Teaneck, NJ

Mesivta of Greater Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA

Moshe Aaron Yeshiva High School, South River, NJ

Netan Eli High School, Los Angeles, CA

New Atlanta Jewish Community High School, Dunwoody, GA

Ora Academy, Rochester, NY

Phoenix Preparatory High School, Phoenix, AZ

Sepharadic High School of Queens, Kew Garden Hills, NY

Solomon Schechter High School of Long Island, Hicksville, NY

South Bend Girls' High School, Mishawaka, IN

Tarbut V'Torah Community Day School, Irvine, CA

Temima High School for Girls, Atlanta, GA

The Hebrew Academy (Chabad), Huntington Beach, CA

The New Jewish High School, Waltham, MA

The New Seminary and High School for Girls, Brooklyn, NY

The Pardes School, Cleveland, OH

Torah Academy of Lawrence-Cedarhurst, Cedarhurst, NY

Torah High School of San Diego, San Diego, CA

Yeshiva High School of Boca Raton, Boca Raton, FL

Yeshiva of New Haven, New Haven, CT

Yeshiva Rambam, Brooklyn, NY

Yeshiva Shaarei Torah of Richmond, Richmond, VA

Yeshivas Darchei Torah, Southfield, MI

Yeshivas Ohavei Torah of Riverdale, Riverdale, NY

Yeshivat Rambam, Baltimore, MD

Yitzhak Rabin High School, Nepean, Ontario, CANADA

Greater Toronto Area

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PROGRAM AND RESOURCE COORDINATOR
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- Christian "Proof texts"
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- Obsession to Convert Jews
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- Screening of Missionary Videos
- Eternal Torah vs. New Testament
- The Real Messiah
- Isaiah 53

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By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

Trudi Birger

TORONTO — German-born Holocaust survivor, Trudi Birger, who as an 8-year-old child in a concentration camp was snatched from the doors of the crematorium by a commander, has devoted her life to fulfilling the promise she made when she was rescued.

"I vowed from that moment on, never to leave any child in distress," she recalls, "even if it meant I had to create miracles myself."

The mother of three and grandmother of nine has devoted her life to helping needy children. Birger is founder and president of Dental Volunteers for Israel (DVI), a non-profit, apolitical organization that provides free dental care to underprivileged children.

Birger, who visited Toronto recently from her home in Israel, to raise funds and recruit dentists for DVI, spoke at an Alpha Omega Dental Fraternity dinner, met with United Israel Appeal representatives, and attended the Ontario Dental Association convention.

Dubbed "the wonder child of the camps" Birger, a petite, blonde with sparkling blue eyes, is a tireless volunteer for poor families across Israel.

A microbiologist who gave up her career to become a volunteer, Birger established the Adopt-a-Child project, which she worked at after her work day. It became a universal model for helping underprivileged families.

"In the course of my voluntary work with needy families, I noticed that many children were in pain because their parents could not afford to provide them with dental care."

When she learned that the municipality had closed its school dental clinics due to lack of funds, she decided to help. (There is no dental insurance in Israel.) She founded DVI in 1980.

Since then, almost 2,500 dentists from 14 countries have participated in the program, paying their own way to come to Israel. They work in the clinic for periods of one to four weeks.

They get free apartments and in their spare time, they enjoy a busy schedule of trips and lectures and receive free concert and other event tickets. Many dentists have made return visits for what they call a working holiday.

The volunteers, aided in their work by eight bilingual assistants, treat more than 200 children a day, from ages 5 to 19. While waiting their turn, children and parents watch educational videos in the clinic's new prevention centre, where courses are regularly held on dental hygiene and nutrition.

Birger says that some 120 volunteers a year come to the clinic – about eight from Canada. She was enthusiastic after her talk at Alpha Omega and says she expects that there will be more than 16 volunteers coming from Canada this year.

She says, "I hope to recruit more Jewish dentists, as 95 percent of all dental volunteers are not Jewish."

The late Dr. Alfred Intrater was the driving force in the establishment of DVI in Canada and Dr. Stanley Jacobson is the current chair.

Birger notes that the women's auxiliary of Alpha Omega has an annual fundraising event for DVI.

"DVI is my life project. It is a project which has a broader benefit.

"It provides an opportunity for Israelis – Jews, Palestinians and Christians, and new immigrants from Russia, Ethiopia and Syria – to come together in a waiting room. There are very few other opportunities for all denominations to get together."

Birger received the Israeli President's Award for Volunteerism from Yitzhak Navon, president of the State of Israel in 1982. She was named Worthy of Jerusalem by Mayor Teddy Kollek in 1991, and this year, she was awarded one of Israel's most prestigious citations for communal service, The Health Minister's National Council of Volunteers in Israel Award.

Birger recently published a book on her life during the Holocaust titled, *A Daughter's Gift of Love*, which has been published in 13 countries.

"The book is a best seller in Italy and the publisher told me that the Pope has contacted them and wishes to meet with me."

She adds that she is looking for a producer to film her miraculous story of the Kovno Ghetto and the Stutthof concentration camp. Danish television recently presented a one-hour program on Birger's war experiences and her volunteer work.

For more information on Dental Volunteers for Israel, call 225-8400 or fax 225-5878.

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Seniors vent concerns over Holocaust reparations

Continued from page 3

Robert Krell, of Vancouver, a keynote speaker at the conference. He said the proposed settlement has caused turmoil in the ranks of British Columbia survivors.

"Is the trouble worth a couple of hundred dollars?" he asked. "If it was up to me, I would hand it back." His statement brought applause.

In reply to Krell, Rabbi Gunther Plaut, chair of the Canadian committee, said $2.5 million of the Swiss fund was allotted to Canada by the CJMWCG.

The settlement, which will be sent out in August, has to be divided among about 5,000 survivors who have filed claims that they are needy. Applications must be in before May 25.

One woman said she was "insulted" that she had to claim she was in need to get the $500. Another said she would give her $500 to charity.

Sam Catzman, of Beth Radom congregation, said officials had never checked with his synagogue to find out where survivors are living or whether they are in need.

More than 100 Canadians who were hidden with their families in the hills of Slovakia have been denied any compensation, Edmond Lipsitz said.

"They have been told that only those children who were separated from their families by being sent to convents, are eligible," he said.

The Conference is still trying to change the rules; the matter is complicated by the fact that young people are considered to have an adequate income of their own, Schneider said.

"You had seven years to find me," Gerda Freiberg said, complaining that the Conference took title to properties her mother's sister owned in East Germany. Schneider explained that heirs had to file their claims before the end of 1992.

Compensation for slave laborers is now being worked out with German firms and the German government, Schneider said in response to a question.

The Conference wants two pools of money set up, one for slave labor, which included most Jews, and one for forced labor, covering most non-Jews.

Some Canadians will be eligible for slave labor compensation, said Moshe Ronen, president of Canadian Jewish Congress, and a participant on the panel.

"The Shoah is unique in human history," Ronen said. "Jews were killed not for political conversion, not even for revenge, but for obsessive anti-Semitism."

He said he was thankful that Canada is offering a haven to Kosovar refugees. "At least the world has learned not to stand idly by."

He expressed annoyance that the government has not yet said it would support a free-standing Holocaust museum in Ottawa.

Baycrest Centre has 400 survivors among its population, said Roz Davidson, a conference co-chair. Another co-chair, Judy Cohen, thanked the speakers.

Survivors urged to pursue war era insurance claims

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Red tape, the lapse of 50 years and intractable companies should not prevent Holocaust survivors or heirs of its victims from pursuing war-era insurance claims, says a U.S. expert.

European-based insurance companies, especially those with subsidiaries wishing to do business in North America, are reluctantly beginning to pay out claims from the era, Deborah Senn, Washington state's insurance commissioner, told a small audience here last week in a talk sponsored by B'nai Brith Canada and Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue.

Some firms are paying out claims only because their refusal to do so would prevent them from doing business in the U.S. Senn said the Swiss-based giant Zurich has agreed to examine Holocaust-era claims because it wants to buy Farmers, a large U.S. insurer.

Senn, who regulates all areas of insurance in her state, said she discovered that Allianz Holdings of Germany, one of the world's largest insurance companies, has 12 subsidiaries in Washington alone.

She said at least 15 insurance companies have outstanding claims from Jewish families dating from the war, including Allianz, Zurich, Victoria Berlin and Assicurazioni Generali. During the war, salesmen from some firms went door-to-door selling policies, knowing their buyers would likely be deported and never seen again, she said.

The total amount of unpaid war-era claims on home, life, car and property insurance is in the billions of dollars, she estimated. Many policies were backed by U.S. dollars or gold, she added.

Earlier this month in London, five companies made significant concessions that should open the way to real progress.

A breakthrough at the final meeting of the seven-month-old International Commission on Holocaust Era Claims, chaired by former U.S. Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger, averted a last-minute crisis.

Eagleburger had threatened to tell the media that the talks had failed.

But at the 11th hour, the insurers agreed that policies dating back to the Holocaust should have interest and present-day currency values factored in when the policies are paid out.

As a result, a policy bought for $3,000 would be worth as much as $100,000 today.

Senn said she encountered resistance from companies when she first looked into the issue, but today, a number of them have come to the table.

She scoffed at the excuses some of them have used: that the policy-holder produced no death certificate, or that the country in which the policy was issued was nationalized by communists after the war.

Last year, the Italian-based insurer Generali established a $12 million fund in Israel to pay out claims. The company recently produced a CD of more than 100,000 names relating to unclaimed policies. But Senn said a claims process must be up and running before those names can be made public.

She and a team she assembled, attended last December's hearings in Washington, D.C. on war-era insurance and looted art. Canada sent seven delegates to the conference.

She said a national mechanism, such as a toll-free telephone number, is needed both in the U.S. and Canada.

In this country, the Canadian Life and Health Insurance Association has set up a hotline to handle Holocaust-era claims. The number is 416-359-2008.

"This isn't just about insurance claims," Senn said. "It's about memory. And it's a tool to teach the world about the Holocaust. We must use that tool."

Col. Ed Fitch

Joseph Enyew

Shyrna Gilbert

Ve'ahavta to honor five for humanitarian activities

TORONTO — Unsung heroes will be honored at a unique evening on June 8 by Ve'ahavta, the Canadian Jewish Humanitarian & Relief Committee.

The group, which is engaged in several humanitarian activities in Toronto and overseas, will pay homage to five heroes, some of whom risked their lives to help their fellow human beings.

Demetri Vardoulias

Ve'ahavta's Tribute to Acts of Courage will also feature musical presentations by Michael Burgess, Amy Sky, Liberty Silver, Billy Newton-Davis and Karen Wierzba.

A kosher dinner will be served under an open-air tent at Southbrook Farms in the city of Vaughan.

"This will be the Farm-Aid of Canada," enthuses co-ordinator Sandy Stern, referring to the many rock acts that performed in the 1980s to raise money for U.S. farmers.

The evening's honorees will be:

• Joseph Enyew, an Ethiopian Jew. At age 19, Enyew turned aside an offered flight to Israel, preferring to give it to a fellow Falasha. He spent the next year working with the Mossad to rescue some 1,500 Ethiopian Jewish refugees in the camp. He was often caught and tortured for his actions. Today, Enyew lives in Toronto and is on Ve'ahavta's board.

• Four Filipino sailors who risked their safety to ensure that the officers of the Taiwanese freighter, *Maersk Dubai,* were brought to justice for the murder of three Romanian stowaways. In 1998, the sailors were granted permission to stay in Canada.

• Col. Ed Fitch, who next month will become Canada's first Jewish general. In 1995, Fitch voluntarily extended his tour of duty in the former Yugoslavia to help NATO forces rebuild the country. (A full profile of Fitch will run in *The CJN* in the coming weeks.)

• Demetri Vardoulias, who will be honored posthumously for having rescued a Jewish child when Athens was occupied by the Nazis. He raised the child as his own. Vardoulias died in 1989.

• Shyrna Gilbert, a Toronto teacher who saved the life of a man who was her host while she was on a teaching program in Rwanda. In Toronto, she founded Hope for Rwanda Children's Fund to aid orphans of the country's genocide.

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Sorin was shot by a Ugandan guard. After being on the brink of death, he survived, but as a quadriplegic.

Through hard work and the support of family and Beit Halochem, Sorin managed to overcome his disabilities and successfully completed his Masters program at the University of Tel Aviv. It was during an evening course at Beit Halochem that he encountered his first computer and he has since established himself as a very busy and successful computer programmer.

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Brym focuses on Russian Jewry

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

Although he has visited Russia only once, Robert (Bob) Brym, a University of Toronto sociologist, is one of Canada's foremost authorities on Russian Jewry.

The son of East European Jewish immigrants, he has been studying the sociology of Russian Jews for slightly more than two decades now.

In 1978, when he was a professor at Memorial University in Newfoundland, he wrote *The Jewish Intelligentsia and Russian Marxism*, an analysis of the lives of 250 Russian Jewish intellectuals whose ideologies ran the gamut from Bolshevism and Bundism to Menshevikism and Zionism. Among his subjects were Lev Trotsky, Lev Kamenev, Vladimir Medem and Ber Borochov.

This, in turn, broadened Brym's interest in Russia and the Soviet Union. While still at Memorial University, Brym, 47, met Victor Zaslavsky, a Russian Jewish academic who had immigrated to Canada in 1976. They jointly wrote *Soviet-Jewish Emigration and Soviet Nationality Policy*.

In 1989, two years before the dissolution of the Soviet Union, Brym paid his first and so far only visit to the country whose depths he has plumbed so assiduously.

The Russian Academy of Science invited him to a sociological conference, and Brym jumped at the chance. It had a lasting impact on him. Several years later, he and a Russian collaborator, R. Ryvkina, conducted what he says was the first ever scientific survey of Jews in Russia, Ukraine and Belarus.

Published in 1994 under the title *The Jews of Moscow, Kiev and Minsk*, the book examined three inter-related issues: identity, anti-Semitism and emigration.

Since then, Brym has written several monographs on the state of Russian Jewry, the last one being *Russian Anti-Semitism, 1999-2000*. He presented the paper at a Harvard University conference last February. It will be published in a volume of essays, *Jewish Life after the USSR: A Community in Transition*, edited by two of the major scholars in the field, Zvi Gitelman and Marshall Goldman.

At the moment, Brym and a colleague from the University of Windsor, Tanya Basok, are working on a federal government survey of Toronto's Russian Jewish community. "My impression is that Russian Jews are not well integrated into Toronto's Jewish community," he said. "They come from a culture in which their Jewishness did not figure as a positive element of their identity. In a sense, Russian Jews appear alien to Toronto Jews."

In addition, Brym is putting together research proposals for surveys concerning the emergence of a "civil society" in Russia. These

Robert (Bob) Brym

polls, he explained, touch on Russian attitudes toward Jews.

Brym, who relies on the Internet for much of his raw data about Russia, believes that the fate of Russian Jewry depends less on the level of grassroots anti-Semitism than on the policies of highly placed politicians.

"Like the Soviet leadership, Russian political leaders today can help to dry up Russia's ample reservoir of anti-Jewish sentiment, or they can draw on it for their own sustenance."

According to Brym, the Communist party, which may yet control parliament (Duma) after the next election, has used anti-Semitism to galvanize support. "Very senior political figures are legitimizing anti-Semitism, suggesting that Jews are responsible for Russia's current economic ills."

Brym warned that their ha-

Continued on page 25

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Brym born in NB

Continued from page 24

rangues could ultimately be disastrous for Jews. "It may result in Brezhnev-era employment restrictions. The old numerus clausus could be resurrected."

In his view, Russia's politically weak president, Boris Yeltsin, has not seriously confronted anti-Semitism. Yet, anti-Semitism is not the force driving Jews out of Russia. "The majority of Jews in Russia today are intermarried and assimilated, and may not identity strongly as Jews. If they leave, it will be for economic reasons connected with the collapse of the ruble last August."

Brym pointed out that there are no reliable statistics regarding the number of Jews living in Russia. "There are from 250,000 to 600,000 Jews, depending on your definition of a Jew."

Despite his fascination with the topic, Brym spends relatively little of his time on Russian Jewry these days, part of the reason being that research funds are in short supply.

Brym, whose additional area of expertise is the sociology of Canadian politics, is currently co-writing an introductory sociological textbook for American university students. In 1995, he edited *New Society: Sociology for the 21st Century* for the Canadian market.

Six years ago, Brym and colleagues William Shaffir and Morton Weinfeld were editors of *The Jews in Canada*, a volume which found that the Jewish community is an aging one, resembling an hour glass rather than a pyramid.

Brym has not changed his assessment of the community's future. If it is not augmented by an influx of Jewishly minded immigrants, like the South Africans, the community will most probably decrease in size over the next 50 years, he observed.

Be that it as may, Jews are well integrated into Canadian society, he noted. "Our economic success is enormous, though our political influence doesn't match that of American Jews. We're the wealthiest ethnic group in the country."

The only child of Albert and Sophie Brym, he was born in Saint John, New Brunswick. Brym's father, a tailor from a shtetl near Lodz, found refuge in the Soviet Union after Germany's invasion of Poland in 1939. He toiled in a workers' battalion attached to the Red Army, and arrived in Canada after the war. Brym's mother, on the other hand, immigrated to Canada from Lithuania in the 1920s.

Brym left Saint John, a city he never quite felt at home in, to study at Dalhousie University in Halifax. He received BA and MA degrees from Dalhousie in 1972 and 1973, respectively, and a PhD from the University in Toronto in 1976. Brym joined the U of T faculty in 1978.

He and his wife, Rhonda Lenton, a Winnipegger and a sociology professor at McMaster University in Hamilton, have three children, Shira, Talia and Areilla, who range in age from 6 to 16.

Brym, who spent part of his undergraduate days at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, is one of the founders of Canadian Friends of Peace Now. He remains a card-carrying member, though not an activist.

He believes it is in Israel's interest to accept and come to terms with the inevitable – a sovereign Palestinian state in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

No fan of Benjamin Netanyahu, Brym claims that his term of office constitutes "one of the tragedies of modern Jewish history." As he put it: "Israel was on a course of normalization with the Arab world and the Palestinians, and this stopped with Netanyahu."

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Hebrew Benevolent Society to mark 100 years

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
CJN Staff

TORONTO — On January 15, 1899, a group of men met at Chasbury Hall at Queen and James streets to debate the merits of forming a sick benefit society.

As reported in the translated minutes of this inaugural meeting, the men unanimously decided to establish a society under the name of the Toronto Hebrew Benevolent Society, which they said, would continue to exist as long as there were seven members.

Yiddish was designated as the official language for meetings and minutes. They determined that members would be entitled to $5 a week for sick benefits or a week of shivah, and that the society would cover funeral expenses for brothers – as members were called then – and family members.

More than 100 years after this historic meeting, the Toronto Hebrew Benevolent Society continues with regular meetings and charity work. On May 30 the society will mark its 100th anniversary with a banquet and dance at Beth Torah Synagogue at 47 Glen Brook Ave.

In an interview, Al Sherman, spokesperson for the society, and a former president, remembered the days when he joined the group back in June 1945, on the advice of his brother-in-law, the late Phil Aiken.

At the time, the group was making the transition from conducting meetings in Yiddish to English. Very few members could take minutes in Yiddish, Sherman explained.

Monthly meetings were held in the Orange Hall, located at the corner of Euclid Avenue and College Street, until January 1958, when the group moved north to a new venue – Beth Habonim on Holiman Road.

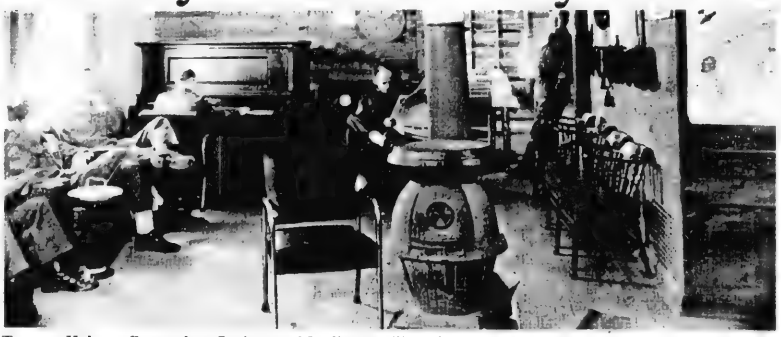
The members now have six breakfast meetings a year at the Beth David Bnai Israel Beth Am Synagogue.

He said, in the '40s, bowling was very popular and many people joined the society to play; the bowling league which began in 1934 with a handful of members grew to eight teams.

But he noted that the league no longer exists because many members can no longer play.

Sherman said in the first decades of this century, people joined the societies and fraternities to get medical services.

All the societies had doctors; members would pay them $1 per visit and the society subsidized the rest of the cost, he said. "In the early days, Jewish doctors couldn't go into hospitals. They were connected to synagogues and societies."



Toronto Hebrew Benevolent Society and Ladies Auxiliary funded the recreation room at Camp Borden, May, 1941. [Photo courtesy of Ontario Jewish Archives]

The wives of the members joined the society's women's auxiliary. They had had their own meetings, playing bridge at different homes, Sherman recalled.

In 1903, the society purchased a plot of land on Roselawn Avenue for $150, which was used for a cemetery; other cemetery lands at Dawes Road were later acquired as well, he noted.

The society established a brotherly fund in 1904 for those members in dire need or distress, he said. "Many thousands of dollars were given to members. It was always done in a quiet manner. Only a certain committee knew about it. It was never publicized."

Over the years, the Hebrew Benevolent Society has raised money for a number of charitable causes. In 1940, it established the Refugee and Welfare Fund, which supported the Red Cross and other war charities, and the Histadrut, Youth Aliyah, ORT and a variety of Zionist organizations.

The fund also covered the cost of furnishings for a recreation room for Canadian soldiers at Camp Borden.

Some of the many organizations that have benefitted from gifts from the Hebrew Benevolent Society include Baycrest Geriatric Centre and Hebrew University.

Today, Sherman goes to the breakfast meeting with his son Lloyd, where a core group of 30 members attend on a regular basis during the warmer months, he said. There are 140 members, and women of the brothers who have died are welcome at the meetings and 100th anniversary festivities.

Sherman said he is looking forward to the anniversary. "It's going to be a real fun do."

Members on the banquet committee are Wilf Ross, Mel Aiken, Marvin Brown and Lloyd Sherman. For more information about the banquet call 635-6262.

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Teen heads USY's social action tikkun olam portfolio

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

Nikki Greenspan

TORONTO — Nikki Greenspan's connection with United Synagogue Youth (the youth arm of the Conservative movement or USY) goes back before she was born.

Currently the only Canadian on its six-member international board, Greenspan – whose parents, Vanessa and Stan, met through the organization – is USY's international social action tikkun olam (SATO) vice-president, overseeing 18 regions across North America.

In 1997 she designed SATO's first Web site.

"We raise money for charities and help plan social actions. Some regions are doing drives for Kosovo."

Greenspan is also the USY representative to Sunnybrook Health Science Centre and organized a Chanukah party there last year.

USY has proved to be "exactly what I needed," Greenspan said in an interview at home, pausing every so often to remind Yenta, her large schnauzer, to behave.

"I like the Conservative ideals, and I like the atmosphere," said Greenspan, 18. She also cherishes the friendships she has formed with peers from Nome, Alaska south to Texas and California. "It's a little community."

Although Greenspan, an alumna of United Congregational Schools, is traditional in her observance, she is happy there is room for egalitarianism within the movement. "There's equal opportunity for everybody."

As an international board member, Greenspan is expected to uphold behavioral and religious standards such as Kashrut and Shabbat obervance.

Sometimes people ask her if she plans to "go back to normal" when her one-year vice-presidency ends in December. She had already increased her level of observance before she took on the position, but "some stuff I don't know if I would have been as strong about," she admitted.

"I don't think I'm going to change. I enjoy it so much."

Catching up on her sleep is one advantage to observing Shabbat, she noted. "I run on very little sleep – and I like coffee."

She estimates she devotes at least 20 to 30 hours a week to USY, at the chapter, regional and international level.

A longtime member of Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue's youth group, she also served as president of Eastern Canadian region (ECRUSY) – Ontario and Quebec – until recently.

In addition, she's been involved with the Hebrew Culture Club at William Lyon Mackenzie Collegiate Institute, where she is an OAC student, and where she organized Holocaust Education Week in 1996 and 1997.

She also serves as an adviser to Beth Emeth's Kadima group, working with 12- and 13-year-olds. "It's a lot of fun," she said.

Being a teenager and working with youth, Greenspan is optimistic about the future. "If you're pessimistic, you won't get anything done," she said.

Around her neck, Greenspan wears a silver and amber Magen David she bought at an open-air market in Poland, on last summer's USY Poland/Israel Pilgrimage.

Her involvement in USY has also taken her to Chicago, New York, Ottawa and most recently Kemptville, Ont. for meetings and conventions.

Next year, Greenspan will be pursuing environmental studies at York University. She hopes to incorporate Jewish studies as well.

Once her term as vice-president is up, she will be past the USY stage, but plans to become involved in KOACH, the campus component of the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism.

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On Campus

Students receive honors at JCS awards night

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Prof. Martin Lockshin had some advice for students at Jewish Campus Services' (JCS) fourth annual awards night.

"The time for you to influence people is now," he said, repeating advice he received almost 30 years ago from a former teacher shortly after graduating from the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto.

Jewish students have more credibility than someone who is a "professional Jew," he noted.

Lockshin, associate director of York University's Centre for Jewish Studies, received JCS' Founding Friend of the Campus award for his "unparalleled commitment to Jewish life on campus."

His brief address was met with standing ovations both before and after he spoke. The audience of 150 people at the University of Toronto's University College included about 50 students.

"[Lockshin's] students are much enriched and maybe even a little finer group of people," said graduating student Sharrona Pearl, who also received an award.

Pearl paid tribute to Lockshin's generosity, passion for his work and participation in campus programs.

"He has written tens of reference letters for me, and he always made me feel I was doing him a favor by letting him write them for me."

Lockshin also fought to ensure no classes are scheduled at York University on the High Holidays, Pearl noted.

Lockshin's daughter Chana said her father is "a wonderful father and teacher because he so closely combines parenting and teaching.

"He was my teacher for years before I took a class with him," she said. "In his capacity as an educator, he shows fatherly concern for his students...He truly loves and believes in his work."

The college years are likely the most important Jewish educational years, Lockshin said.

"We probably lose more Jews in the college years when they discover attractive non-Jewish ideas and attractive non-Jewish men and women."

But those students who become attracted to Judaism during the college years often become the most vibrant Jewish leaders, he said.

He finds it a "paradox" that the amount of community money allocated to Jewish education at the university level is relatively small.

Lockshin questioned why campus services are not the highest priority, although he noted the situation is improving.

JCS now receives $406,000 a year (80 percent of its budget) from UJA Federation and recently received a $50,000 grant from the umbrella organization's continuity committee for community college and GAP (graduate and professional) programming.

Earlier in the evening Zac Kaye, JCS executive director, said, "Tonight we also celebrate the furthering of our relationship with UJA Federation...[which] is expressing its confidence in our ability to deliver an outstanding campus program."

But the "sad problem" of the campus community, according to Lockshin, is that UJA Federation "generally believes in micromanaging budgets and making sure every penny of community money is spent in what they consider to be a reasonable way."

At the same time, JCS "believes in allowing students to make decisions about programming. Students do not take marching orders from the establishment," he noted.

"To me it makes perfect sense that students should run their own show," he said.

Martin Lockshin

Noting the imbalance of power in professor-student relationships, Lockshin said he feels "touched and honored that students sometimes allow me to take part in their activities. It's fun to work with students outside the classroom, and it's important work."

JCS Campus awards went to Tammy Weisz (Ryerson Polytechnic University); Shay Aba, Elise Levinoff and Jason Weshler (York University); Alex Greenberg, Leora Kesten, Sara Werb and Zahava Rosenberg (University of Toronto).

Citywide awards were also presented: Tau Omega chapter of AEPi (The UJA Federation Action Committee for Jewish Continuity Award for Enhancing Jewish Identity and Continuity); Carolynn McLean Schwartz (the Jacobovici Family Award for Arts and Culture); Judith Peranson (the Canadian Jewish News Award for Communication); Igal Hecht and Oren Cohen (The Gropper Family Award for Outstanding Leadership); Sharrona Pearl (The Paisley Manor Insurance Brokers Inc. Award for Special Involvement in Jewish Campus Life); Janice Elster (The Sidney Mednick Memorial Award for Building Pluralism and Diversity); Tally Wolf (The Nechama and Ya'akov Kaner Award for Creative Programming); Mark Buzaglo (The UJA Federation of Greater Toronto Award for Chesed and Social Justice); Sandy Benayon and Ellie Richmond (The JCS award for Ongoing Commitment to Jewish Student Life).

Speakers also included JCS board president Jack Zarek. Elli Mandel, chair of JCS' citywide social committee, opened and closed the program.

York University graduating student Sam Stone, who served as emcee, designed the awards. "One day they're going to be worth something," said Kaye.

Sam Stone, left, and Elli Mandel took part in Jewish Campus recent awards night at University College.

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צוויי וויכטיקע יידישע אינסטיטוציעס אין טאָראָנטאָ
פון אַלבערט ביינערמאַן

אונדזער שטאָט טאָראָנטאָ איז געבענטשט מיט אַ צאָל שיינע יידישע אינסטיטוציעס און געזעלשאַפטן, וואָס זיינען באַקאַנט איבער דער יידישער וועלט. מיט אַ באַפעלקערונג פון אַרום 165 טויזנט יידן איז דער טאָראָנטער ישוב זייער אָנזעעוודיק אויפן סאָציאַלן און קולטורעלן געביט. מען קען אַ סך שרייבן וועגן די אַלע אינסטיטוציעס, אָבער דאָס וואָלט פאַרנומען צופיל פּלאַץ. אפשר וועלן מיר דאָס סאָן ביי אַ צווייטער געלעגנהייט. היינט וועלן מיר זיך אָפּשטעלן בלויז אויף צוויי פון די וויכטיקע אינסטיטוציעס.

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די יידישע קולטור געזעלשאַפט

צוליב דעם, וואָס די יידישע שפּראַך און קולטור איז זייער וויכטיק פאַר אונדז, זיינען געגרינדעט געוואָרן אַ צאָל געזעלשאַפטן און קלובן, וואָס גיבן אַוועק אַ סך צייט און מי אויפצוהאַלטן אונדזער מאַמע־לשון. איינע פון די עלטסטע — שוין 40 יאָר — איז די „יידישע קולטור געזעלשאַפט". די דאָזיקע געזעלשאַפט איז געגרינדעט געוואָרן דורך יידיש־אַקטיוויסטן פון לאַנדסמאַנשאַפטן, פּאָליטישע פּאַרטיען און אָרגאַניזאַציעס, אַריינגערעכנט דעם טאָראָנטער יידישן קאָנגרעס. די דאָזיקע עסקנים קעמפן עקשנות'דיק פאַר דער יידישער שפּראַך און קולטור דורך שטיצן די זייער וויכטיקע געזעלשאַפט ביי אונדז אין שטאָט.

די טעטיקייטן פון דער „יידישער קולטור געזעלשאַפט" זיינען פאַרשיידנאַרטיק. יאָר איין, יאָר אויס ווערן אָראַנזשירט לעקציעס, פאָרטראַגן, הזכרות און קאָנצערטן, איז וועלכע עס נעמען אָנטייל חשובע שרייבערס, דיכטערט און בינע קינסטלערס פון אונדזער שטאָט און פון אויסלאַנד. דאָס צעטל פון די באַטייליקערס איז זייער לאַנג. צווישן זיי קען מען געפינען: ה. לייוויק, יעקב גלאַטשטיין, חיים גראַדע, אברהם סוצקעווער, איטשע גאָלדבערג, פרץ מיראַנסקי, הערשל פּאָליאַנקער, שמחה סימכאָוויטש, יוסף שוסטער, יהודה עלבערג, באָריס סאַנדלער, דזשעני אייזנשטיין, עלי מוידעל און נאָך, און נאָך.

די פירערס און שטיצערס פון דער קולטור געזעלשאַפט האַלטן עס פאַר זייער חוב אָפּצוהיטן דאָס יידישע לשון און די רייכע יידישע קולטור ירושה. עס איז אונדזער האָפנונג, אַז די „יידישע קולטור געזעלשאַפט" וועט נאָך קענען אָנגיין פאַר לאַנגע יאָרן מיט אירע וויכטיקע אַקטיוויטעטן לטובת אונדזער מאַמע־לשון און לטובת דעם יידישן ישוב אין טאָראָנטאָ.

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דער בעיקרעסט צענטער

טאָראָנטער יידן מעגן שטאָלצירן מיט אַ ריי געזעלשאַפטלעכע, קולטורעלע און קהילה אינסטיטוציעס, אויפגעבויט אין לעצטן האַלבן יאָרהונדערט. זיי שפּיגלען אָפּ דעם מערקווירדיקן וואוקס און די אַנטוויקלונג פון דער יידישער קהילה אין שטאָט. די קרוין פון די דערגרייכונגען איז, אָן ספק, דער בעיקרעסט צענטער, אַ פּרעכטיקע אינסטיטוציע אין אַלע פּרטים. פון קליינעם „מושב זקנים" אויף סיסל גאַס איז אויסגעוואַקסן די ריזיקע געביידע אויף באַטהוירסט גאַס. אין 1954 איז דערעפנט געוואָרן דער אימפּאָזאַנטער בנין אין האַרץ פון דער יידישער געגנט — דער נייער מושב זקנים און שפּיטאָל פאַר עלטערע יידישע בירגערס.

פיר באַזונדערע אָפּטיילונגען זיינען דאָרט פאַראַן: אַ שפּיטאָל, אַ טעגלעכער אויפזיכט קליניק („דעי קעיר"), אַ היים פאַר עלטערע מענטשן און דער וואַגמאַן צענטער. אין די לעצטע צוויי אָפּטיילונגען וואוינען אַרום 1200 מענטשן. עטלעכע הונדערט קומען זיך באַנוצן מיט דער טעגלעכער באַדינונג. צוויי טויזנט אָנגעשטעלטע און איבער אַ טויזנט וואָלונטירן באַדינען זיי.

עס ווערן דאָרט דורכגעפירט פּראָגראַמען אויף פאַרשיידענע געביטן: פיזישע איבונגען, קלאַסן פאַר שפּראַכן, קולטור־לעקציעס, געזעלשאַפטלעכע צוזאַמענקומען, מוזיק און געזאַנג קאָנצערטן און אַנדערע אונטערהאַלטונגען.

דער בודזשעט פון בעיקרעסט, וואָס באַטרעפט אין די מיליאָנען דאָלאַרן, ווערט געדעקט אין דער גרעסטער מאָס פון דער פּראָווינציעלער און מוניציפּאַלער רעגירונג. עס העלפן אויך אַרויס די שטאָטישע און יידישע צדקה קאַמפּיינען, ווי „יונייטעד וועי", „פאַראייניקטער יידישער אַפּיל" און אַנדערע, ווי אויך די אָפּצאָלונגען פון די איינוואוינערס.

דער בעיקרעסט קאָמפּלעקס איז איינער פון די שענסטע אין דער וועלט. עס קומען אַהער דעלעגאַציעס פון אַנדערע שטעט און לענדער, כדי זיך צו באַקענען מיט דער וואונדערבאַרער, אַלזייטיקער טעטיקייט פון דער אינסטיטוציע. דאָס גיט גרויס אָנזען דעם טאָראָנטער יידישן ישוב.

Dry Bones

Re-Elect
Mike Colle
Eglinton-Lawrence
LIBERAL
www.MikeColle.com

Mike Colle: A Record of Service... A Record of Action

During the past four years, MPP Mike Colle has emerged as one of the most energetic and effective members of the Ontario Legislature.

Serving in Opposition hasn't stopped Mike from getting things done:

- ✓ MPP Mike Colle successfully led the campaign for Red-Light Cameras convincing the government and communities across Ontario to support Red-Light Cameras at dangerous intersections;
- ✓ MPP Mike Colle was on the front lines with small business owners and homeowners in the fight against outrageous property tax increases resulting from provincial reassessment;
- ✓ MPP Mike Colle led the opposition to the shutdown of Emergency wards and the closing of local hospitals like Northwestern and Branson;
- ✓ MPP Mike Colle helped organize community-wide opposition to the proposed closure of neighbourhood schools;
- ✓ MPP Mike Colle has led the fight for consumers opposing Gas Price Gouging. As Consumer Affairs Critic he also helped to stop the door to door "natural gas brokers" who were targeting seniors.

Join the Team!

Get Involved with Mike's Campaign Team and Help Elect Mike Colle as the MPP for Eglinton-Lawrence

787-0092
2917 Dufferin St.

Fax: 782-6889
E-mail: Mike@MikeColle.com
Website: www.MikeColle.com

What People Say...

Mike Colle is an outstanding MPP who is always working hard and standing up for his constituents. Mike gets things done. He did a great job on the Red-Light Cameras and in helping small business. We need him back at Queen's Park.

MAYOR MEL LASTMAN

"When I needed support for the Dionne sisters at Queen's Park, Mike Colle was there to help."

CLAYTON RUBY, *Lawyer*

"It has been my honour and privilege to have known Mike Colle and his family since he was a young boy. He is an outstanding Community leader."

JOHNNY LOMBARDI

"Mike Colle has vigorously and passionately defended Rent Control, Health Care, Education and fair taxes and must be returned to Queen's Park. Vote Mike Colle and he will fight for you!"

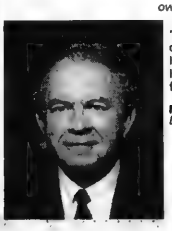
KAY GARDNER, *Former Councillor and Tenant Activist*

"Mike Colle has been most supportive of our community in the issues that matter most."

LES SCHEININGER, *Former President Canadian Jewish Congress*

"Mike is always there when you need him, he is a great friend of small business. He has always been there fighting for us and supporting us."

ALBERT WIGGAN, *owner Albert's Real Jamaican Foods*



"Mike Colle has done an outstanding job in holding the Harris government accountable. He is an outspoken advocate for his constituents."

MONTE KWINTER, *Liberal MPP Wilson Heights*

Authorized by CFO for Mike Colle campaign.

Coast to Coast

Israeli, Canadian educators forge new partnerships

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — A formal delegation of Israeli Education Ministry officials made its way across Canada this month to study Jewish education here and to seek new ways to forge partnerships.

But besides the hasbarah value of the 2½-week trip, participants said it also produced concrete ideas that could translate into action.

In Quebec City, the group met with top bureaucrats from the education and international affairs ministries, and according to Felix Melloul, director of the Association of Jewish Day Schools (AJDS), they were told that the province might in future consider underwriting student exchange programs for public school students.

"The ministry indicated it wants to bridge the gap with Israel," Melloul said.

But Amnon Shinar, director of United Israel Appeal (UIA) Canada in Jerusalem, stressed that while such public support would be welcome, the primary focus of the visit remained to create stronger links between Jewish educators and students in both countries.

"The idea is to have co-operation in two fields: teacher training and curriculum development," Shinar said. "The key words are mutuality and partnership."

"There are now 20 schools in Israel 'twinned' with 20 schools in Canada, and there's no more money," Shinar said of the approach to the Quebec government. "We've reached a stage where Jewish community resources are not enough."

That sentiment was echoed by Yitzhak Tomer, the group's leader and the Israel Education Ministry's superintendent of the Southern District.

"We start at this point and expand the relationship to public schools," he said, "and you need a real budget to run such a program."

"We are convinced, after visiting Montreal," Tomer said, "that there is a real basis for creating relationships with this community," a move that's already underway through a planned pilot project involving teacher exchanges.

"We found out we can learn a lot from each other," he said.

The latest trip was the natural outgrowth of a twinning process that began years ago with Project Renewal and evolved into Partnership 2000 programs to counter long-held perceptions, Shinar said.

Toronto launched a program two years ago, called Living Bridges, which saw its own and Israeli educators enter discussions and implement exchange programs with Israeli schools that saw students from both countries interact at a much more basic and human level.

Such efforts have produced enhanced curriculum development, better teachers in both Canada and Israel, and stronger Jewish identity and identification with Israel at an earlier age.

"After two years, we saw that this model worked," Shinar said, and that led to the Israel Education Ministry being approached to sponsor the formal visit by ministry officials, by far the most ambitious to date.

Shinar jokingly called the trip, Canada 101, as they were also scheduled to visit Ottawa, Toronto, Winnipeg, Calgary and Vancouver, before returning to Israel May 12.

In Montreal, the group appeared impressed with what they saw and heard.

"We were very surprised at how Jewish identity is so strong and deep and unique here," said Simcha Shneor, deputy director-general of Israel's Education Ministry and director of its development department.

"During all our meetings here, we got the feeling that each party really wanted to know each other and to strengthen the relationship between the two educational systems."

MOVING?

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The Canadian Jewish news

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Comics to raise funds for hospital

TORONTO — *As Funny as it Gets II* is a serious attempt by five Toronto comics to raise funds in support of Canadian Friends of Ezrath Nashim-Herzog Hospital.

The comics will perform an evening of stand-up comedy at the Leah Posluns Theatre, 4588 Bathurst St., May 27 at 7:30 p.m.

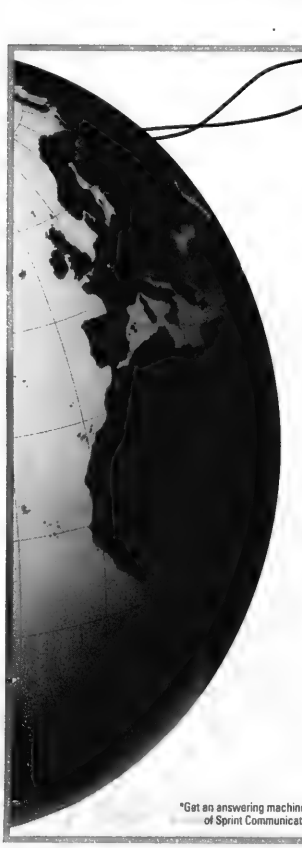
Steve Levine, who has appeared on *Eye on Toronto*, *Comics* and the *Dini Petty Show*, is the evening's featured entertainer.

He'll be joined by Simon Rakoff, who holds the record for most appearances on *Open Mike with Mike Bullard* and Les Aaron, who has appeared many times at Yuk Yuks, Comedywood and The Laugh Resort. Daniel Cole and Adam Growe round out the bill.

All proceeds from the evening will go to assist research at Ezrath Nashim-Herzog Hospital into Alzheimer disease.

Ezrath Nashim-Herzog Hospital provides geriatric and psychiatric services for the population of greater Jerusalem. It is the third-largest hospital in Jerusalem with 330 beds, and it's known for its research into Alzheimer and Parkinson's disease, as well as treatment of depression and schizophrenia.

Tickets can be purchased in advance for $25 by calling 256-4222 or at the door for $30. A reception will follow the show.



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Coast to Coast

Scene in Ottawa

By G.K. SIMCOE

We now return to our occasional series on the current state of the five political parties represented in the 36th Parliament. In the first instalment, we looked at challenges facing the natural governing party (a.k.a. the governing Liberals). Our attention now turns to the official opposition, the Reform party, which must confront some daunting challenges of its own.

Later this month, the Reform party will undertake a membership-wide referendum on the option of assuming a new identity, the United Alternative (UA).

Two-thirds of the national caucus has pledged its support to the UA option. This should not be surprising given Preston Manning's position in favor of redefining, or to use his words, "broadening the access and appeal" to the essential Reform agenda. However, it is surprising. In fact, everything about the UA initiative is surprising once one tries to wed certain developments with basic Reform principles.

Firstly, accurately reflecting the desires of one's constituents is a fundamental tenet of the Reform party. Almost everyone concedes that UA proponents will not secure the double majority needed to carry the day. If one factors into the equation that the majority of support for the United Alternative is within the Ontario wing of the party, how can all those western MPs buck the will of their constituents?

Secondly, for all intents and purposes, Manning has tied his leadership to the success of the United Alternative. He believes that Reform will be doomed as a regional party unless it can "woo" Ontario, and understands that at its current levels, Reform support in Ontario will not translate into seats in the House of Commons. If the UA initiative goes up in smoke, Manning will burn with it. Looking at the damage to his credibility caused by his flip-flop on Stornoway, back-tracking on the UA will propel Manning beyond rehabilitation.

The irony of this saga is that if Manning is finished as leader, Reform is likely finished as a credible force on the federal scene. That scenario could very well prove the necessary catalyst for the emergence of a new "party of the right" which could ultimately achieve the cross country unity that has eluded Preston Manning for the last decade.

Mitzvah Marketplace is held in Ottawa

By DIANE KOVEN
Ottawa Correspondent

OTTAWA — The Jewish community needs to reach out to those in need of help, said Chuck Rotenberg, a panel member at the second annual Mitzvah Marketplace, a program about volunteering in the community, sponsored by Agudath Israel Synagogue.

The panel discussion, entitled Coping with Change throughout the Lifecycle, also featured social worker Shoshana Kagedan, who discussed the impact of divorce on children and families; Dr. Marcia Zuker, who does geriatric assessments at the Ottawa General Hospital; and Maxine Stata, program co-ordinator at St. Luke's Lunch Club, a drop-in centre for homeless men, women and children.

Stata pointed out that "some people view homelessness as a characteristic, rather than a situation one finds oneself in."

She spoke of how circumstance or an unhappy twist of fate can render one homeless, either temporarily or chronically, and urged the audience to open their hearts and minds to those less fortunate.

Participants were invited to browse through the Mitzvah Marketplace where organizations had booths to display their wares.

Scouts Canada, the Cancer Society, the Children's Aid Society, Jewish Family Services and the Good Companions Seniors Centre were among a host of groups that had volunteers on the spot to discuss their work.

Co-chairs of the event were Yaffa Greenbaum-Shinder and Marion Mayman.

SINGLES EVENTS Singles Events is an advertising feature of *The CJN*

Deadline is Wednesday, 4pm, 8 days preceding issue date.

For rates or to place an ad, call:

TANYA at (416) 391-1836

The CJN encourages readers to direct any queries they may have on an upcoming event to the event's organizers.

Canadian Friends of Ezrath Nashim - Herzog Hospital presents An Evening of stand-up comedy, **"AS FUNNY AS IT GETS II,"** Thursday, May 27, 1999 at 7:30pm, Leah Posluns Theatre. Reception to follow. All proceeds to support Alzheimers Research. $25 in adv., $30-door. **Tickets: 416-256-4222.**

Darren, Mark & Ari Present 'Long Weekend Bash' at The Courthouse Chamber Lounge. For ages 19 - late 20's. Sun., May 23 at 9:00pm. 10 Court St. (south of Adelaide/north of King/west of Church/ east of Yonge). Lots of parking. ID req'd. No running shoes or hats. Dance music, Jazz, cigar lounge. Expanded facilities with 4 floors of entertainment. Live to air on Mix 99.9. Tickets $10-adv, $12-door. Hotline: 416-713-0024. TicketMaster: 870-8000.

DYNAMIC SINGLES OF ADATH ISRAEL
Invites singles 35 or better to Brunch,11:30am on Sun, May 30
Listen to the sounds of Jazz by *"Any Time Now"*
AND enjoy good food!
Cost: Prepaid - $10.00 (by 3pm Fri., May 28) or $15.00 at door.
Dress code - Elegant Casual.
Adath Israel Congregation
37 Southbourne Ave., Toronto.
Registration: (416) 635-5340

Finally... A Party For The Older Crowd. 'Round 30. Late 20's - late 30's exclusively. ID required. Sun., May 23, 9:30pm at The Indian Motorcycle, 335 King St. W. Tickets: $10 w/business card, $15 without. Presented by Darren, Mark & Ari. Hotline 713-0019. Dress to impress. Dancing. Portion of proceeds benefit Indian Motorcycle Charity Fund.

Huge Roof Top Dance Party. Sat., May 22, 8-11pm. Performers also welcome. **905-763-1786.**

Jewish Singles Registry Over 1730 members. View photos. **483-4151.**

Singles Scene, 25-40. Sensational Spring. A Jewish View of Pleasure Leisure & Fun! Speaker/discussion w/Rabbi Skobac. Wed., May 26 at 8pm at Beth Emeth Synagogue, 100 Elder St. No charge.

3 Strikes You're Out!!!
Blue Jays vs. Kansas. Mon.,June 21 at 7pm. $15. Call Rhonda to reserve by May 26 at 905-731-9441.

Temple Sinai Singles, Ages 35-55 Presents 'An Old Tyme Camp Sing Song.' Sing along to banjo & guitar. Folks songs too. Thurs., June 3 at 8pm. Join us for this casual, fun evening at Temple Sinai Social Hall, 210 Wilson Ave. $5 at door. Light refreshments. No reservations required.

www.jewishintroductions.com or call **604-857-7880.**

www.jmatch.com Free to register, free profile page, free to browse.

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for your caring support and generosity
during Fela's illness and our time of mourning.
Tom, Debby, Shannon & Lucas Jacobs

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Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue, 470 Glencairn Ave.
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What's New

By Miriam Herman

CANADIAN SOCIETY FOR YAD VASHEM
News Flash
ISRAEL MISSION
October 7 - 21
Watch for details
Please call (416) 785-1333

DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Tuesday, May 25, is deadline for June 3 issue, and Monday, May 31, is deadline for June 10. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Thursday, May 20

SHAVUOT ALL NIGHTER

The Village Shul, 1072 Eglinton Ave. W., study sessions run from midnight until 5 a.m. (caffeine and munchies to keep you going), morning prayer services follow at 5 a.m. and 9 a.m. 785-1107.

ALL NIGHT LEARNING

Shavuot all night learning at the Minsk, led by **Rabbi Shmuel Spero**. Interesting classes and discussions and all the cheesecake you can eat! Minchah 8:30. Reserve for meals. Anshe Minsk Congregation, 10 St. Andrew St. 595-5723.

Sunday, May 23

YIDDISH COUNCIL

At the Yiddish Culture Council meeting, **Chava Rosenfarb** speaks on the Life and Achievements of Abraham Sutskever, 8 p.m., Workmen's Circle, 471 Lawrence Ave. W.

JUDAISM & THE OCCULT

As part of Congregation Habonim's Jewish Wisdom seminars, **Rabbi Michael Skobac** presents Judaism and the Occult, followed by discussion. 2 p.m., 5 Glen Park Ave.

AT CUMMER LODGE

The Mitzvah Volunteers of Cummer Lodge host the Shavuot celebration for residents and next-of-kin, entertainment by singer **Lindi Rivers** and pianist **Jose Shapero**. Refreshments, blintzes, applesauce, sour cream, strawberries 2:30 p.m. 205 Cummer Ave.

Monday, May 24

CRAFT & GIFT SALE

Na'amat Craft and Gift Sale has something for everyone plus performances by Chamber Music Trio, special attractions, hourly draws, clowns, balloons, silent auction. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Bayview Village Shopping Centre. 636-5425 days, 633-6538 evenings.

Tuesday, May 25

WOMEN IN ISRAEL

Canadian Friends of Bar-Ilan University presents **Dr. Ruth Halperin-Kaddari**, faculty of law, Bar-Ilan University, speaking on Religion, State and Modernity: Women in Israel Meet the Challenge, 7:30 p.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue

BOOK LAUNCH

The launching of *The Ransomed of God*, the remarkable story of one woman's role in the rescue of Syrian Jews, by **Harold Troper**, 7:30 p.m., Beth Tzedec Synagogue. This is the true story of how Torontonian **Judy Feld Carr** helped the Jewish population of Syria escape from tyranny and re-settle in Israel.

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Shaarei Shomayim Sisterhood luncheon meeting with **Tania Pape** from Circle of Care speaking on Assessing Community Resources. 12:30 p.m. **Ruth Fruitman** 905-731-6660.

Wednesday, May 26

ART & SOUL ART AUCTION

Baycrest Centre's Art & Soul Art Auction takes place at the Barbara Frum Atrium, Canadian Broadcasting Centre, 250 Front St. Art preview and silent auction is at 6 p.m., live art auction at 7:30. Music provided by Soul Stew. Dietary laws observed. Tickets $90 can be purchased by phone or at the door. **Mary** 785-2500, ext. 2049.

TEA AND FASHIONS

Renana Chapter, Toronto Hadassah-WIZO Youth Aliyah Tea and Fashion Show features women's fashions by Franco Mirabelli, children's fashions by Chickaboom, hats by Susan Spindel, boutiques, door prizes. 8 p.m., Pride of Israel Synagogue, 59 Lissom Cres. $18

Thursday, May 27

ISRAEL AT THE POLLS

Canadian Friends of Peace Now features **Prof. Galia Golan**, spokesperson for Shalom Achshav, speaking on Israel at the Polls: Whither the Peace Process?. Business meeting 7:30 p.m., public lecture 8 p.m., Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, 252 Bloor St. W. 905-764-3997.

AS FUNNY AS IT GETS

Canadian Friends of Ezrath Nashim-Herzog Hospital evening

Continued on page 33

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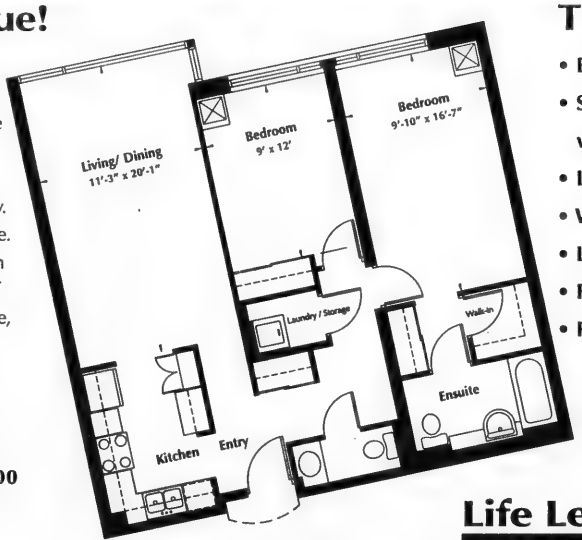

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What's New

Continued from page 32

of stand-up comedy, As Funny As It Gets II, 7:30 p.m., Leah Posluns Theatre. Reception to follow. All proceeds to support Alzheimer disease. Tickets 256-4222.

BOWERY TO BROADWAY

Prof. Gordon Bean presents Irving Berlin-from the Bowery to Broadway, 2 p.m. at Forest Hill Place 645 Castlefield Ave. Reserve. **Marlene** or **Susan** 785-1511.

And What Else Is New

FAREWELL RECEPTION

Attention former Or Chaim/Ulpanat Orot students and parents! Join in the farewell reception in honor of **Rabbi Moses Yeres, Gloria Fuerstenberg, Terry Milstone, Dr. Rangnekar, Dinah Sherwood, Melville York** plus two families that are returning to Israel after shlichut, Monday, June 7. Shaarei Tefillah Congregation at 8 p.m. RSVP by May 31. 630-6772 or 638-5434.

JEWS FOR JUDAISM

Jews for Judaism Counter-Missionary Survival Seminar, taught by **Julius Ciss** and **Rabbi Michael Skobac** , Sunday, May 30, 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Jews for Judaism Centre, Main Exchange Plaza, 800 Steeles Ave. W. $36 includes materials and catered lunch. Register. 905-761-0040.

AISH HATORAH

Aish HaTorah Thornhill, 949 Clark Ave. W. 905-764-1818.

Riding Out the Storm, Understanding Your Adolescent, for parents of children ages 10-16, with **Dr. Mark Rothman,** psychologist, Sunday, May 23, 8 p.m. $5/person, $8/couple.

Challah Baking, hands-on class, for guys Wednesday, May 26, for girls Thursday, May 27, 8 p.m. $8/person. Register.

ALUMNI REUNION

Leo Baeck Day School marks its 25th anniversary with an alumni reunion Sunday, May 30, 2-4 p.m. at its Thornhill Campus, 36 Atkinson Ave. Clowns, carnival games, music, disc jockey. dunk tanks, basketball courts.

WINDSOR HAPPENING

Windsor Jewish Community Centre fine art auction fundraiser with Park West Gallery, Sunday, May 30, at the centre, 1641 Ouellette Ave. Preview 6:30 p.m., auction 7:30. Admission $5. 519-973-1772.

DYNAMIC SINGLES

Dynamic Singles of Adath Israel (35 or better) brunch, 11:30 a.m., Sunday, May 30. Jazz by Any Time Now. Prepaid $10 (by Friday, May 28), $15 at door. Register 635-5340.

CONCERT

The annual Jeanette Goldhar Memorial Concert of favorite Jewish classics with York Symphony Orchestra conducted by **Robert De Clara**, and featuring cellist **Ron Laurie**, pianist **Murray Baer**, composer **Sasha Weinstangel**, Monday, May 31, 8 p.m., Leah Posluns Theatre. $20, $15, patrons $125. **Jerry Nesker** 221-5521.

BABYSITTING COURSE

St. Johns babysitting course, must be 11 plus, Sunday, June 6, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue. $36 (pizza lunch included). Register. **Rhonda** 905-731-9441.

TRIP TO CASINO RAMA

Jewish Women International, Orah Chapter, trip to Casino Rama, Sunday, June 27, leaving Promenade Shopping Mall 9:30 a.m., departing Casino Rama 4 p.m. $6 includes lunch. Reservations **Rhonda** 905-889-0432 or **Gloria** 739-6776

ATTENTION SINGLES

B'yachad (ages 55-70), a group with a difference, fun and intellectual stimulation, opening meeting Monday, May 31, when **Rebbetzin Tanenbaum** speaks on Journeying the Wilderness,7 p.m., at Beth Tzedec Synagogue. Refreshments, entertainment. $5. **Olga** 736-6776.

WOMEN'S GOLF

Jewish Women International Sha'aron Chapter all women's golf tournament fundraiser, Monday, June 7, Rolling Hills Golf Course (Club Link). Register, **Marilynne Sokoloff** 905-881-5354.

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JF & CS GROUPS

Jewish Family & Child Service groups and workshops. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

Beyond the Chupah: Becoming a Couple, 6-week Marriage Preparation program, begins Wednesday, May 26.

Separation and Divorce Workshops: Shared Parenting: Making It Work, facilitator **Nancy Kumer,** May 25; Adolescents & Divorce: A Trying Time For Teens, workshop for parents of teens, facilitator **Penny Appleton**, June 9.

Living With Teens, May 25; Looking Ahead for recently separated and divorced, begins June 1.

SINGLES SCENE

Under the auspices of Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue. **Rhonda** 905-731-9441.

25-35 Group: Discussion, A Jewish View of Pleasure, Leisure and Fun with **Rabbi Michael Skobac**, Wednesday, May 26, 8 p.m., at the synagogue.

35-55 Group: Billiard Nite, Sunday, May 30, 7:30 p.m., Heros. $5. RSVP.

All Singles: Boris the Hypnotist at Comedywood, Thursday, June 3, 7 p.m. $7. RSVP.

Last call! Blue Jays vs. Kansas at the Skydome, June 21, 7 p.m. $15. Reserve by May 21.

SINGLES EVENTS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 31

FOR SENIORS

LZA Seniors Club in the Borochov Cultural Centre, 272 Codsell Ave., is open for socializing Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Ladies Folkdancing class Thursdays, 1:30 p.m. Cultural Discussion Group Tuesdays 10 a.m. Register to see *My Fair Lady* at Stage West Wednesday, June 16; Famous People Players Sensational Lunch and Performance, *Leave the Porch Light On* Wednesday, Sept. 29. 630-9444.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). May 13, bingo; May 20, closed for Shavuot; May 27, video *Les Miserables*; June 3, bingo; June 24, lecture, **Prof. Sara Ginaite** discusses her experience in the Resistance in Lithuania. **Jerry Bengall,** president, 905-707-7334.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: July 27, trip to Kingston, cruise, entertainment; Aug. 25, morning cruise, matinee *Move Over Mrs. Markham* at Gryphon Theatre; Oct. 12, *West Side Story* at Stratford. **Lena** 785-5773. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: May 23-25 Ottawa; May 27, June 16 and 30, Casino Rama; July 5-11 Catskills; Sunday dances May 30, June 6, 13, 27, 7-9 p.m.; lessons for cutting special glass twice a week with instructor. 395-7881.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Shavuot celebration, a program of song and dance, arranged by the Intergenerational Committee and including kindergarten children from United Synagogue Day School, Thursday, May 20, 10-11 a.m. **Ruth Mapa**.

Osteoporosis Support Group, Tuesday, May 25, 1:15-2:15 p.m. **Dr. Jenny Chueng**, doctor of naturopathic medicine, discusses The Use of Phytoestrogens in the Treatment of Osteoporosis, **Joan**.

Wellness lecture, Cancers in Men, **Bev Johnson,** Toronto Sunnybrook Regional Cancer Centre, Thursday, May 27, 1:15-2:15 p.m.

Hearing Assistance Clinic, **Brenda Vernon**, Canadian Hearing Society, Thursday, May 27, 1:15-4 p.m. Book appointment. ext. 131.

Concluding lecture of the course on Introduction to the Schools of Psychology, Part 1, with **Sidney Soban** Tuesday, May 25, 10 a.m.

Israeli Club Etrog: Do you speak Hebrew? Join club members Tuesdays at 7 p.m. for movies, lectures, dances, sing-alongs, bingo, picnics. May 25, bingo. **Anna** ext. 110.

Movie, *Since You've Been Gone* Sunday, May 23, 2:30 p.m.

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.

Song of Songs: Music, Drama and Dance, May 26 and 30, June 2. Artists of Jewish, Christian and Arabic heritage interpret the ancient biblical text. Call Bloor JCC or Bathurst Jewish Centre, 636-1880, ext. 0, for details and locations.

Seniors Club Spring Tea, door prizes, surprises, Thursday, May 27, 2 p.m. **Judy**.

BGU THEATRE EVENING

Ottawa Chapter of Ben-Gurion University leadership poses with Israeli ambassador and cast of *Still the Night* following benefit for BGU's Centre for Women's Health Studies and Promotion held recently at the National Arts Centre in Ottawa. From left Natalie Stern, president, Ottawa chapter; Theresa Tova, playwright; Dr. Norman Barwin, Ottawa board of directors; Sidney Chelsky, national president, Canadian Associates of BGU; Israeli Ambassador David Sultan; Liza Balkan, actor; Mary Ellen Mahoney, actor; Adina Sultan.

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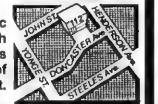

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Netanyahu campaign unravels at the end

By YOSSI VERTER
Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's strategy collapsed completely on the weekend.

The withdrawal of Yitzhak Mordechai and Benny Begin from the race for prime minister pulled the rug from under Netanyahu's feet.

Twenty hours before the polls opened, he found himself facing the doomsday scenario in its full horror: head to head with Ehud Barak, with an almost impossible gap to bridge in the polls, and without the prospect of a run-off vote.

Netanyahu built his whole campaign on the premise of a second round in which he hoped to be able to inject a combative spirit into his troops, win back those who were disappointed in him and deprive Barak of Arab votes.

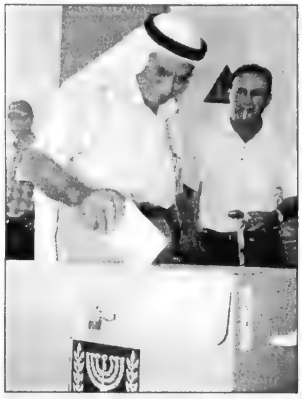
There was only one problem: There would be no run-off without the help of Netanyahu's two bitter rivals, Mordechai and Begin.

Netanyahu discovered that the desire to topple him overcame even Mordechai's stubbornness and Begin's ideology.

In his press conference Sunday, Mordechai explained he had learned only that morning what everyone else had known for months: the polls ruled him out as a viable candidate.

He gave the impression of not believing what he himself was saying.

Flanking Mordechai were Amnon Lipkin-Shahak and Dan Meridor. Both had turned down offers of senior positions from Barak. Both had thought that only Mordechai could win big.



An Arab-Israeli votes in Taibe.

The most dramatic election campaign in Israel's history reached the finish line with an astonishing balance of forces. The leader of the Labor party went into the election with the support of most of the former Likud leadership: David Levy, Mordechai, Meridor and Roni Milo.

Even from his wheelchair, Mordechai Rozental votes in Ra'anana.

Much had even been said about Ehud Olmert's contribution to Barak's campaign.

Also backing Barak were three retired popular generals whom Netanyahu had courted: Yossi Peled, Matan Vilnai and Doron Rubin. Netanyahu had only Brigadier General Amal Assad on his side.

As the nightmare turned into reality, Netanyahu convened one of the most bizarre press conferences ever held in the Prime Minister's Office.

Besides three ministers, a few former activists of the Centre party, whom Netanyahu said were returning to Likud, sat behind the prime minister. One of them wore a pink cardboard sign on which he had penned, "I'm coming home."

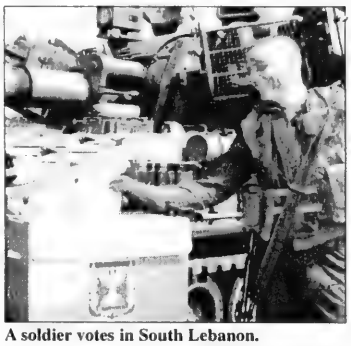
It looked like an end-of-year play in a third-grade class at a school with meager means and no vision.

Barak had hoped to garner half of Mordechai's votes and a third of those who were undecided. To consolidate his victory he needed a high turnout among the Arabs.

He also hoped that the Russian voters had told the truth to the pollsters. Barak's American advisers, particularly Stanley Greenberg, predicted a lopsided victory.

Netanyahu hoped for a miracle, and miracles, as we know, do happen.

But this one required a last-minute awakening in Likud, the return home of all those who defected to Mordechai, a dramatic reversal among the Russians, a mysterious epidemic in the Arab towns, and a total failure of the poll predictions.



A soldier votes in South Lebanon. [Israel Sun photos]

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Cultivating opportunities for peace

By GIL TROY
Special to The CJN

When May 4, Yasir Arafat's "sacred day," passed with no declaration of Palestinian statehood, most Jews sighed with relief.

Commentary

Those on the left, hailed Arafat's discipline; he refused to endanger the Oslo accords and guarantee Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's re-election. Those on the right, celebrated the end of Oslo's five-year interim period and another Palestinian retreat.

There was a farcical, emperor-has-no-clothes element to this statehood declaration crisis. For like it or not, the Palestinians already have a state. But, even worse, this pinched, tactical, legalistic, too-clever-by-half approach to Oslo – from both the left and the right – is shameful and telling. And it will continue, irrespective of the outcome of this week's election in Israel.

It reflects our overall failure, in Israel and abroad, to embrace what may have been an extraordinary opportunity.

For years, Zionists yearned for peace – publicly, flamboyantly, promiscuously. Whether we sang *Oseh Shalom* – He who Makes peace – in the synagogue, or the

Gil Troy

hipper *Shir LaShalom* – song for peace – on the beach, we united in our peace fetish. "If only we had someone to negotiate with," we mourned. "If only the Arabs yearned for peace as intensely as we do," we sighed. "Ach, those Palestinians, they never miss an opportunity to miss an opportunity," we sneered.

Then along came Oslo, abruptly, surprisingly, miraculously. Seemingly overnight, we would negotiate with our fiercest enemies. Arafat, the murderer became a "moderate," the "peacemaker."

From the start, Oslo was an ugly agreement. It was messy, ambiguous, complicated, with too many pages, too many stages, too many maps, and too many unanswered questions. It rapidly became an ugly peace, as the healing image of Bill Clinton shepherding Yitzhak Rabin and Yasir Arafat into their awkward but sincere handshake dissolved into the heartbreaking images from the buses of Jerusalem, from the streets of Tel Aviv, of twisted metal, charred flesh, massacred commuters, murdered schoolchildren.

With the bombings, and with Rabin's assassination, extremists on both sides prevailed. Bad enough to leave something as precious as peace to politicians, abandoning it to fanatics was sinful. The history of the last five years proves that evil is singular, good plural. One single individual can do great harm, while good can only be sustained if it is mass produced.

Unfortunately, even with such sobering mathematics, many of us fiddled while Oslo fizzled. How many Jews – in Israel or the Diaspora – did anything to make the peace work? Who among us lifted a finger to plant this peace in the grassroots, to nurture a workable reconciliation between neighbors, rather than an awkward ceasefire between enemies? Few Israelis approached individual Palestinians, while we in the Diaspora simply parroted the left-right debate. Few of us, there or here, did anything to "bring peace upon us and on all of Israel," as the prayer hopes; or "let the sun rise, the morning enlighten," as the song pleads.

After Oslo, five years ago, many Jews believed that the Palestinians had to bring peace to us. We said if they wanted to jump up and down in their jalabiyahs and call for jihad, holy war, the bloodshed would continue. However, if they calmed down and found common ground, the peace might work. In putting the onus on them, we waited for them to fail, we may have helped create a self-fulfilling prophecy.

True, Arafat continued to speak with his forked tongue, talking peace in English, and jihad in Arabic. He whispers sweet nothings into Clinton's ears and breathes fire to his people. True, their side repeatedly violated the letter and spirit of the agreements. True, their extremists began the violence. And true, real strength comes from geopolitical realities, not group hugs.

Still, all but the most zealous of rejectionists will concede that the last five years would have been different had the peace brought dramatic social, cultural, and economic changes.

The Netanyahu-Arafat minuet would look very different against an elaborate lattice of friendships, exchanges, investments. Yet, few of us tried to transcend the past; most remained imprisoned by hostility or passivity. Most Israelis were wary – justifiably; most Diaspora Jews were disengaged – understandably.

In waiting for "the peace" or the Palestinians to bring something to us, rather than going out and forging new facts on the ground, one of the great breakthroughs of the 1990s did little to change the status quo.

Even if our sins have been sins of omission, not commission, we, too, have failed. Bobby Kennedy was right. By not being part of the solution, we became part of the problem. Few of us were zealots for peace, few embraced it, nurtured it, indulged it; those who did, most of us dismissed as starry-eyed peaceniks. We treated Oslo like a piece of paper to quibble about, rather than the chance for peace between peoples we craved.

Now we have something else in common with the Palestinians – besides a passionate attachment to the same, small, sacred piece of real estate. These days, alas, it seems that both Jews and Palestinians rarely miss an opportunity to miss an opportunity.

The time has come for all of us to start cultivating opportunities for peace, whoever wins the election.

Gil Troy is professor of history at McGill University.

The Week in Israel

May 10

• Israeli police recommended that charges be brought against Avigdor Lieberman, controversial Russian-born candidate for the Knesset and former aide to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. An investigation was launched last month after a newspaper quoted Lieberman as describing police investigators as "anti-Semitic racists" whose place was "in jail, and not as wardens."

May 11

•The High Court of Justice delayed implementation of a government order to close three offices at Orient House, the Palestinian Authority's de facto headquarters in eastern Jerusalem. The ruling came on a petition filed by an Israeli peace group. The court gave the state and Palestinians one week to explain why negotiations aimed at resolving the dispute over the offices had failed.

• The Central Election Committee requested that a list of all citizens who died during the past three months be distributed at polling stations to prevent election fraud Monday.

May 12

• The rabbinic leadership of the Shas party endorsed the candidacy of Netanyahu for re-election. *(The leaders of Degel Hatorah and Agudat Israel – the United Torah Judaism bloc – subsequently endorsed the prime minister as well.)*

May 13

• Fighting in south Lebanon claimed the lives of eight people, five of them Lebanese civilians and two members of Hezbollah. Four of the Lebanese civilians were killed by a roadside bomb planted by the radical Islamic group and one by Hezbollah shelling that had been aimed at Israeli army posts in Lebanon.

May 14

• The IDF Northern Command was reportedly making a major effort to prevent its ally the South Lebanon Army from taking revenge on Hezbollah after an SLA fighter and four members of his family were killed yesterday by the roadside bomb.

Files from JTA and Ha'aretz.

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Auschwitz dispute continues

By MICHAEL JORDAN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

OSWIECIM — A proposed zone of "peace and silence" that would encircle the site of the Auschwitz concentration camp was anything but peaceful and silent last week.

Last week on Sunday, a windy, overcast afternoon, two dozen Polish Catholics gathered defiantly to pray and sing before nearly 300 wooden crosses, planted adjacent to the camp that many Jews refer to as the largest Jewish cemetery in the world.

The crosses are just beyond – but clearly visible from – the camp's notorious Block 11, known as the Death Block for the years of torture and executions carried out there.

A day earlier, President Aleksander Kwasniewski signed a bill into law that would set up protective zones around Auschwitz and other former Nazi death camps in Poland.

The law, which would enable the government to remove the crosses, came into force as Polish leaders hope to end a bitter dispute that has further strained relations between Poles and Jews – and caused strife within the Catholic Church itself.

The timing of the bill's signing is not surprising, coming ahead of a visit next month by Pope John Paul II. It may be the ailing pontiff's last trip to his homeland.

For three years, a number of Jewish groups have fought against the use of any religious symbols at the camp. Some hailed the law as forcing the removal of all the crosses.

"This is a bill we were looking for," said Miles Lerman, chair of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum's council.

Yet the law is worded ambiguously, raising questions as to what it truly means. Indeed, the law may allow for one cross to stay – the so-called "papal cross" that sparked the controversy in the first place.

Such a move reportedly has the support of Polish Prime Minister Jerzy Buzek – a Protestant said to be leery of being branded anti-Catholic.

As a result, Rabbi Avi Weiss, the leader of the Coalition for Jewish Concerns – Amcha, described the law as "a terrible defeat for the Jewish community."

He has long decried the "Christianization" of Auschwitz, and said it would be "an absolute outrage" for the towering, 24-foot cross to remain.

So it is unclear how Polish officials will carry out the new law.

Complicating matters is Kazimierz Switon, the militant who initiated the cross-planting campaign last August.

Switon camps out at the site in his beige caravan, chatting with his cohorts under a large blue and white tent.

He refuses to budge, and has even threatened self-immolation if the crosses are removed.

But his rhetoric is less patriotic and religious than it is anti-Semitic.

In an interview with CNN last August, Switon said, "Jews cannot tell Poles what to do."

He declined an interview with JTA last week. However, this controversy is more than a simple case of deep-seated Polish anti-Semitism.

Though the scene of unparalleled Jewish suffering, Auschwitz – Oswiecim in Polish – also resonates with Poles, said Joachim Russek, director of the Judaica Foundation in Krakow.

It is well known that for Jews, Auschwitz is a searing symbol of the Nazi genocide. Of the 1.5 million who perished at Auschwitz – and nearby, at the Birkenau death camp – at least 90 percent were Jews.

Often forgotten, however, is that in 1940 the Germans converted the compound, a former military barracks, into a concentration camp specifically for Polish prisoners. Tens of thousands of Poles – perhaps as many as 70,000 – died there, as well as Russians, Gypsies and others.

Today, these crosses are said to commemorate the site – an enormous pit, actually, now covered over with grass –where the Nazis executed an untold number of Poles.

"What we have at Auschwitz is a dramatic clash between two collective memories, and not enough knowledge of the experience on either side," said Russek, who is not Jewish.

"What is so painful is that in a place of so much tragedy, you have competition between two categories of victims. And Jews clearly were the more numerous victims."

Collective memories aside, the case of the "papal cross" is widely viewed as an anti-Jewish provocation.

It began in 1979, when Pope John Paul II made his first trip home. The large cross was erected for a mass he held at Birkenau, which was attended by 300,000 Poles.

It was then dismantled and stored in a local parish.

Meanwhile, in 1984, a Carmelite convent was installed flush against the Auschwitz camp's northeastern wall, across from Block 11. By 1988, Jewish groups were pressing for the convent to be relocated. It was then that the large "papal cross" reappeared and erected next to the convent as a sign of resistance.

Though the pope never presented it as a cross given to his followers, it quickly became known as the "papal cross."

U.S. criticizes Iran

By DANIEL SOBELMAN
Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

JERUSALEM — Iranian President Mohammed Khatami last week hailed the Hezbollah guerrilla group as an "ideological and humanitarian movement" that is trying to liberate Lebanese territory from Israeli occupation.

Khatami's remarks came after a meeting with Hezbollah Secretary General Sheik Hassan Nasrallah in Damascus, a day after the Iranian leader pledged support for Palestinians opposed to the Middle East peace process.

Khatami's meeting with leaders of militant Palestinian factions, and his strong support for continued resistance against Israel "worries" the United States, said Martin Indyk, the U.S. State Department's envoy to the Near East, in an interview with the Lebanese daily *As-Safir*.

"It is hard not to conclude that Iran is still strongly opposed to the peace process, and backs these organizations that adopt the policy of violence against the process," the paper quoted Indyk as saying yesterday.

Washington has made cautious overtures to Iran following the May 1997 election of Khatami, who represents a new, more moderate strain of politics in Tehran. His election prompted a series of tentative feelers on both sides, but President Bill Clinton's offer to engage in a dialogue has been rejected by Tehran.

In the *As-Safir* interview, Indyk criticized Iran for failing to respond adequately to the U.S. overtures.

Khatami met yesterday with Nasrallah under tight security at the Iranian Embassy in Damascus. Iran provides Hezbollah with arms, as well as financial and moral assistance.

Hezbollah is "an ideological and humanitarian movement that seeks liberation and independence," Khatami said in remarks carried by Iran's official Islamic Republic News Agency.

The Iranian president also met yesterday with a senior Shiite Muslim Lebanese cleric, Grand Ayatollah Mohammed Hussein Fadlallah, who is widely thought to be Hezbollah's spiritual guide. He also held talks with Lebanese Druze leader Walid Jumblatt and Lebanese members of parliament.

Before leaving for Saudi Arabia, Khatami held separate meetings with Syrian President Hafez Assad and Assad's son Bashar.

The two leaders spoke about strengthening relations between their two nations and the Middle East peace process, among other topics. They did not speak with reporters following the meetings.

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Israeli feminist lays down the law on women's issues

By VIVA PRESS
CJN Israel Bureau

RAMAT GAN — Deemed by her university as the "protector of women's rights in Israel," Ruth Halperin-Kaddari, a member of Bar-Ilan University's (BIU) law faculty, is laying down the law on women's issues.

A feminist and family law expert, Halperin-Kaddari is the author of an in-depth report to the United Nations (UN) – which she was commissioned to write – concerning the *Implementation of the United Nations convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)*. She is now working on turning this report into a book. But what she really wants to see, is to see it translated into Hebrew.

"It hasn't been translated yet into Hebrew which is a big problem, because many people here just don't use English," she said.

Supposedly, there's a budget to turn it into Hebrew, but as Halperin-Kaddari acknowledges, she has yet to be approached about it. And she is already working on a followup report to be submitted to the UN next year.

Halperin-Kaddari has expectations for the UN report, Israel's first national report on the legal and sociological standing of Israeli women, in terms of improving the lot of women in Israel. But her expectations are not outlandish. She is aware that each step towards progress counts.

The establishment of the National Authority for the Advancement of Women, for example, is one step in the right direction. In her UN report, she referred to the establishment of this authority. It is now a reality. But while it has been realized, Halperin-Kaddari says with a hint of disappointment in her voice, that it is lacking a sufficient budget –"an ongoing story with women's issues in Israel" – and is therefore not functional yet.

"Women's issues are being taken more seriously, but when it comes down to the actual allocation of money, it stops. I can't say things have dramatically changed," she said in an interview in her Bar-Ilan University office.

Ruth Halperin-Kaddari

"Women's issues are at the bottom of the political and legal rung in Israel," she said. "In order for women to achieve genuine equality in the workplace and at home, the law must not only be reformed, but must also be enforced."

As for combatting violence against women, one of the many issues Halperin-Kaddari deals with in her report, is the recent, high-profile Galili case, in which a young woman successfully petitioned the courts to halt promoting Galili to chief of general staff after charging him with rape. This would suggest there is a severe crackdown going on. But, as Halperin-Kaddari explains, because there is no one group responsible for implementing the laws, smaller groups are forced to make their own decisions without any precedents.

"Although it seems a lot of action is going on [in terms of combatting violence], the bottom line is there's no progress."

As for the Galili case, Halperin-Kaddari said: "We should be grateful for the woman...this time the woman won."

Other areas Halperin-Kaddari would like to see improved in the near future, include progressive laws such as discrimination and pay equity in the workplace. "We have beautiful laws," the youthful mother of three boys said. "They're just not being implemented."

But Halperin-Kaddari is not one to back down from obstacles. The daughter of Bar-Ilan University Prof. Menahem Zevi Kaddari, who is the winner of the 1999 Israel Prize for Hebrew Linguistics, Halperin-Kaddari comes from an intellectual background. With a law degree suma cum laude from Bar-Ilan University, she received her LLM and JSD from Yale Law School. It was her expertise in family law from the feminist perspective that attracted the attention fo the Israeli ministries of justice and foreign affairs, which commissioned her to write the UN report.

And her expertise doesn't stop there. Halperin-Kaddari also co-heads BIU's new interdisciplinary graduate program in bioethics, philosophy and law. She recently helped organize a conference on organ transplants, relating to the legal aspects of the determination of death.

"Since the major Jewish religious law authorities maintain that brain death (rather than cessation of heart activity) is the determining factor in setting the moment of death, there is actually no contradiction between organ transplant donation and Halachah," Halperin-Kaddari explained in BIU's *Scholar* magazine.

She is looking forward to her trip to Toronto later this month, where she will give a series of speaking engagements that conclude with a lecture open to the public at the Shaarei Shamayim Synagogue, on Tuesday evening, May 25.

From Toronto, Halperin-Kaddari is off to Chicago for another conference and then will return to Israel to co-direct a June conference at BIU on the problem of the Agunah in Israel and abroad, and a July conference involving the forum of Religious Women in Israel.

By the number of books piled along the walls of her office and on her desk, and from the numerous telephone calls that peppered this interview, it would seem that Halperin-Kaddari never rests. At least she has a 12-hour flight to Canada.

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Multifaith artists present Bible's Song of Songs

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

Shula Saltzman and the Me'irim Dance Company.

TORONTO — From the very beginning of history the Song of Songs, an ancient collection of love poetry in the Bible ascribed to King Solomon, has inspired artists of many faiths and in a variety of disciplines, says Cyril Greenland. "And it continues to be a source of inspiration for artists."

The retired professor of social work says he "was excited" by the Song of Songs when he read it as a teenager and he found the text very comforting when he rediscovered it in the 1970s. This lifelong interest in the ancient poems spurred him to organize a multifaith and multi-faceted presentation of the Song of Songs by local performance artists of Jewish, Christian and Arabic heritage.

The event will be presented by the Bloor Jewish Community Centre (JCC), the Bathurst Jewish Centre (BJC) and Trinity St. Paul's United Church next week.

The downtown performances will take place at Trinity St. Paul's, 427 Bloor St. W. on May 26 at 8 p.m. and May 30 at 3:30 p.m., and the uptown show will be held at the Leah Posluns Theatre, 8 p.m. on June 2. The May 26 opening gala night is being sponsored by the Canadian Council of Christians and Jews.

The program featuring Jewish, Christian and secular interpretations of Song of Songs, culminates in the world premiere of a new dance work performed by choreographer Shula Saltzman and her Me'irim Dance Company.

They dance to *Shir Hashirim*, a cantata by Toronto composer Milton Barnes. He will be guest conducting the members of the Chamberworks Players, a female chorus, along with vocalists, soprano Renee Bouthot and Cantor Benjamin Maissner, tenor.

Renee Bouthot

"This is the first time it's [*Shir Hashirim*] been choreographed," Barnes said "I'm really excited about it. It will be a very interesting presentation."

Three leading choirs perform on different days: the Toronto Chamber Choir conducted by David Fallis (May 26); the Trinity St. Paul's Choir, led by Brad Ratzlaff (May 30); and the Lachan Choir, led by Maissner (June 2).

Their repertoire of songs inspired by Song of Songs, spans 500 years, and among the pieces performed will be the world premiere of *My Beloved's Garden*, a choral work by 23-year-old composer James Moffett, who won the Song of Songs Young Composers Competition.

Other performers include musician and ethnomusicologist George Sawa and the Traditional Arabic Music Ensemble and Dancers, along with choreographer Dahlia Obadia who will re-enact the *Shulamite Wedding Dance*; actor Yanna McIntosh will dramatize the biblical text.

Choral work

Project coordinator Harriet Wichin, said she has been working on the *Song of Songs* presentation for more than two years, getting song rights and funding and managing the budget.

"It's rare that artists of Jewish, Christian, and Arabic heritage come together to celebrate procreation and love and sensuality. All these are universal themes explored in the Song of Songs," she said.

The first half is a complete dramatic reading by two actors of the Song of Songs as a love poem or dialogue between lovers; interwoven in the dialogue will be a selection of interfaith choral compositions in Hebrew, English, Latin and German.

The highlight of the first part is the *Shulamite Wedding Dance*, she said.

"George Sawa is very knowledgable about the origins of Semitic music. He's very enthusiastic about the project."

Choreographer Saltzman also served as Judaic consultant on the project, translating the Hebrew text and working with the pronunciation of the Hebrew with some of the choirs.

"The project has evolved over two years. It's been an exciting exchange of ideas," she said. "It's almost unbelievable that we're so close to a performance date. It's really such an incredible experience. We've shared so much and grown so much."

In addition to the above mentioned organizations, funding for this program also comes from the Ontario Arts Council, Edward Bronfman Family Foundation, RBY Scott Music Trust of Emmanuel College, Toronto Arts Council, the Laidlaw Foundation and the Toronto Community Foundation: For Toronto, For Good.

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Israeli 'legend' to star in show for disabled veterans

Dudu Fisher

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — It is fitting that David (Dudu) Fisher, star of this year's Aid to Disabled Veterans of Israel, Beit Halochem Canada's fundraising concert, began his singing career in the Israeli Defence Forces, entertaining the troops.

The 46-year-old singer and cantor, who has gained international acclaim, and performed for Queen Elizabeth II and the Royal Family of Thailand, will perform at the Ford Centre for the Performing Arts Recital Hall on May 27 at 7:30 p.m in a concert titled The Legend in Real Life – Dudu Fisher.

David Krivoshei, an Israeli composer and musician, will be accompanying Fisher.

All proceeds from the concert will be allocated towards upgrading and modernizing the Beit Halochem centres in Tel Aviv, Haifa, Jerusalem and Nahariya which offer state-of-the-art rehabilitation facilities for over 48,000 disabled war veterans and their families.

Fisher, who hosts a prime time Saturday night television show in Israel, has recorded 14 albums and two video cassettes, and has starred in two movies.

He has performed with the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Zubin Mehta.

Born in Petah Tikvah, Israel, he attended Nahalim yeshiva. After completing his army service in 1973, he studied at the Music Academy of Tel Aviv University and went on to sing mostly cantorial music. He was made cantor at Tel Aviv's Great Synagogue.

Fisher has become one of Israel's premiere cantors. He has won top honors in The Chassidic Festival, the Yiddish Festival and the Festival of Jerusalem, among others.

While visiting a cousin in London, England in 1987, he attended a benefit performance of Victor Hugo's *Les Miserables*. "I cried throughout the whole show."

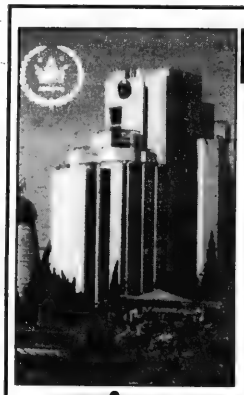
He auditioned for the play, which was about to open in Tel Aviv, and performed the title role of Jean Valjean in the Hebrew version. It became the biggest hit of all time.

He later performed the role on Broadway and in London, England's West End.

Often described as "a performer with a voice of an angel," Fisher says that when he sings in the show, he sings from his heart. "It is exactly the same as when I'm standing in front of the Ark."

Fisher has recorded modernized versions of old Yiddish songs his grandmother used to sing to him, translating some of them into Hebrew for the youngest generation of Israelis.

Tickets for the Dudu Fisher concert range from $50 and up, and a tax receipt will be issued to the maximum amount allowable. For more information and tickets, call Aid to Disabled Veterans of Israel, Beit Halochem Canada, 787-8950.



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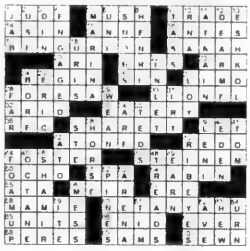

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Documentary film guilty of the sins it ascribes to media

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The documentary *Blacks and Jews*, shown at the recent Jewish Film Festival here, is guilty of exacerbating tensions between these two groups, which is the very sin the film accuses the media of committing.

Opinion

Its ace in the hole is a reunion between a West Indian journalist and a Jew he helped save during the Crown Heights riot in Brooklyn in 1991.

The film shows a *New York Post* front-page picture of a Jew lying unattended. The picture helped its sales. The paper neglected to say anything about the later intercession of the black.

This film is good journalism, but in making the reunion the focus of its treatment of the Crown Heights riot, it does what the *New York Post* did, but in reverse. The reunion scene skews the film in favor of the blacks.

No doubt film-makers Bari Scott, Deborah Kaufman and Alan Snitow were motivated to bring greater understanding to a difficult problem. But in working with only the people who would support their point of view, they are guilty of the same sin as all media.

The deeper tensions in Crown Height and the causes of the riot there are never explained.

Included in the film is coverage of a 1995 incident at an Oakland California theatre: 67 students from a high school were thrown out of the theatre because they were laughing or hooting at scenes of Jews being executed in *Schindler's List*.

By giving inordinate exposure to the views of the black and Hispanic students, and almost fawning treatment of producer Steven Spielberg, who spoke in the high school auditorium, the film-makers do what they say the national media does – they blow the incident out of all proportion without really explaining why it happened.

Journalistically, it's interesting that the students said they didn't know what the Holocaust was about, and that they didn't even know the history of the slave trade. However, there were no interviews with the Jews who were at the theatre. They were outraged by the students' actions.

This segment absolved the blacks, but, by omission, cast doubt on the Jewish perspective.

The portion that dealt with Jewish landlords exploiting black home buyers in Chicago also went overboard in the attention it paid to the radical rabbi who had teamed up with the blacks.

Again, the film's point of view was that the Jews were in the wrong. Many Jews would agree with this, and my guess is that they do more to improve black-Jewish relations than this documentary.

The causes of black-Jewish tension is so complicated, and so far from a resolution, that any media (read documentary) attempt to resolve it, is in trouble from the start.

Merry Widow waltzes into LPT

By DAVID SILVERBERG
Student Intern

TORONTO — A mainly Jewish cast is performing Franz Lehar's operetta, *The Merry Widow*, at the Leah Posluns Theatre in North York. The show opened May 14 and runs to May 23.

The Alexander Singers and Players have been together for over a decade under the direction of Angela Hawaleshka, who named the community theatre company after her late father.

"He loved Gilbert and Sullivan," says Hawaleshka, a singing teacher, whose roster of pupils has included Cantor Benjamin Maissner of Holy Blossom Temple.

She says the company's first production, *Trial by Jury*, a half-hour-long operetta, was performed in the church basement where the company members now rehearse.

The Merry Widow is one of Hawaleshka's favorites; the waltzes, and the unusual Can-Can will appeal to all ages, she says.

More than half the cast is Jewish, including David Rosen, a graduate from York University with a BA in Judaic Studies. Rosen has been recently accepted to a cantorial school in New York.

"This is one of the best community theatre companies and I'm going to miss it," Rosen says.

He describes his experience in the company (he played Perchik in *Fiddler on the Roof* last year) as familial. The atmosphere is very comfortable, he says.

Hawaleshka stresses that, during auditions, anyone can join the company.

"We've had children as young as eight and seniors in their mid-70s."

She is not rigid when she assigns roles to actors, she says. "I look at who they are, look what is natural to them and then I try to draw the real person into the character."

The cast includes actors in a range of days jobs, among them, an opthamologist, a lawyer and a retired librarian.

Often family members join together. In this production, Gwyneth and her husband Vincenzo Cestito star opposite each other as the Merry Widow and Camille.

Curtis King plays Count Danilo and the choreography is done by Gillian Katz and Ceris Thomas.

The Merry Widow details the story of a beautiful woman who is left with an enormous fortune after her husband dies on their honeymoon. The plot thickens as she becomes the sought-after prize among eligible men. The last scene climaxes with the famous *Merry Widow Waltz*.

The 12-year-old company often donates a portion of ticket sales to charities such as the Arthritis Society and ORT Canada. This spring the company is supporting Variety – the Children's Charity of Ontario and Casey House Hospice.

The Alexander Singers and Players have performed such Gilbert and Sullivan productions as *HMS Pinafore*, *The Mikado* (twice), *The Pirates of Penzance* and Broadway musicals *Oklahoma* and *Fiddler on the Roof*.

For ticket or volunteer information, call 785-0333.

Michael Edmunds (left) and David Rosen.

Concert blends styles

BY SHIRA HONIG
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Cantor Yaakov Motzen, founder and leader of the annual Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue cantorial concert, and Shaarei Shomayim's chazzan, wants to make cantorial music accessible to a wide and often dubious audience.

Last year, the concert's focus was almost solely cantorial. This year, in Motzen's effort to make the show on May 26 at 8 p.m. more exciting and diverse, there will be a blend of cantorial, chassidic, Yiddish, operatic, choral and even Broadway tunes.

"If I'm doing a cantorial concert, I should be singing cantorial songs," Motzen says he has been told, "but there's nothing wrong with doing other music. If you bring music to the people, you have to make sure they enjoy it. You should not give up the quality of the singing."

With the world-renowned Motzen joined this year by Cantor Israel Rand from the Hampton Synagogue and Cantor Shlomo Simcha Sufrin of Shaarei Shomayim, who are both stars in their own right, it's unlikely that the quality of the music will be compromised.

The three cantors, who have performed with top musicians around the world, will sing in Hebrew, Yiddish, Italian and English, sometimes singing alone, and at other times accompanied by the Shaarei Shomayim adult choir and Cantor Daniel Gildar on piano.

But even with all this diversity, cantorial music will still reign supreme.

"I try to do everything," says Motzen. "But cantorial should be the main [thrust of the concert], so that people can be educated [and understand] that it is not something that they need to be afraid of. By attending more of these performances, people will become more appreciative."

Motzen should know – after all, he's been doing these concerts successfully in Montreal for years. When he moved to Toronto with his family a little over two years ago, he brought his idea with him.

Joyce Eklove, a big fan of Motzen's and the co-chair of the concert committee with David Freudmann, says this is a new opportunity for Shaarei Shomayim to share Motzen with the rest of the community.

The targeted community includes both Jewish and non-Jewish people across Toronto. The concert committee hopes to have an audience as diverse as the music itself.

So if you didn't go last year, make sure you go this time round. To appreciate opera, you don't need to understand Italian. And to appreciate cantorial music, you don't need to be a shul member.

To buy tickets for the May 26 cantorial concert at Shaarei Shomayim ($50, $36 and $18), or to advertise in the concert's commemorative journal, call 789-3213.

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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

NEW BOOK OFFERS MORE YIDDISH FOLK SAYINGS

You'd think that **Shirley Kumove**, compiler of two eminently readable books of Yiddish sayings, would have a word for every occasion, but when asked to single out one or two favorite phrases from the thousands she has collected, she demurs like a mother asked to identify her favorite child.

Kumove's *Words Like Arrows* came out in 1984. Its follow-up, *More Words, More Arrows*, appeared this spring (Wayne State University Press). Kumove, a Toronto native who was raised in a Yiddish-speaking home, didn't start learning English until she began kindergarten in the College-Bathurst neighborhood.

She started collecting delightful little Yiddish adages, aphorisms and pithy observations nearly a quarter-century ago, she recalls. "At first I collected them on scraps of paper and put them into a shoebox. When the shoebox became full, I had to decide how serious I was about continuing this."

Many people, hearing of her hobby, would bring her Yiddish expressions that had been spoken in their families. Kumove has also spent much time in scholarly research. Now, having already published about 2,400 sayings in the first two books, she has collected as many again. She is seeking a publisher for a third volume.

"We always talk about Jews as being the people of the book," she says. "But Jews are also people of the word, because Yiddish culture is oriented towards speech."

A founding member of the Friends of Yiddish, Kumove is also a translator of poetry and short stories. She has translated the poetry of **Anna Margolin**, and is working on a memoir of **Pua Rakovsky**, a Polish-Jewish woman who founded secular Hebrew schools in Poland.

Isn't there one saying that she particularly likes? "You want me to choose one phrase?" she asks. "But there are so many here that are worthwhile. Okay, here's one – it's a comment on marriage."

She offers it first in Yiddish: "*As tsvey lign oyf eyn kishn, zol a driter nisht mishn tsvishn.*" In other words: "When two on a pillow are fixed, a third should not mix 'twixt."

Like its predecessor volume, *More Words, More Arrows* instantly illuminates the rich culture from which it is derived. The sayings are filled with equal measures of cleverness, wisdom and humor. They are translated with finesse.

A man iz vi an enger shukh — khotsh es drikt dokh, muz a vayb im trogn. A husband is like a tight shoe — even though it pinches, a wife must endure it.

Az men antloyft fun a brenendik hoyz, shtelt men zikh nit op kushn di mezuze. When you flee a burning house, you don't stop to kiss the mezuzah.

Tsvey mol a yor iz shlekht dem oreman: zumer un vinter. Twice a year the poor are badly off: summer and winter.

* * *

Toronto Jewish Film Society: *American Matchmaker*, a 1940 American-made Yiddish-language film by director **Edgar Ulmer**, combines musical interludes and stock comic characters from Yiddish theatre with qualities of the urbane romantic comedies that Hollywood made during the Depression.

The screening is accompanied by the short *I Want to be a Border*, in which a husband and wife seek release from marital bickering by pretending to be landlady and tenant.

Rubber-limbed **Leo Fuch's** classic song-and-dance routines are the high point of both films, which are co-presented with Friends of Yiddish.

June 13, 5:15 and 7:45 p.m. Jackman Hall, Art Gallery of Ontario. 924-6211.

* * *

Children's Concert No. 1: Bram Morrison, one third of the trio of **Sharon, Lois and Bram**, performs two family sing-along concerts on May 30, 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., at Forest Hill Collegiate, 730 Eglinton Ave. W., Toronto.

All proceeds of this solo concert go to the public school attended by two of his six grandchildren. Coincidentally, it was on the same stage at Forest Hill Collegiate that Bram made his show-business debut. Tickets $12. 870-8000 or 393-1633.

* * *

Children's Concert No. 2: Recording artists **Judy & David**, who bill themselves as "the hot new stars of the Canadian children's music scene," perform with the **All Together Now Band**. $9.99 to $36, plus GST. Ford Centre Recital Hall, Sunday May 30, 4 p.m. 870-8000.

Arts Briefs

• The Mirvishes present the North American premiere of a new production of the 1954 Broadway musical comedy, *The Pajama Game*. The light-hearted favorite about love at work runs June 17 to July 24. $20 to $93. Princess of Wales Theatre. 872-1212.

•"The leatherback sea turtle is literally a living dinosaur. They survived the ice age and the cataclysmic event that wiped out the dinosaurs. Yet they may not survive us," says Toronto-based writer-director **Barri Cohen**.

These thoughts have inspired her to film *Edge of Extinction: Saving The Leatherback Sea Turtle*, airing on Discovery May 23 at 8 p.m. Cohen has written or produced many documentaries including *Cry of the Ancestors* which won a Gemini Award in 1996.

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Photographers see things from unique perspectives

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Seeing Things, the current exhibition of Canadian contemporary photography by nine artists, held at Marcia Rafelman Fine Arts, and running to the end of May, features black and white, color, mixed media and computerized photographs.

The exhibition, part of Contact 99's 3rd annual photography exhibition, includes Canadian artists, Steven Evans, Motty Levy, David Cowles, Fred Langer, Linda Rutenberg, Nir Bareket, Mats Nordstrom, Alan Davis and Steve Eprile.

Evans is one of Canada's most acclaimed contemporary photographers. He has exhibited his works at the Art Gallery of Ontario, Harvard University Graduate School of Design in Cambridge, Mass., and in Europe.

On exhibit, is a selection of works entitled, *City of Rooms*. These large format black and white photographs explore a series of forgotten, abandoned or merely hidden interior spaces around Toronto.

Evan's photographs range from the legendary RCA Harris Water Filtration Plant to the deserted Old Don Jail. Suffused with light and rich detail, these quiet images are both descriptive and interpretive.

Levy's photo essay, *From Heron to Jerusalem*, focuses on the diverse population and the paradoxes involved in living in either of these two cities.

"As a former Israeli photojournalist, and as a man who grew up in this area, I wanted to get a close up look at the people in the heart of the conflict between Israelis and Palestinians."

Levy's photo essay, *From Hebron Jerusalem* because of the extreme positions taken by some of the people living in both of these cities.

The photographs taken in Hebron include the Jewish settlements and religious sites, as well as the Muslim neighborhoods, including the Arab marketplace. The shot locations in Jerusalem include the Muslim, Jewish and Christian quarters and some other interesting neighborhoods in Jerusalem including the haredi section of Mea Shearim.

Cowles, who made a series of trips to North Africa between 1993 and 1997, documented remaining Jewish historic sites – synagogues, cemeteries, and shrines – in Morocco, Egypt and Tunisia.

He says he wanted to photograph these sites before they disappear completely as the communities move elsewhere.

A relative newcomer to the art community, although he has been photographing for many years, is Fred Langer, a medical doctor.

Langer, who recently won several awards from The Canadian Association of Photographers and Illustrators in Communications, says that he has been devoting more and more time to photojournalism, photographing people in their day-to-day struggles.

Langer went to Cuba to photograph the people. He explains that by using a small, light range-finder camera, and natural light, wide angle lenses, no props and fast black and white film, he could engage his subjects, and be a presence in the ultimate image, yet not be obtrusive.

His portraits take place in the context of their struggle against poverty, symbolized by the decaying European baroque buildings that give the appearance of time having stopped 40 years ago.

Montreal photographer, Rutenberg, has successfully been able to use infrared film in the context of black and white photography. The iridescent properties of the infrared film provide her landscape images with an ethereal quality, suggesting an esthetic tranquillity unique to her work.

Israeli-born Bareket, who served as chief photographer of the Israel Museum in Jerusalem, and made his home in Toronto in 1975, has included a very personal, introspective series of photographs that explore the juxtaposition of the nude against the skyline of Toronto.

Motty Levy's Street Musicians in Central Promenade.

His photographs are achieved on-site, with the model herself at various different locations throughout the city.

Nordstrom's series, *Devices of Temporary Control*, emerged from an interest in how humans organize themselves and the essentials. Starting with sinks and plumbing, it envelops steering wheels and train stations, and a host of other devices invented to simplify our lives.

Davis exposes his photo images onto silver leaf coated canvas and arches paper through a series of visual explorations. The silver leaf highlights of his work suggest a luminous property found only in early tin type photographs. Combined with the textural elements created by the overlapping of the silver leaf, Davis's images assume an almost painterly quality.

Eprile, a forensic handwriting specialist and lawyer, who recently changed career paths to become a full-time photographer, has several landscapes – abstract water scenes – and Eprile seeks out the true color forms in nature.

The exhibition can be viewed by appointment, call 920-4468.

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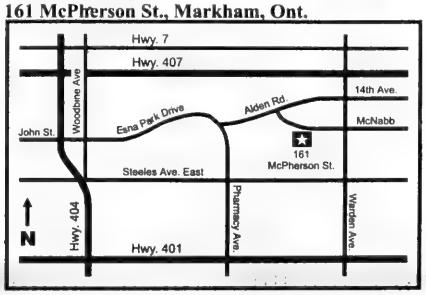

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Women face greater addiction problems

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
CJN Staff

TORONTO – To recover from an addiction, the addict has to do more than merely stop taking the substance say two addiction therapists with the Donwood.

"Recovery is about making changes, and people don't change easily. Refusing to take the substance is probably the easiest thing in the process of recovery," Barbara Shapiro and Barb Farkas said recently at a panel discussion about women and addiction sponsored by Holy Blossom Temple Sisterhood.

Someone abusing a substance, said Shapiro, is usually totally out of touch with their feelings. "Gambling, over-eating, drugs or alcohol can all alter one's feelings. Recovery means starting to learn about these feelings."

Addictions are very complicated, she said, and doctors are often not trained to deal with them. "They often medicate their patients instead of helping them get in touch with their true feelings. A lot of people are raised to think that whatever a doctor prescribes must be okay. There is a gross misconception about all medicine being okay."

When women do go to a doctor, she said, it is often just to talk, not to deal with their addictions. "Women will go to doctors to talk much quicker than a man, but men will deal with their substance abuse faster than women. That is because there is more shame for a woman to be an addict. Women are not supposed to drink or take drugs - especially Jewish women."

That is why, she said, it is difficult for Jewish women to seek help for their addictions. "I have seen women lose everything. Pulling their lives together takes a lot of work, and some people just have to hit bottom before they start seeking help."

There are biological, psychological and social reasons why people become addicts. "Women's lives are complex, and they often use substances as a coping strategy. They may drink in isolation just to cope with life. Not every addiction is a crisis. There can be very high functioning people who no one would ever guess are addicts."

The pair talked about a composite family in which the father was an alcoholic, the mother took pills in order to cope, and the daughter was depended upon to keep her father from embarassing the family. "The daughter, who had a family of her own, felt a lot of pressure to take care of everyone, and she had no outlets. She was beginning to take pills herself, and started to fall into her mother's patterns."

Addiction does not happen to one person, said Shapiro. "It happens to a family, and when it does happen, everyone juggles to get back into balance. The daughter was the one responsible for keeping the family in balance."

They said that the first step a woman should take in seeking help for an addiction is speaking to someone she can trust, such as a family doctor. "If he is not familiar with addiction, then he is not for you, but he may help you find someone else. Once you start making calls, you're starting the process of recovery. You are aware that something is wrong."

New diabetes treatments

By DAVID SILVERBERG
Student Intern

TORONTO — New drugs and an artificial pancreas may give suffering diabetics new hope, says Dr. Robert Silver of Toronto Hospital, Western Division.

Silver spoke on New Hope in Diabetes Research at the Canadian Diabetes Association's Jewish chapter meeting held recently at Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue.

Although new drugs are still being tested, Silver, a diabetic for 34 years, said a form of insulin that is inhaled may find a place in the market in the future. The drug, developed by pharmaceutical company Pfizer, will allow the diabetic to inhale insulin in powder form. Since the lungs cover a large area, more insulin will be absorbed than when it is injected.

When Silver suggested the possibility of an implantable artificial pancreas, some of the audience snickered. Silver smiled and admitted it sounded like "something from Dr. Spock."

He explained that three components are necessary. "We need an insulin pump, a blood glucose monitor and a control system to tell the pump when to administer insulin."

He said that the artificial pancreas is designed to deliver insulin to the liver, not to the bloodstream, in order to regulate blood sugar levels. A ring on the finger will give a readout of the glucose level 24 hours a day. If the level does not fall in a normal range, it will emit a signal to modify the pump.

"It's not perfect," Silver said, adding that it may not be available for months or even years, "but it is being feverishly worked on."

A new drug that may help diabetics who do not react well to insulin is Troglitazone, which sensitizes the body's response to insulin, he said.

Diabetes affects five to 10 percent of the population. It results from insulin deficiency and is characterized by high blood glucose concentration. It is the most common cause of blindness in adults over 20 and is the leading risk for heart attack, stroke and limb amputation, Silver said.

Everyone should understand and recognize the risk factors: obesity, high blood pressure and high cholesterol, and having a close relative with the disease. Certain ethnic groups (African-Americans, aboriginals, Hispanics) seem to have a higher than average rate of diabetes, he said.

Sixty to 80 percent of diabetics are controlled by oral pills; 20 to 30 percent are controlled with insulin, which chases the sugar out of the blood.

Diabetes can cause eye and kidney disease and may result in severe damage to the central nervous system.

"Weight control, exercise and early intervention can prevent progressive diabetes," Silver said.

Many diabetics ask, "What's the guarantee to have quality of life free of complications?" he said, adding that with the improvements of new technology, things are looking hopeful.

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REG. & LIGHT WESTERN CREAM CHEESE 1.99/250g WITH AD	0.5%, 10% BLUEBELL COTTAGE CHEESE 1.99/250g WITH AD	2.2 lbs - 1 kg BLUEBELL COTTAGE CHEESE 7.99 WITH AD	ZOGLOS HANDMADE CHEESE BLINTZES 2.79/6 PACK ALL VARIETIES WITH AD

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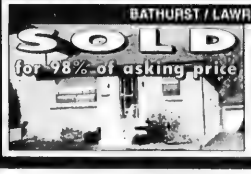
REAL ESTATE Section

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

"WE OPEN DOORS FOR YOU"

DAVID EICHORN REALTY LIMITED 787-1712

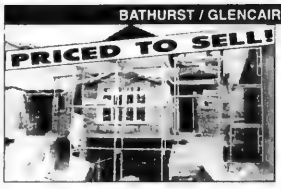
BATHURST / LAWRENCE



Mint condition! Charming bungalow on deep lot, renovated & decorated, modern eat-in kitchen, fabulous location. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

SOLD

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN



Brand new custom-built 4 + 1 bdrm., family room, gorgeous dream kitchen, ceramics, hardwood floors, Jacuzzi, sep. entry to in-law suite, only $499,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

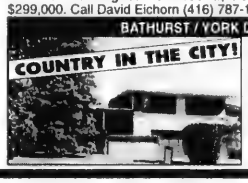
BATHURST / LAWRENCE — NEW LISTING!
3 bedroom, 2 storey home on 50 ft. lot. Best price in area! Fabulous location close to all amenities, only $299,000. **ACT NOW!** Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

THORNHILL — BATHURST / CLARK
2 storey, 3 bedroom home on generous lot, family room, finished basement, only $269,900. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / WILSON
Fabulous building lot! 40 x 130 ft., close to all amenities, only $299,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / YORK DOWNS



Spacious side-split on gorgeous 70 x 200 ft. lot (irreg.), backs onto Earl Bales Park, serene private setting. Asking $679,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

AVENUE ROAD / BRIAR HILL
Executive 4 + 1 bedrooms, fam. rm., blend of contemporary & traditional, hardwood floors, marble fireplace, leaded windows, wainscotting ++, only $569,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / LAWRENCE / WILSON — CUSTOM BUILT!
Modern design, open concept, quality craftsmanship, 4 + 2 bedrooms, large principal rooms, ideal for entertaining, cathedral ceilings. Only $549,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

AVENUE ROAD / WILSON / 401 CONDO — MAKE AN OFFER!
2 bedrooms + solarium, 2 parking spaces, ensuite laundry, priced for immediate sale at $209,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHUST / LAWRENCE — EXCLUSIVE
Custom-built executive home, 4 + 1 bedrooms, family room, finished basement, dream kitchen, fabulous location, only $649,000. Call Richard Cash (416) 787-1712.

Forest Hill

Real Estate Inc. Realtor

(416) 488-2875 (416) 226-1987

List with us and appear on our Website: www.foresthill.ca

CENTRAL PROPERTIES

YONGE/LAWRENCE CUSTOM BUILT HOME
Just $685K stone exterior, 4 br. 4 baths. Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

ARDWOLD GATE/CASA LOMA JUST $649,000
Georgia style home 39.42 x 178 ft., 4 bedrooms, 4 baths, finished basement, reno'd with marble, granite. Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

9 YEARS NEW BATHURST/LAWRENCE
Stunning design! Nothing missing! R. Sud* 488-2875

UPPER FOREST HILL! REDUCED 30K!
$599,000! Detached 2 storey, large 5 bdrms., 4 baths, main flr. fam. rm. + powder rm.! New roof! 2 rec rms. J. Bleiweis* 226-1987

FAB. BUNGALOW & LOT, DEMAND NORTH TORONTO!
$549K! Build, add or live in. Rena Bader* 488-2875

YONGE BLVD. & WILSON!!!
3 bedrooms & 3 baths, renovated! David Manuel* 488-2875

YONGE/LAWRENCE TOTAL RENOVATED SOLD
3 bedrooms 2 car parking! Bonnie Singer* 488-2875

BATHURST & LAWRENCE! 1ST TIME BUYERS
3 bedroom bungalow with seperate entrance to apt.! Move-In! $344,000! Marilyn Ray* 488-2875

NEW LISTING! AVENUE/WILSON
Updated 2 bedroom bungalow with finished lower, on 40 x 115 lot. Move in & enjoy! Anna Pollock* 226-1987

INCOME PROPERTY ARLINGTON AVE
Detached Triplex, good income! David Manuel* 488-2875

ALLEN EXPWY./EGLINTON - HURRY!
Charming 3 bdrm. bung. 31x110 ft. Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

DOWNTOWN RENTAL PROPERTY 3 STOREY SOLD
4 units fully rented, updated, 4 stoves, 4 fridges, coin laundry room. CAP 10%++ Mark Cowan* 226-1987

36 ALDBURN ROAD! 45 X 105' LOT! $98K!
This is not a misprint! Unbelievable! Upper Forest Hill vacant treed lot! Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

BAYVIEW PROPERTIES

8 VALLEY RIDGE PLACE! EXECUTIVE RESIDENCE!
$2.5K! Outstanding indoor pool! 4 car gar.! 5+2 bdrms., 11 baths! 156 x 190'! Vendor says sell! Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

"NEW LISTING" 66 COTSWOLD CRESCENT
5 bdrms., gour. kit. Granite $$upgrades. Julie Gofman* 488-2875

BAYVIEW PROPERTIES CON'TD.

225 KINGSDALE AVENUE! 4+2 BEDROOMS, 5 BATHS
$659,888! Builders own masterpiece! W/o lower level! Nanny suite! Fabulous 50 x 122'! Call Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

1ST AD! 62 NORTHDALE ROAD! $569,900!
Bayview N./Truman! Rare find! Total reno'd. 4+1 bdrm., 4 bath bung.! Mn fam.! 75x195' setting! Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

2 CHEVAL DRIVE! 4+1 BEDROOMS, 4 BATHS!
$498K! Main family + 2 pce.! Fabulous 58 x 110'! Mins. to school & community centre. Move-in! Don't miss! Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

CONSTRUCTION HAS BEGUN!!
Executive maintenance free townhomes at Yonge & Sheppard. Choose your finishings. Anna Pollock* 226-1987

3 BEDROOM TOWNHOUSE. MUST BE SOLD NOW
Updated kitchen/bathrooms/2 car garage, corner unit - allow 48 hours fax. Call now!! J. Uslaner* 226-1987

NORTH PROPERTIES

1ST AD! 38 MAIMONIDES COURT! $599K!
Bathurst/Atkinson! Spectacular 4+1 bedrooms, 5 baths! Marble + skylights! Prestige cul-de-sac! Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

1ST AD! 28 MAIMONIDES COURT! $529K!
Bathurst/Atkinson! Exec. 4+1 bdrms., 4 baths, mn. fam.+lib.+lau. +2 pce.! Walk to school & shul! Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

A SPANKING CLEAN 4+1 BEDROOM SOLD
Totally renovated fab. white California shutters, finished basement, ceramic, mirrors, etc. S. Gruenstein*/J. Uslaner* 226-1987

FABULOUS STONEHAVEN ESTATES $379,900
4+1 bdrms, 4 baths. Gardeners paradise! C. Sniderman* 488-2875

CONDOMINIUMS

A "HIDDEN JEWEL" BLOOR ST. EAST
Unique 2 storey open concept, breathtaking view, must see!! Ruth Bass*/Renee Seligman* 226-1987

ST. CLAIR/YONGE DESIRABLE LOCATION
West Clair! Approx. 1,000 sq. ft., 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, steps to everything. Ruth Bass*/Renee Seligman* 226-1987

BATHURST/FINCH 1,850 SQ. FT. $229,900
Rarely available in small complex 2/3 bedrooms, 3 baths, fireplace, walkout to garden. Renee Seligman* 226-1987

AVENUE/HEATH EXCELLENT BUILDING!
Renovated, 2 bedrooms, 2 baths,. parking & locker, excellent value! Reesa Sud* 226-1987

OUT OF TOWN PROPERTIES

COTTAGE LAKE KUSHOG!!! (MINDEN)
100 ft. lake front. Fireplace. David Manuel* 488-2875

** Associate Broker * Sales Representative

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

WARNING!

BEFORE YOU SELL YOUR HOME, this industry insider has important consumer information about a new program that can **save you thousands of dollars** when you sell your home. Avoiding the mistake other Home Sellers have made can save you frustration, inconvenience & money.

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Coldwell Banker Pinnacle Real Estate
(416) 485-2299

Bathurst/Glencairn - $279,900. 3 bedrooms, SOLD ft. lot on Hillmount Ave.

Armour Heights - $375,000. 4 bedrooms, 2 storey, family room. SOLD

Bathurst/Glencairn - $569,00. Custom built home, family room, den, finished basement, walk to shops and Synagogue.

CONDO-CONDO-CONDO

Bathurst/Glencairn - $209,000. 2 bedrooms + den, luxurious condo, marble ent. security, park., locker.

Glencairn W./Subway- $159,000. 3 bedrooms, fabulous view, pool, sauna, parking.

COLDWELL BANKER PINNACLE REAL ESTATE

SEIDMAN
REAL ESTATE LIMITED REALTOR
633-7373

WILMINGTON OVERBROOK
$314,800! Split level, 3 bdrms., 4 baths, mod. white kit., appls., fin. bsmnt, dble gar. don't miss!

• • •

AVENUE RD. WILSON
Price reduced! Store + 2 apts., fully rented, completely renovated, A-1 buy & location.

• • •

BATHURST & WILSON
4 plex, 4-2 bdrms. + basement apt., 4 gar. + parking, good inc., fully rented, steps to all.

• • •

BATHURST FINCH
Spacious 3 bdrms., den, fam. rm., huge liv. & din., mod. kit., fin. bsmnt., lge. lot, dble. gar.

• • •

A. & D. SEIDMAN 633-7373

90 FISHERVILLE 2 bedroom condo, needs TLC, asking $189,900. Vendor willing to help with price.

BATHURST / WORTH 2 storey 4 bedroom home, finished basement, shows like a model. Vendor-bought, December closing, wants to see offers.

Call **Saul Goldkind**
Sutton Group Admiral Realty
416-739-7200

ATKINSON/CENTRE. 1ST AD. $565,000. Approx. 3500 sq. ft. 4 bdrm. custom blt. beauty, mn. flr. fam. rm. & study, huge kit., fab. deck & gazebo, fin. bsmnt. many xtrs, lrg. lot, must be seen! *"A treat for the eyes."*

HELEN YERMUS (416) 226-9770
HOMELIFE/CIMERMAN LTD.

The Canadian Jewish news

CLASSIFIED/SERVICE DIRECTORY

PLEASE NOTE:

EARLY DEADLINES FOR THE FOLLOWING ISSUE: MAY 27th

Deadline Monday, May 17, 1:00 p.m.

The office of The Canadian Jewish News will be closed on the following days: Friday, May 21st and Monday, May 24th

REAL ESTATE Section

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

Paul Slavens
REAL ESTATE INC. REALTOR

RESULTS
RESULTS
483-4337

FINE HOMES

FIRST OFFERING - $579,000
Fabulous 3+ bdrms., 4 bath home in prime Forest Hill, overlooking the park. Main floor family rm., granite kitchen, 3 fireplaces, finished lower level. **Don Wagman/*Shawnee Slan.

• • •

ALLENBY - $498,000
Wonderful & spacious 4 bdrm. home in original, elegant condition. Private drive. Lots of natural light & many beautiful leaded glass windows. For your personal tour, call *Carol Cotton.

• • •

LOWER VILLAGE - $875,000
Executive 4 bdrm. home on oversized lot. Elegant principal rms. Eat-in kitchen w/pantry. Main flr. fam. rm., powder rm. & laundry. Private dr. gar. *Betty Cohen.

• • •

KILBARRY ROAD DUPLEX
Charming 2 family residence with separate entrances. Multi fireplaces. Double garage. Quiet street. Convenient to TTC, park & schools. Live in & rent. *Edith Weiss.

• • •

LAWRENCE/LEDBURY - $369,900.
Charming centre hall bungalow on huge lot. Main fl. family rm. w/walkout overlooks gardens. Multi fireplaces. Skylight. Fin. lower level. Private drive, attached garage. *Edith Weiss.

• • •

1st TIME BUYERS - $199,900.
Perfect starter home Bathurst/St. Clair area. Bnght 2 bdrm. bungalow. Updated kitchen. CAC. Garage. Call *Cathy Goldman.

• • •

BATHURST/CENTRE STREET
$799,000. Exceptionally built & designed (1994) home. 5+ bdrms. Kitchen w/walk-out to deck & pool. Main fl. family rm. Fin. lower level w/2 extra bdrms. + rec. rm. *Bobby Simpson.

• • •

BAYVIEW/GREENLANE - $659,900
Designer's own home. Main flr. family rm. + library. Luxurious master retreat w/fireplace & 7 pc ens. bath. Fin. lower level. Sauna. Cedar closet. CAC. *Ruth Kaufman
SOLD

• • •

BAYVIEW - $649,000
Stately 4+ bdrm. home situated on 3 x 147 ft. lot. Main flr. family rm. + library. Finished lower level. Double garage. Backs onto park-like setting. *Lena Rauchwerger
SOLD

• • •

WILMINGTON/SHEPPARD - $349,000.
Beautiful 3 bdrm. sidesplit on large lot. Updated spacious kitchen. Lower level features huge rec. rm., furnace/laundry rm. w/ample storage. CAC. Dble. attached garage. *Lena Rauchwerger.
SOLD

• • •

TWO NEPTUNE DRIVE
Life Lease residences from Baycrest Residential Properties. Priced from $127,000. It's time to live a little. For details, visit our Sales Centre or call (416) 932-2560.

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REAL ESTATE LIMITED REALTOR

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NEW RENTAL — CUSTOM HOME
4500 sq. ft. custom large kitchen, library & family room on main flr. Totally modern. $4500/mth. Call Bill Greisman*

SENSATIONAL STONEGATE TOWN
Custom upgrades, huge master, ultra white kitchen. Nicest unit in complex. $225,000. Bill Greisman*

BROWNRIDGE "RARE" HUGE LOT!
Upgraded 3100+ sq. ft., 4 bdrm., prof. fin. bsmt. w/nanny's suite. Pemium area lot. Only $419K. Maxine Povering**

JUST LISTED — BATHURST MANOR $429,900
Spacious updated 4+1 bdrm. sidesplit. fin. lower levels, hardwood firs. Loads of extras. Won't last. Carole Lazer*

BATHURST/WILSHIRE $498,000
Done to the nines. 4 bdrm. main library. Professionally fin. bsmt., pool size lot. Must be sold! Maxine Povering**

BATHURST/WILSHIRE $499,000
Like to entertain? 6 person jacuzzi, sauna, pool size lot with 20x40 deck, hardwood, bar $$$ +++ Maxine Povering**

SPECTACULAR NEW HOME 3000 SQ. FT.
Best value in Lawrence area. Can have kosher kitchen. 2 w/outs from lower. $499,000. K. Rosenberg* & P. Godfrey*

1ST AD — YONGE/YORK MILLS $759K
Fabulous south lot. 70'x170'. Executive 4 bdrm. home. main flr. fam. rm., libary & laundry. Very spacious. Marilyn Feldman*

*Sales Representative ** Associate Broker

A percentage of all our sales will be donated to supporting the homeless through "PROJECT WARMTH"

(416) 441-2888 www.harveykalles.com

BATHURST / STEELES
Newly built luxury custom home on 63 x 298 ft. lot, 4 bdrms., app. 3,850 sq. ft., fin. bsmt. + in-law suite. Loads of extras — call for details!
Call **Jacob Florans**
Sutton Group Admiral Realty
416-739-7200

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

THE EXCELLENCE
by Tridel
89 Skymark Drive, Suite 2907
$789,000 *Rarely Offered*
Spectacular Panorama
Brand New * 9 ft. Ceiling
2 Parking * Upgrades
2,752 s. f. of Luxury
RE/MAX Goldenway Realty Inc., Realtor
Eric Chan sales rep. (416) 543 6200

BATHURST/TORRESDALE
Reduced to $223,000. Gorgeous 2 bedroom condo, huge solarium, 1,500 sq. ft., 2 baths. Quiet secure building, close to all amenities.
SALLY ROSEN, Sales Rep.
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CENTURY 21 SMITH LTD. BROKER

35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

Bath./Steeles - Townsgate, lux. 2 bdrm, 2 bth., 5 appl., huge PH terrace, 2 pkg. 905-882-1534.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

BATHURST-SHEPPARD
Very lg. 1, 2, 3 Bedrooms., ample closets, some 1½ baths & 2 balc., roof, laundry, ravine setting, pool, ind. pkg., 6 apts. per flr. From $900.
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377 or 631-0388 - Super

81 APARTMENT TO SUBLET

Upper West Side, NY. Studio apt. End of June - mid August. Kosher, n/smkr. 212-580-6463.

85 APARTMENT WANTED

Israeli Orthodox professor & wife seek furn., kosher apt. for July & Aug. Near shul.636-0277

105 COTTAGE FOR SALE

I'VE GOT FABULOUS YEAR-ROUND LAKEFRONTS IN BELLE EWART!
- 4 bed. Cottage + 4 bed. House on 79' lakefront + boathouse
- 2-story, 4 bed., 2 bath, den, deck, dock. Shows beautifully
- 4 bed. Cottage, well maintained, 90' lakefront. Motivated vendor.
- 62'x316' build or restore
- Across from lake, 8 bed., 3 bath., cent. Vac., air, fpl., 141' lot Bargain.

SANDRA ROTH (BOTNICK)
RYBAK REALTY LTD.
(416) 782-0598

Belle Ewart - Lakefront, shared lot, 3 bdrm., equipped, no agents. 905-881-3317.

Muskoka/Bracebridge,modern 3 bdrm, lkfrnt, encl. porch, safe, sandy bch., Jewish community, low carrying cost, 905-731-4466

110 COTTAGE FOR RENT

Belle Ewart - Lakefront, 3 bdr., near shul. Avail Aug. 597-1222.

Innisfil - 4 bdrm., lakefront, shul, optional boathouse, avail. from June - Aug. 905-856-1686

Lake Simcoe,Bayview Bch, fab new cottage/chalet, 3 bdrm., full equip, 100 ft. lot, all glass facing lake, sauna, deck, dock, canoe. $1200/wk. Avail. Aug. 487-5686

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

BATHURST WILSON
CONVENIENT NORTH YORK LOCATION

NEWLY DECORATED SPACIOUS 1, 2 & 3 BDRMS.
- Large balconies
- Central air conditioning and heating
- Hardwood Floors
- Sunken living rooms
- Surveillance cameras and card access system
- Outdoor swimming pool
- Close to conveniences and TTC
- Underground parking available

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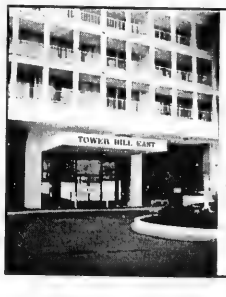

FOREST HILL EXCLUSIVE RESIDENCE
TOWER HILL EAST
330 SPADINA ROAD
Luxury, spacious suites, magnificent view, bachelor, 1,2 and 3 bedrooms (some of the 3 bedrooms are 2-storey), valet parking.
416-929-0579
or
416-966-9054

10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

No agents please! Bathurst & Lawrence area, brick, 2 stry., 3,000 s.f., 4 bdrm., 2 car gar., fin. bsmt., CAC, huge kit., main flr fam. rm. $469,900. 783-8335

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

131 Torresdale - 2 bdrm., den, Florida rm., 1600 sq. ft., lots of extras & uprg. Private sale. 905-660-7982 or 416-588-6771.

3000 Bathurst - 2 bdrm., 2 bth., lau., eat-in kit., 5 appl., Shabbat elev. Private. Call 781-3949.

Bath./Clark - 2 bdrm., 2 bth., bright corner unit. Approx. 1400 sq. ft. w/balc. $199K. Motivated to sell. Private. 905-882-0155.

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

3000 Bathurst-2 bdr, 2 bth, upgrades, pkg., excellent cond., 3 appl. $219,500. Call 364-1063.

Bath./Centre - Fab. 1 bdrm., 5 appl., all blinds, 2 car tandem pkg., east view, many rec. fac., Asking $150K or best offer. No agents. Call 416-402-5279.

DORIS ENDER

A RARE FIND!
• 155 Marlee Ave. • Sabbath Elevator
• 2 bdrms.• W/O Balcony • Laundry Room
• Ensuite • Marble Bath • Parquet Floors • Indoor Pool • Sauna
• Walk to Subway • $149,000
Sutton Group Tower Realty Inc.
(416) 783-5000

125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE

Century Village, Boca Raton, Deluxe, 2 bdrm., 2 bth., CAC, newly reno'd., 2 shuls on site. $59,900 US. 410-578-1601.

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

Boca Raton, bchfront, 1brm., 2 bth, excl. area, 24 hour sec., close to all amen., $2000/mo US. 736-6052 or 905-731-4620.

Hemispheres - 2 bdrm., 2 bth., oceanfront, high flr., furn., tennis, etc. Yearly rental only. Call 416-963-8469.

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

ANBER MOVERS
(LOCAL MOVING)
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NEW YORK ↔ FLORIDA
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155 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE

RAANANA LOTUS HEIGHTS
Dramatic new stunning apartments, great location, for sale by developer. For this and other projects throughout Israel, please call our New York sales office:
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192 FURNISHED VACATION PROPERTIES

20 Min. N.W. of Collingwood. 3 bdrm., lge yard, w/in 5 min. walking dist. to beach, harbour, pool, public boat launch, fishing! June-Sept. Mos./bi-wkly. Days: 416-742-9956, eves:

210 LAND/LOTS FOR SALE/LEASE

Lot for sale. Thornhill. Franklin Avenue. 71x128 ft. irregular. $375,000. 416-223-8111.

230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

This **"Star"** Natural Food Product sold through networking is a true gift from Mother's Nature. Our sales ($22M US/mo) exploded by 32% in the month of Mar. 99 alone. National & international contacts needed. Mission of sharing. Some products are Kosher under the authority of The Orthodox Union of America. Avail in 16 countries & soon in Israel. **www.hugo-noni.com** 905-277-3362. 507 Parkview Blvd., Mississauga, L5B 3N3.

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

All Boys High School seeking English, History, Math and Science teachers. 4:40 - 6:45p.m. Excellent pay. Fax resume to 416-789-3797.

Junior minyan leader for once a month program at Beth Sholom Synagogue starting September. Contact Marcia Goldlist at 783-6103 or fax 783-9923.

Warm, loving, ECE teachers for Sept. '99. P/T. Call Goldie at 905-886-0420 or fax resume to 905-886-0421.

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

CORPORATE CONSULTANT REQUIRED

A leading corporate agency in North York has an immediate opening.

Candidate must be totally proficient in Sabre, organized and detail oriented. Adept at both your oral & written presentations, proven track record within the industry. Top salary paid.

Fax résumé to:
(416) 636-1475

Part Time Retail Sales Position Sunday a must - Spoken & written English - Basic typing or computer skills. Fax resume to 416-650-5209.

Private Jewish Day School in Thornhill seeks outstanding Junior High Teachers for positions in French, Language Arts and Social Studies. Fax resume to 905-771-1807.

SECRETARY WANTED. Observant Jewish school in Thornhill is seeking an exp. F/T school secretary. Must be able to type Hebrew. Yiddish knowledge pref. Must have good communication & organizational skills, be able to manage school office. Fax resume w/references by June 5 to 905-764-3130.

The Kitchener - Waterloo Hebrew Day School located in the Twin Cities of Kitchener, Waterloo is seeking to fill the following:

Religious Studies Teacher
Secular Studies Teacher

Both of the above are full-time salaried positions. The successful candidate will be required to teach in a multi-grade environment. Grade levels currently run Kindergarten through grade 6. It is important that the incumbents for the above be a part of the local community and as a result will be required to live in the Kitchener-Waterloo region.

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ALTENBERG, Bella - on Apr. 26, 1999, late of 85 Skymark Dr., #402.
SIEGAL, Belle - on Apr. 26, 1999, late of 282 St. Clair Ave. W.
HURWICH, David - on Apr. 27, 1999, late of Greenview Retirement Home.
LITVACK, Sam - on Apr. 27, 1999, late of 155 Marlee Ave., #1911.
EDSON, Bernice - on Apr. 28, 1999, late of 11 Blue Forest Dr.
HORWITZ, Ben - on Apr. 29, 1999, late of 55 Ameer Ave., #206.
BARCLAY, Minnie - on May 1, 1999, late of 33 Elmhurst Ave., #803.
DRY, Harry - on May 2, 1999, late of 66 Mullen Dr.
FREEDMAN, Eve - on May 2, 1999, late of 205 Cummer Ave.
SMIETANA, Harry - on May 2, 1999, late of 10 Artreeva Dr.
GREENSPAN, Ruth - on May 3, 1999, late of 3560 Bathurst St.

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ZWEIG, Ann - on May 3, 1999, late of 6200 Bathurst St., #705.
AXLER, Ruby - on May 4, 1999, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
BOGOMOLNY, Abraham - on May 5, 1999, late of 22 Shallmar Blvd., #709.
LANGBORD, Eva - on May 5, 1999, late of 339 Walmer Rd.
LIEFF, Sadie - on May 5, 1999, late of 645 Castlefield Ave., #623.
GORDON, Herman - on May 6, 1999, late of 18 Lady York Ave.

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VINESKY-FISCH, Sarah - on Apr. 29, 1999, late of 4266 Bathurst St.
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MANZYS-WISE, Margot Miriam - on May 1, 1999.
TRESS, Bella - on May 1, 1999, late of 205 Cummer Ave.
ZIMMER, Alfred - on May 1, 1999, late of North Carolina.
ROSENFIELD, Giselle - on May 2, 1999, late of 39 Sherbourne Ave.
SPITZBERG, Lena - on May 2, 1999, late of 715 Finch Ave. W.
SOLISH, Edward - on May 3, 1999, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
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JACOBS, Fela - on May 5, 1999, late of 1131 Steeles Ave. W.
NOVOPRUDSKY, Ruvim - on May 5, 1999, late of 4300 Bathurst St.
ATKINS, Faye - on May 6, 1999, late of 2 Buchan Crt.
DASSAS, Solomon - on May 6, 1999, late of 3705 Bathurst St.
RIBER, Mates - on May 6, 1999, late of 7420 Bathurst St.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

MYROVITCH, Bessie - on May 8, 1999, late of 1925 Steeles Ave. W.
SILVERMAN, Yona - on May 8, 1999.
EDISON, Selyna - on May 9, 1999.
GOLENZER, Lucyna - on May 9, 1999, late of 1121 Steeles Ave. W.
HAZAI, Flora - on May 9, 1999.
FEDER, Sylvia - on May 10, 1999. late of 42 Kanarick Cres.
KIRSHENBLATT, Lily - on May 10, 1999, late of 7 Elder St.
ROTENBERG, Chanka - on May 10, 1999, late of 645 Castlefield Ave.
SEGAR, Leslie - on May 10, 1999, late of 4190 Bathurst St.

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Israel & the Jewish World

Israel marks rocky 50 years of membership at UN

By JULIA GOLDMAN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

UNITED NATIONS — Israel commemorated 50 years of rocky membership at the United Nations by giving the world body a symbolic gift.

At a brief ceremony in the UN's towering headquarters in New York, Israel's foreign minister presented Secretary-General Kofi Annan with a stone from a fourth-century synagogue in the northern Galilee.

The stone "only emphasizes the uninterrupted Jewish existence for thousands of years in the land of Israel," Ariel Sharon said in a speech that stressed Israel's nationhood, making only tacit reference to the United Nations.

In the years since the UN General Assembly admitted the fledgling nation into its ranks on May 11, 1949, Israel has faced almost continuous challenges by a majority of the UN's 185 member-nations to its policies and even the ideology supporting its existence.

In what many consider to be the nadir of Israel's UN status, the assembly, led by the Soviet Union, resolved in 1975 that "Zionism is racism." The resolution remained on the books for 16 years before it was repealed.

Israel is regularly singled out at the United Nations, and Arab-Muslim member-states virtually ensure the passage of anti-Israel resolutions. Only the United States regularly votes in Israel's favor.

"Criticism of governments is nothing new" at the UN, said Felice Gaer, the director of Jacob Blaustein Institute of the American Jewish Committee.

"But the relentless focus on Israel has really been unparalleled," Gaer said.

Still, Gaer, who has been observing Israel at the United Nations for 30 years, said in an interview that she sees some subtle indications of progress and improving civility toward Israel at the United Nations, which she attributes in large part to Annan's leadership.

At the ceremony marking Israel's 50-year milestone, it was Annan, generally regarded as a friend to Israel, who touched on the Jewish state's turbulent UN history.

Israel "has a home here at the UN," Annan said, "I know at times it has not seemed like a home."

Of all of the 185 UN member-nations, Israel alone is prevented from belonging to a regional group, and is thereby precluded from election to the security council, among other significant committees.

So far, even the West European and Others Group – which includes others as far-flung as Australia and New Zealand – has denied Israel's entry.

Speaking at an anniversary dinner last week attended by Israel's first UN representative, Abba Eban, and former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, Annan said Israel could "do much more" for the UN if it belonged to a regional group. He reiterated a pledge he made last year in Jerusalem to encourage a solution to this "anomaly."

The United Nation's most recent inhospitable act came in February, when the General Assembly voted in favor of an Arab-sponsored resolution to convene an international conference to discuss Israeli construction plans for the Har Choma neighborhood in eastern Jerusalem.

If convened, the July 15 meeting would be the first-ever gathering for any reason of the parties to the 1949 Fourth Geneva Convention, which governs the treatment of civilians during wartime.

"The parties have never met in all these 50 years of the existence of the convention," the director of UN affairs for B'nai B'rith, and a 30-year UN veteran, said.

"Look what's happened in Kosovo, but because Jews are building homes in Jerusalem, that's why they want to meet," said Harris Schoenberg, who attended the gift-giving ceremony.

Israeli Ambassador to the United States Zalman Shoval, UN Ambassador Dore Gold, and Consul General Shmuel Sisso attended the ceremony, and UN representatives of several Arab, African and European countries looked on.

The Presidents Conference, an umbrella organization of Jewish groups, received a letter from President Bill Clinton denouncing the Geneva conference as counter-productive "in that it would both damage the peace process and politicize the practice of humanitarian law."

In the April 1 letter, Clinton also said he raised the issue with Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat.

Presidents Conference chair, Malcolm Hoenlein said the Presidents Conference is launching a "worldwide campaign" to educate international leaders about the issue. He said Jewish leaders had met with officials from Greece, Nigeria, Azerbaijan and Pakistan.

The implications of the unprecedented Geneva meeting are unclear, said Hoenlein in an interview. It could "become a forum for 'Zionism is racism' in a 21st-century form."

Annan reportedly held a "very constructive" meeting with American Jewish leaders early this week to discuss their concerns over the Fourth Geneva Convention and the Palestinians' increasing reference to UN Resolution 181 as a source of Palestinian sovereignty.

Last month, the UN Human Rights Commission passed a resolution supporting the Palestinians' right to self-determination based on that resolution and Resolution 194, which calls for the right of return for Palestinian refugees.

Also known as the 1947 Partition Plan, Resolution 181 proposed dividing British Mandatory Palestine into a Jewish and an Arab state, with Jerusalem under international control.

In the past, such support was based on UN Security Council resolutions 242 and 338, which call for the exchange of land for peace and for negotiating recognized borders. These resolutions served as the basis for the Israeli-Palestinian peace process.

With these storm clouds looming on the United Nation's horizon, Annan called for a "new climate" of co-operation between Israel and the United Nations based on their shared values of "freedom, democracy and tolerance," and shared goals of "peace, security and an end to fear and upheaval."

Speaking moments after he and Sharon together removed the dark blue cloth to reveal the stone from Kfar Yasif – which bears carved Jewish symbols, including a seven-branched menorah – Annan drew parallels between Israel's mission to be "a light unto nations" and the United Nation's role as "a torch of peace, freedom and human rights."

Many member-states have made similar gifts to the UN headquarters. Israel's stone now stands on a pedestal facing Iraq's 1977 gift, a pillar depicting the code of Hammurabi from 1792-1750 BCE.

Just across the hallway is the corridor that leads to the chambers of the economic and social committee – which Israel is ineligible to join.

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Divorced female, 26, bright, professional, funny, a hockey fan, love dancing and dining, established. Seeking a devoted male, 45-56, how is a hockey fan, stable, knows what he likes, great sense of humour. AD#2033

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Single female, 36, 5'4", attractive, slim, brunette, enjoy cottage life, weekend get aways, true romance. Seeking a male, 36-46, non smoker, good set of values, honest, romantic, down to earth, attractive - inside and outside. AD#1188

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Single female, mid 50's, classy, attractive, artistic background, educated, caring, honest, truthful, enjoy arts, travelling, old movies, animals, romance Seeking a male with a good sense of humour, 55-68, non smoker. AD#2034

NATURE LOVER
Single Jewish female, Orthodox, early 30's, fit, attractive, petite, easy going, good sense of humour, enjoy long walks, hiking, travelling, movies, good conversation. Seeking a male, active, Traditional Orthodox, with similar interests. AD#2025

LONG TERM RELATIONSHIP
Single Jewish female, professional, non-smoker, attractive, warm, kind, fun loving, many interests. Seeking a male, 55+, stable, down to earth, sense of humour, serious intentions. AD#2026

SERIOUS RELATIONSHIP
Widowed female, late 50's, attractive, petite, good sense of humour, enjoy travelling, dining & dancing, bowling Seeking a male with similar interests AD#2028

BRIGHT AND WITTY MIND
Single Jewish female, professional, 40, non-smoker, fun loving, down to earth, attractive, compassionate, enjoy outdoor activities, movies, dancing, theater Seeking a kind and gentle spirited male, who is true, honest, bright, romantic at heart AD#2020

TRUE ROMANTIC
Divorced female, early 50's, blond hair, blue eyes, non-smoker & drinker, enjoy travelling, long walks, quiet times, romantic, compassionate, kind, good values. Seeking a male, down to earth, kind, compassionate, single, 47-60, for serious relationship leading to marriage. AD#2024

TRYING NEW THINGS
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OPEN MIND
Single Jewish male, 48, 5'11", young looking, handsome, emotionally fit, dark brown hair, good shape, enjoy travelling, art, photography, writing. Seeking a female, 36-44, sensitive, intelligent, attractive, slim, good communicator, with an open, curious mind. AD#1648

SOCIALIZING
Single Jewish male, attractive, early 50's, 5'10", caring, compassionate, enjoy dancing, electronics, computers, socializing. Seeking a female, attractive, intelligent, caring, compassionate. AD#1119

AFFECTIONATE
Single Jewish male,e 42, attractive, honest, sincere, down to earth, never married, no dependents, enjoy movies, travelling, sports events, swimming, walking. Seeking a Jewish female, 32-43, up to 5'3", non smoker, attractive, honest, petite. AD#2032

SOULMATE
Single male, 6'1", 160lbs, young looking, compassionate, enjoy nature, country site, classical music, dancing, dining out. Seeking a female with similar interests, looking for my soulmate. AD#1005

BEST IS YET TO COME
Single Jewish male, 53, 5'9", professional, successful, healthy, handsome, traditional, enjoy dining and dancing, long walks. Seeking a female with similar interests and qualities for long term relationship. AD#2017

FUN LOVING
Single male, 33, 6', blue-green eyes, slim, attractive, financially secure, fun loving, enjoy dining out, movies, dancing. Seeking a Jewish female, 28-35, tall, attractive, with similar interests. AD#2005

MARRIAGE MINDED
Single Jewish male, 46, fit, easy going, sincere, hard working, enjoy art, music, movies, long walks Seeking a female, 25-35, for marriage minded, serious relationship AD#2086

WHAT A CATCH!
Single Jewish male, 36, 5'10", 190lbs, enjoy tennis, squash, reading, movies, dining & dancing, TV. Seeking a Jewish female, 28-47, fit, outgoing, personality is a plus AD#2014

ATTENTION LADIES!
Single male, reformed, 40, tall, slim, handsome, fair hair, hazel eyes, non smoker, social drinker, medical specialist, enjoy movies, blading, the outdoors, trying new foods. Seeking a slim, educated, fit, employed female, with a car and blue jeans, no kids or cats. AD#2000

WHO'S YOUR FAVORITE TELATUBBIE
Single dad of 2 little girls, 5'10", 190lbs, 41, fit, athletic, Health Care professional, enjoy sports, movies, dining & dancing, extensive knowledge of Barney and telatubbies. Seeking a female, 34-42, easy to look at, proud of her looks, smart, fun loving. AD#2003

ATTENTION LADIES!
Single white male, 56, self employed, romantic, warm caring, enjoy travelling, movies, quiet times, good conversation Seeking a female with similar interests and qualities. AD#1996

LET'S CHAT
Single male, employed, tired of the bar scene, seeking a fun loving female, with wide variety of interests, for friends first relationship. AD#2056

SHARING HIS LIFE
Attractive, athletic male, 5'9", brown hair & eyes, employed, no children, enjoy reading, foreign movies, tennis, basketball, weight lifting. Seeking a female, honest, open minded, compassionate, with a great sense of humour. AD#1957

HIGH QUALITY
Divorced male, mid 50's, 3 grown children, well educated, tall, slim, life in British Columbia, enjoy the outdoors, travelling, camping. Seeking a female, warm sensitive, serious, and ready for intense relationship. AD#1962

ROMANTIC AT HEART
Single male, Jewish, 26, handsome, non smoker, enjoy long conversations, movies, music, animals, camping Seeking an attractive, single female, non smoker, with similar interests. AD#1964

GOING OUT FOR COFFEE
Single Jewish male, 5'8", 180lbs, easy going, healthy, down to earth, old fashioned, kind, man of many talents, enjoy art, sports. Seeking a single Jewish female with similar interests. AD#1937

WARM AND CARING
Single white male, 56, self employed, romantic, enjoy travelling, movies, quiet times, good conversations. Seeking a female with similar interests AD#1933

EASY GOING
Single Jewish male, 41, fun loving, easy going, great sense of humour, enjoy movies, theater, long walks, skiing, skating. Seeking a female, 34-43, with similar interests. AD#1939

SERIOUS RELATIONSHIP
Single male, Jewish, professional, late 40's, handsome, intelligent, good sense of humour, caring, sincere, enjoy dining & dancing, movies, good conversation. Seeking a warm hearted female for serious relationship AD#1945

SEEKING SOULMATE
Single white male, professional, Jewish, computer engineer, good sense of humour, outgoing, gourmet cook, enjoy outdoor activities. Seeking a female for long term, lasting relationship AD#1944

SENSE OF VALUES
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Sports

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The Canadian Jewish news

Budding soccer star pursues pro career in Europe

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Sam Hazan's father, David, has always known young Sam was a phenomenal soccer player.

Back when he was 12 and spending a vacation in Israel, he was good enough to train with Maccabi Haifa's youth team for two months. The coach of the team was so impressed, he tried to persuade the family to let Sam remain in Israel and play with the team full time, but David figured his son was still much too young for that.

Then there was the time two years ago at the JCC-Maccabi Youth Games in Connecticut when 14-year-old Sam scored 13 goals in five games – a Gretsky-esque total in a sport where a 2-1 score is a goal-fest.

Last year he was selected to the Ontario provincial team and in July, he helped his club team, Glen Shields, win a national championship. His pivotal role on the team turned a few heads among national team scouts, who invited him to the national youth team for kids 16 and under.

Impressive enough, but most revealing was the interest in Sam shown in England, where soccer is, if not quite a religion, at least a national passion on par with Canadians' love of hockey.

With the help of his uncle, Ben-Zion Hazan, who lives in England, Sam got a tryout with the Watford Soccer Club's junior squad, a 2nd Division team in London. He didn't look out of place on the team and eventually, he attracted the attention of coaches and scouts at Arsenal, the English Premier Division's prestige team – the Montreal Canadiens of English soccer.

From January to March, Hazan, 16, laced up his cleats two or three times a week and worked out with the Arsenal's assortment of top young soccer players. Those talented players are on a fast-track for a pro career in England. To use a Canadian hockey analogy, they were the major junior players of England.

So how did he fare compared to that group?

"I competed quite well against them," Hazan said while on a recent visit home.

Unfortunately for Hazan, his Canadian citizenship proved a stumbling block to his dream of one day playing in an English professional soccer development league. Although Watford and Arsenal were both interested in Hazan playing for them, he did not possess the work permit that would allow the teams to sign him.

Training and practices for a limited three-month period were all he was permitted to do and following his return to England recently, he began a similar process with Wimbledon, another London team.

Sam Hazan

A British player agent eventually placed Hazan with Auxerre, a premiere division youth development team near Paris.

At five foot 11, 150 pounds, the centre/midfielder boasts good control of the ball and a thundering, left-footed shot – hot commodities for soccer teams everywhere.

One of his ex-coaches believes Hazan has what it takes to eventually play pro ball in Europe. "He's very technical. He's very good with the ball," said Dave Benning, technical director for the Glen Shields Soccer Club. "He can see the game; he has lots of vision."

Benning rates Hazan in the top 10 percent of players in his age group in Canada and one of only a handful (six from the Glen Shields soccer factory) pursuing their soccer dreams in Europe. Hazan has the potential to develop into a national team player for Canada and his future will depend on how well he copes with the tougher brand of soccer played there.

"It's a physical game in Europe," Benning said. "You have to play with the ball fast and move it very quickly because they're quick to tackle you....Sam has the quickness and to win the ball back, you have to be tough."

Although there have been suggestions from Canadian coaches that he pursue a U.S. athletic scholarship, Hazan preferred the European track.

"Watford and Arsenal have professional coaches who played at the big club and they have five of them on each team," Hazan said. "To be famous and a star in the future, you have to be in England or France."

Hazan doesn't think he's being unrealistic in setting his sights on a career in the European pro ranks. "With what I've seen so far, I can withstand their (his fellow players') level and even go farther than them," he said.

A fallback position for Hazan would have been to continue his career in Israel, where he was born and where he still has family. There are four Israeli pros playing in the European leagues – two in England and one each in Spain and France, but staying in Europe would be his best route to a professional contract, he said.

One of those Israeli pros, Ronnie Rosenthal, formerly of Maccabi Haifa, helped get him his chance at Watford.

After his three-month training period lapsed, a lucky break got him a tryout with Arsenal. His gym coach, who happened to be an Arsenal scout, saw him play and recommended him to the big team. Sam would have preferred to remain in England, where he could live with his uncle, keep kosher and play lots of soccer, but he'll be happy playing in France, which plays the tactical, passing game he enjoys.

"It's exciting to be at that kind of level," he said. "It's what I like. I would love to go play soccer every day."

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The Inside Back

NATAN THE CHESS MASTER

Natan Sharansky took on all chess comers during a break in the election campaign last week. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, above, played Sharansky to a draw. Looking on, leaning on the table, is Yosef Lapid, the leader of the Shinui party and president of the Israeli Chess Association. Ehud Barak, below, was defeated in five moves. [Isranet and RNS/Reuters photos]

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GREEN BEAN SALAD W/APRICOT VINAIGRETTE

1 11 1/2 oz. can apricot-pineapple nectar
1/4 cup rice vinegar
1/4 cup chopped dried apricots
1 1/4 lbs. green beans, trimmed
1 5 oz. pkg. mixed baby greens
1 papaya, peeled, seeded, thinly sliced lengthwise
3 tblsps. chopped unsalted dry roasted pistachios
1 1/2 oz. ricotta or feta cheese, crumbled

Boil nectar in med. saucepan about 5 mins. Mix in vinegar and apricots, Let stand until apricots soften, about 15 mins. Purée mixture in blender. Season to taste with salt & pepper. Cool.

Cook green beans in large pot of boiling salted water until crisp-tender, about 5 mins. Drain. Cover vinaigrette and green beans separately and refrigerate.

Place beans in large bowl. Add 6 tblsps. vinaigrette and toss to coat. Season with salt & pepper. In another large bowl, toss mixed greens with enough remaining vinaigrette to coat. Season to taste with salt & pepper.

Mound mixed greens in centre of 6 plates. surround with papaya slices. Arrange beans atop mixed greens. Sprinkle with pistachios and crumbled cheese. Serves 6.

Concert honors Jerusalem

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A lively cantorial concert, presented by Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Congregation, marked the 32nd anniversary of the reunification of Jerusalem.

A standing room only crowd enthusiastically cheered, clapped and sang along with the performers, Beth David Chazzan Yehuda Rottner; Sidney Dworkin, cantor of Congregation Shaar Hashomayim in Montreal; Chazzan Yair Subar, now cantor at Beth Sholom Synagogue in Ottawa; and Ukrainian-born Chazzan Itzhak Zhrebker, cantor of Congregation Shearith Israel in Dallas, Tex.

The concert conductor and arranger was Stephen Glass, director of music at Congregation Shaar Hashomayim. He led a small orchestra that served as an effective and enhancing backup to the performers, although one might wish they had resisted the urge to jazz up O Canada until the audience had to struggle to figure out what they were playing.

The concert switched between songs sung as solos, duos, trios and quartets. Subar offered a tender, movingly lilting version of Y. Green's *Y'Simcha Elokim*, while Dworkin shone with Sol Zim's *Avinu Shebebashamayim*.

Zhrebker, thanking Louis Danto, former chazzan of Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Congregation, for introducing him to chazzanut during a visit to Russia, sang an aria in his honor in the bel canto style for which Danto is well-known.

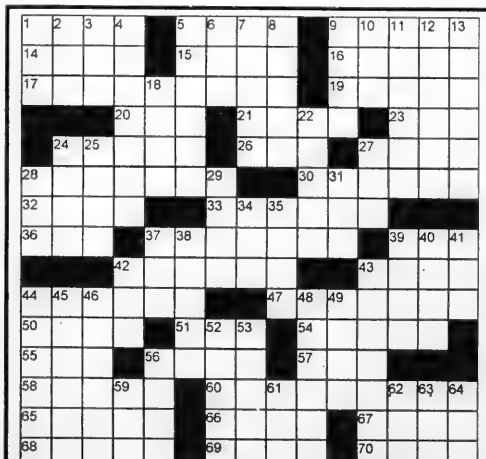
Rottner, the guiding spirit for the concert, the eighth annual Yom Yerushalayim Festive Concert of Song and Joy, as it was titled, exuberantly sang, pumped the air, and pulled the others into impromptu dances.

Most exciting were the medleys of songs, one about Jerusalem, highlighted by *Ani Ma'amin* and *Mashiach*; one of Israeli songs, with a masterful harmonizing version of *Hinei Matov*; and a toe-stomping collection of tunes for the concluding prayer, Adon Olam.

Bill Dunn, a founder of now-defunct synagogue Beth Am, and an active supporter of Beth David and many communal causes, was honored with a special plaque, presented by synagogue spiritual leader Rabbi Philip Scheim, and another from Toronto mayor Mel Lastman and the city council, which was presented by Judy Sgro.

Ask Jesse

will return next month



The Canadian Jewish news

Prime Numbers

By Matt Gaffney and David Bianco (QSyndicate@aol.com)

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CROSSWORD PUZZLE

(This week's answers are on page 40.)

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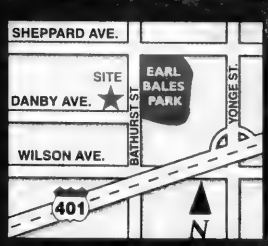

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This Week

National

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NDP battles incumbents in Don Valley East. *Page15*

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Ehud Barak and two supporters wave the flag during the election campaign. *[RNS/Reuters photo]*

Barak reaches the summit

Shas wins record number of seats

By VIVA PRESS
CJN Israel Bureau

JERUSALEM — Ehud Barak winning the premiership by a landslide was not the main topic Israelis were talking about days after the election. Neither was the fact that Likud nearly halved its Knesset seats. What everyone was talking about was Shas.

"I was thrilled [Barak won]," said Chana Cohen, a retired Jerusalemite. "But I went to bed thinking it was a landslide, and I woke up to find out Shas had so many seats."

Cohen's sentiments were shared by many. "I was shocked that Shas got so many votes," said Ora Berg also of Jerusalem.

In fact, Shas itself was surprised at its success. The party – formerly led by Aryeh Deri, who in March was convicted of taking bribes during his tenure as Interior Ministry director-general and then as interior minister – won a whopping 17 seats, only two fewer than the Likud.

Deri stepped down as head of the party the day after the elections.

"I hope Barak doesn't form a coalition with Shas," said a municipal worker who didn't want to give his name.

But Barak may do just that. Although he does not need Shas to form a coalition, the Israeli press hinted the One Israel leader would ask Shas, now that Deri is no longer its head, to join him in order to have a wider spectrum of Israel in the government.

Meantime, Barak's victory was a celebration for all of Israel. In his speech at Kikar Rabin in Tel Aviv, Barak reiterated that he wanted to be a "prime minister for all of Israel."

In an open letter to Barak, *Yedioth Aharonoth* reporter Nahum Barnea wrote, "The victory that you won in the elections was stunning by all measurements. But more than it demonstrates that the nation wanted you, it demonstrates that the nation rejected [Benjamin] Netanyahu. It rejected him because of his character, because of his behavior as a person, and because of his identification with extremist groups. Yesterday, it was permissible to celebrate Netanyahu's mistakes. Today, you must learn from them to be a different prime minister."

Aryeh, a cab driver and Likud supporter, agreed with Barnea's words. "I voted for Barak because I didn't want [Netanyahu]. But I don't really want Barak either."

During the campaigning leading up to the elections, signs and stickers declaring Just Not Netanyahu is further proof that Barak's policies were not the only thing on the minds of voters who elected him. The vote at the ballots was less a vote of confidence for the new prime minister, than a vote of no confidence against the out-going prime minister.

Hagit, a Hebrew University student, was one of those campaigning against Netanyahu. "I'm glad he didn't win," the Meretz supporter said, adding that she will keep the hat, T-shirt and posters she has with the slogan.

Continued on page 30

INSIDE

Barak followed his mentor Yitzhak Rabin.
Please see page 9.

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The composition of the 15th Knesset — please see page 27

The News in Brief

CANADA

Rabbi Bulka Honored

OTTAWA — Rabbi Reuven Bulka, spiritual leader of Congregation Machzikei Hadas for the past 32 years, will receive the Gilbert Greenberg Distinguished Service Award for 1999. The award, named for the late president of the city's Vaad Ha'ir, is the Ottawa Jewish community's highest honor. The formal presentation will be made at the community's annual meeting, scheduled for June 2.

ISRAEL

Settler Leader Quits

JERUSALEM — Jewish settler leader Pinchas Wallerstein resigned as chair of the Settlers Council last week, saying Jewish residents of the West Bank bore responsibility for the fall of the government of Benjamin Netanyahu.

Housing Project Begins

JERUSALEM — Israeli construction firms have started preparations for building homes at a controversial Jewish housing project in a southeastern Jerusalem neighborhood. Initial groundbreaking at Har Choma in March 1997, led to a nearly two-year suspension of Israeli-Palestinian peace talks.

WORLD

Israel Visit Considered

WASHINGTON — The White House is exploring the idea of a late June visit to Israel by first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton and the Clintons' daughter, Chelsea. The first lady, who skipped Israel on a recent Middle East visit, promised to visit after the Israeli elections.

Probe Of Banks

NEW YORK — Chase Manhattan Bank and Jewish groups reached an agreement last week aimed at settling charges that two of the bank's branch offices in France froze Jews' wartime accounts before the Nazis ordered them to do so. The agreement calls for an independent probe of the branches' conduct and possible payments to former Chase customers.

Lawsuit Against Boss

NEW YORK — Lawyers for Holocaust victims filed a lawsuit against German clothing maker Hugo Boss for its use of slave laborers during World War II. Allegations against the company, which made uniforms for the Hitler Youth and the German Army during the war, first surfaced in 1997. The suit, filed in New Jersey, also named several new companies that have not been targeted by previous similar lawsuits.

Jews Polled on Israel

NEW YORK — Some 42 percent of American Jews think Israel "should be willing to compromise on Jerusalem's current status as a united city under Israeli jurisdiction," according to a survey released last week by the American Jewish Committee. At the same time, 66 percent agreed that the "goal of the Arabs is not the return of the occupied territories, but rather the destruction of Israel," according to the survey, in which 1,000 American Jews were polled.

Chapel At Auschwitz

WARSAW — A wooden hut set up near the former Auschwitz death camp to protest government plans of removing hundreds of crosses from the site, was consecrated as a chapel earlier this month. Church officials refused to approve the chapel put up by Kazimierz Switon, the militant who initiated the cross-planting campaign last August. The Polish government recently passed a law that will enable it to remove the crosses.

Swiss Banking Lessons

ZURICH — Switzerland should always remember the lessons it learned from its Holocaust-era banking debacle, the country's first Jewish president said here this month.

"Switzerland isn't some extraordinary country which managed more than any other to look after the security of its own people and to carry out impeccable humanitarian actions," Ruth Dreifuss told an assembly of the Swiss Confederation of Hebrew Congregations. "But it would also be wrong to say that Switzerland actively supported Nazi Germany."

PM, Jewish Groups, Congratulate Barak

OTTAWA — Prime Minister Jean Chrétien and Canadian Jewish groups have extended best wishes to Israeli Prime Minister-elect Ehud Barak on his commanding victory.

Chrétien congratulated Barak in a letter in which he also reaffirmed Canada's support for the peace process. The prime minister also said he's looking forward to getting acquainted with Barak.

"We salute the Israeli expression of true democracy," said PMO spokesperson Sophie Galarneau.

Canada-Israel Committee (CIC) chair Brian Morris said Barak "is faced with a number of daunting challenges. As Israel approaches the final status phase of negotiations with the Palestinians, he will have to balance the need to pursue peace with the need to ensure the personal security of all Israelis."

Canadian Jewish Congress president Moshe Ronen wished Barak "wise counsel and good fortune as he meets the challenges of leadership in the coming term." CJC also acknowledged Benjamin Netanyahu, hoping the defeated prime minister"will continue to contribute to the growth and development of Israel."

B'nai Brith Canada leaders wished Barak well, adding that "now is the time for the Jewish people to unite to support a strong and vibrant Israel, with Jerusalem as its undivided capital."

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Israeli election day focus of community forum

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A community gathering on Israel's election day was treated to a "scoop" when an Israeli journalist reported that Ehud Barak's incoming One Israel government plans to implement the Wye Accord and kick-start the Arab-Israeli peace process.

Using "private channels," Barak has told U.S. President Bill Clinton and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat that Israel will implement Wye and follow that with a summit meeting in Washington involving the three leaders, Shmuel Segev said in a telephone hookup from New York.

Though Barak plans to relaunch the peace process quickly, expect many years before a final agreement is reached, Segev said.

"Barak will not make the slightest move if it decreases Israel's security. For him, Israel's security comes right at the top of his agenda."

Segev was among several telecommentators who joined others on hand live at the Lipa Green Building. They briefed about 100 people on the strategic, political and social repercussions of Barak's landslide election victory last week.

The event was jointly sponsored by UJA Federation, *Canadian Jewish News*, B'nai Brith Canada, Canadian Jewish Congress, Canada-Israel Committee and Canadian Young Judaea.

CJN columnist Shira Herzog dismissed the notion that the election was a referendum on the peace process. Instead, she said, Israelis voted on the questions of "leadership, character...and the norms of government."

The voters' message to Israel's political leaders is to "be credible, have integrity and character," she said.

Voters also told their elected officials they want to see the peace process continue but to be tough negotiators; in addition, the vote shows public discontent with outgoing Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's tactic of fomenting division, she said.

Barak received "a strong, clear mandate from within the Jewish population...No one can accuse him of being prime minister of only part of the people."

The election result, with its fragmentation of parties, left Barak with "choices in forming a coalition for the first time since Begin in 1981," added Herzog, who serves as vice-president of the Kahanoff Foundation.

Barak will face difficult negotiations over Jerusalem, West Bank settlements, water rights, refugees and a possible Palestinian confederation with Jordan; however, the incoming prime minister has set out clear "red lines" that he will not cross in final status negotiations, said David Goldberg, director of research and education with the Canada-Israel Committee.

Barak's red lines include:

- Jerusalem will remain under Israeli jurisdiction;
- Israel will not return to its pre-1967 borders;
- no Arab army will be allowed west of the Jordan river;
- Israel will retain settlement blocs in the West Bank.

Goldberg said Barak has adopted Netanyahu's views of "reciprocity and mutuality." Everything is negotiable, as long as the Arabs reciprocate, Goldberg said.

Barak has pledged to remove Israeli troops from Lebanon within one year, but doing so depends on the pressure the United States can bring to bear on Syria and whether Syrian President Hafez al-Assad is willing to make a deal, Goldberg said.

Barak will enjoy a "brief honeymoon period" with Egypt and Europe, but that will be tested when talks with the Palestinians experience their "first bump," he said.

Examining the social implications of Barak's election, Prof. Michael Brown of York University's Centre for Jewish studies said the prime minister-elect has attempted to "set a new tone and reach out to various groups in Israel." The party name, One Israel, indicates Barak realizes the need to heal divisions within Israel.

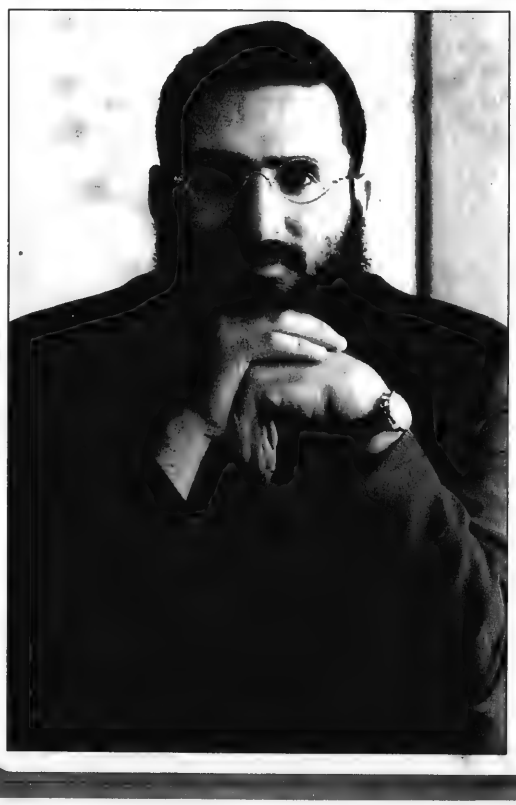
Barak placed prominent Sephardim on the One Israel electoral list and he has made the historically secular Labor party more tolerant of religious groups, Brown said.

He suggested that many Diaspora Jews who saw Israel as an "Orthodox enterprise" will now renew their interest in the country.

In a telephone hookup from Israel, commentator Barry Rubin of Bar-Ilan University's BESA Institute, said Shas, a Sephardi, religious party, increased its presence in the Knesset, but lost its control of important government ministries.

Other religious parties will have to do serious soul searching to determine whether they want to participate in a One Israel-led coalition government, he said.

The event was moderated by Mordechai Ben-Dat, editor of *The Canadian Jewish News*.



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From the editor's desk

Stretching creativity

With the conclusion of the Israeli election, I will use this space, at least this week, to write about something other than politics.

Specifically, I will write about some of the achievements of our college and university students.

The time of year lends itself to doing so.

The post-secondary academic year has finished. Students have written their exams and submitted their final essays. They await their marks. Some await graduation in a matter of days.

As readers of *The CJN*, and of this column in particular, know, it is a matter of very high priority with us to encourage our students to stretch creatively their curiosities and their imaginations, to write, to paint, to draw, to give expression to the stirrings of their soul.

To help foster this creative spirit, we like to publicize, whenever possible, some of the outstanding student works.

Among those outstanding works is *Dorot*, an annual journal of contemporary Jewish literature organized by students, for students.

This year, *Dorot* published its fifth volume.

Sponsored by Jewish Campus Services of Greater Toronto, itself a beneficiary agency of UJA Federation, *Dorot* is a unique and precious instrument which enables our campus-age children to follow the muse of Jewish expression.

The editor in chief of volume five was Carolynn McLean Schwartz. Her staff on the journal were Barbi Price and Shira Honig. It contains prose and poetry by students from Toronto, British Columbia, New Brunswick, New York and Israel.

In an introductory editor's note, Schwartz respectfully and endearingly pays tribute to the founding members of *Dorot*: Sidura Ludwig, Dave Gordon, Janna Nadler and Lenny Cohen, all of whom, "have moved on to different projects... and are sorely missed."

She boldly and directly explains the mission of *Dorot* to be "a creative outlet for Jewish work."

The staff of the journal are to be commended for their selections and for the final product. The works are, generally, thoughtful, imaginative and tenderly written.

I reproduce one of the poems from the volume, *I Regret*, by Elana Levine, to enable our readers to judge for themselves, the high quality of our children's achievements.

Lavine's poem is evidence of an inquisitive mind and a thoughtful, mature sensitivity.

That she feels part of the chain of Jewish history is apparent in the very subject of the poem.

That she was able to articulate that feeling of connection in a relatively small number of words, is further proof that she and our children, are doing good things on campus.

* * *

I Regret

by Elana Levine

If I could travel space and time
Future, foreign, would not tempt me.
My destination: Siedlce, 1930.
Why visit outer reaches, or talk with Einstein?
I would like to meet my Zaidy, young and tall.

Siedlce, 1930: where my cousins were as numerous as the stars.

Three companions for a lunch date
From any era or land, they ask me.
Medical school interviews, 1998
He did not make the final cut for my reply
I said Da Vinci, Osler, and Anastasia.

And so, having sacrificed truth for my career,

I would like to ask for an afternoon
In the town where my chromosomes
Were carried by others

Da Vinci could have painted my eyes,
But in Siedlce, someone had them.

1930, Siedlce: where my family tree is lost in Polish forest.

There will be travel required
But surely lodging is provided
At the house of the woman
For whom I am named.

Please reply.

* * *

To all college and university age students, we extend our wishes for a safe and rewarding summer.

Keep on writing.

SEE JN

BARAK AND THE TOP BRASS

As IDF chief of staff, Ehud Barak regularly took part in military exercises with his troops and commanders. Here, the former chief of staff is seen standing on a tank, overseeing an armored corps exercise in late June 1994. The deputy chief of staff at the time, Maj.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak, subsequently Centre Party candidate, is also in the photo at the far left. [IDF photo]

Greater Toronto Area

Reform welcomes Barak victory

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Ehud Barak's electoral victory was welcomed by a Reform leader, who said the prime minister-elect has always been supportive of religious freedom in Israel.

Barak has shown more "courage" on this issue than any other leader in Israel's history, said Rabbi Eric Yoffie, president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations (UAHC), the leading lay Reform organization.

Rabbi Yoffie was on a whirlwind visit to Toronto to congratulate the Canadian Reform community on establishing Camp George at Parry Sound, the first Reform summer camp in Canada, and the first kosher Reform camp in North America.

The results of the Knesset election were not available to Rabbi Yoffie when he was interviewed by *The CJN*, but the size of Barak's victory as prime minister led him to say that Barak would form a coalition government "without any IOU's to the religious parties."

The Reform leader said he would advise his associates to be "realistic" and not to expect "any early dramatic developments on the religious front."

But there would be a difference in the political climate with Barak's win, he said. "Now we won't have a flurry of bills being presented to the Knesset on the right way of converting to Judaism, or circumventing the Israeli Supreme Court, or on the composition of religious councils."

In the past few years the Reform movement had been at loggerheads with the government of Benjamin Netanyahu on the right of Reform and Conservative rabbis to formally oversee conversions in Israel. This is of particular importance to the Russian immigrants.

Rabbi Yoffie expressed enthusiasm about the development of Camp George, particularly about the enrolment of 280 campers for the first season, which he said was "far beyond our expectations".

On the question of some Reform rabbis (only one in Canada) agreeing to officiate at same sex marriages, Rabbi Yoffie said UAHC has not taken any official position on the issue, believing it is a decision for the Reform rabbinical body. That group has not yet taken an official stand on it, he noted.

There is a place for gays in Reform congregations, he said. "We're certainly not going to turn our backs on them." He added that officiating at gay marriage ceremonies is a separate issue.

Rabbi Yoffie, who identifies with the traditional wing of the Reform movement, said he welcomed the Canadian attachment to the traditional mode. "It adds pluralism, richness and diversity to our movement."

BIALIK GOLF DAY

Bialik Hebrew Day School PTA is sponsoring its first Golf Day on June 3, at Glen Eagle Golf Club. Events include a shotgun tournament or learn-to-golf lesson, followed by a barbecue lunch and awards. Seen here is the planning committee (from left) Pamela Freedman, Maureen Tanz, Amanda Lisus and Caryn Ladovsky. For further information, call the Golf Day hotline at 783-3346, ext. 251.

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Shira Herzog is a frequent speaker, writer and media commentator on Israel and Middle East Affairs. She has addressed numerous community conferences and meetings, and has been an invited guest lecturer at synagogues and community events in Canada, the U.S. and Israel.

In her professional life, Shira Herzog is vice-president of The Kahanoff Foundation of Calgary, a private Canadian foundation that is active in Canada and Israel.

A native of Israel, Shira Herzog was educated at Hebrew University of Jerusalem and York University of Toronto. She serves on several community boards in Israel and Canada.

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Munk gives Technion $7M gift for research centre

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

TORONTO – Canadian entrepreneur Peter Munk and the companies he controls have given the Technion a $7 million gift.

The money will be used to build the Peter Munk Centre for Research, Innovation and Technology at the Haifa-based Technion, which is also known as the Israel Institute of Technology.

Munk and his wife, Melanie, gave $5 million, while Barrick Gold Corporation and TrizecHahn Corporation each donated $1 million.

At a gala dinner in Munk's honor at the Sheraton Centre Hotel, Arnold Recht, national president of the Canadian Technion Society, described the evening as "the single most successful fund-raising event ever held in Canada."

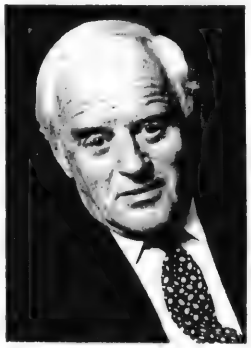
In a speech, Munk recalled his arrival in Canada as an immigrant, paid fulsome tribute to his adopted country, and spoke about his Jewish roots as well as Israel.

Munk and his family fled Nazi-occupied Hungary in 1944, making their way to neutral Switzerland via the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp in Germany.

In 1948, he came to Canada to attend the University of Toronto. He studied electrical engineering.

Today, Munk heads up a multi-billion dollar gold mining and real estate empire.

In his remarks, he remembered arriving in Halifax on a foggy, snowy day in March, boarding a train for the two-day journey to Toronto and being met at Union Station by his uncle and aunt, Nick and Hedy Munk.



Peter Munk

Canada offered freedom, openness and acceptance, while Europe represented racial exclusiveness, murder and hunger, he said.

Munk explained that he was determined to recreate his family's business success in Canada.

Speaking nostalgically of his Alma Mater, Munk said that the University of Toronto had helped facilitate his integration into Canadian society.

Paying homage to friends and colleagues, he paid special compliments to his wife who, he declared, has shared his life through thick and thin.

Jewishness, he acknowledged, did not come naturally to him.

His father was a Jew, while his mother was a Christian. As a result, he celebrated Jewish and Christian holidays.

Briefly recalling his boyhood in Budapest under the boot of the Nazis, Munk said that he had been proud to wear the mandatory yellow star.

Munk said that he appreciates the traditions and morality of Judaism, and is proud of being Jewish.

By his estimation, Israel is the epitome of Jewishness, represents "the end-game" of a 3,000-year odyssey, and signifies "the ultimate achievements and goals of a wandering Jewish nation."

In an allusion to the Technion, he suggested that Israel's survival is dependent on maintaining its technological superiority over the Arabs.

Art Eggleton, Canada's defence minister, called Munk a "remarkable person," while Brian Mulroney, the former Canadian prime minister, hailed him as a symbol of the splendid contributions immigrants have made to Canada.

Nina Munk, one of his children and a *Fortune* magazine staff writer, praised him for his "generosity of spirit," both as a father and a philanthropist.

Robert Prichard, president of the University of Toronto and host of the dinner, thanked Munk for having given the hospital affiliated with the university a cardiac unit.

Referring to his achievements as a businessman, he called him "the man with the Midas touch."

Recht said that the Technion, which marked its 51st anniversary last month, was instrumental in guiding Israel into the world of high technology and in powering its economic growth.

Technion scientists, he noted, were in the forefront of Israeli advances in agriculture, water policy and computer science, and in the development of medical diagnostic equipment.

Praising Munk's past philanthropy, Recht said that he had given the Technion funds for a garden in front of a student dormitory named in honor of his aunt and uncle. Hedy Munk attended the dinner.

Munk's life was summarized in a short video entitled *Willingness to Dream.*

SIYUM CELEBRATED

The first grade boys at Cheder Chabad recently celebrated a Siyum of Maimonides Book of Mitzvos with Divrei Torah, songs and a play, all in Yiddish. Seen here Zalman Ceitlin, 7, and Shaya Zirkind, 6, act in the Yiddish play, A Month for a Family, based on a true story which took place in Russia over 100 years ago.

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Greater Toronto Area

Harris rules out public funding for Jewish schools

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Ontario Premier Mike Harris has thrown cold water on the prospect that independent Jewish schools will receive government funding in any government he leads.

His comments during last week's leaders debate were much stronger and less ambiguous than the statement he made following discussions in February with representatives of Canadian Jewish Congress. At that time, he said aid to Jewish schools was not on his government's agenda.

The premier also told *The CJN* at the time that his first priority is the public system and that a second priority would be "to give equal opportunity to all children, and perhaps under this, we can give consideration to new funding."

Asked during the debate to comment on the privatization of the education system and the use of charter schools or vouchers, Harris said, "I've been asked if I would support private schools. I went to the [Canadian] Jewish Congress. I said, 'No, I'm sorry, my priority is public education.'"

Harris challenged Liberal leader Dalton McGuinty to match his commitment to the public system, arguing McGuinty had told Congress he favored aid to Jewish schools. McGuinty replied he told Congress "I'm not adverse to considering that."

Commenting on Harris' remarks, Keith Landy, chair of Congress' Ontario region, said: "We're uncomfortable with leaders of political parties in the heat of a political debate using throwaway lines to score points on an issue that's so important to our community. We're concerned the premier did not reaffirm his stated position to provide access to health support services to children in independent religious schools.

"While Harris declared the extension of public funding will not be forthcoming in the immediate future, we're confident the next provincial government will right a glaring injustice and deliver access to health support services for all children with special needs," he said.

Funding for independent Jewish schools "will continue to be *the* issue for Jewish parents... Of course, his statement is a disappointment to us," Landy added.

Spotlight

Wayne Levin, an organizer with Parents for Educational Choice (PEC), a grassroots lobby group, said the premier "was trying to twist things around to show McGuinty favored charter schools. That's how I read it."

Levin, who helped organize a public rally for school funding three weeks ago at Queen's Park, said PEC does not advocate charter schools or vouchers. "Our issue is that whatever is provided to any student should be provided to every student.

"It is discouraging. I'm not arguing that. The fact that the premier made it a Jewish issue and aimed the spotlight at us is disturbing," Levin said.

Arieh Waldman, a Jewish parent who is challenging Ontario's funding practices before the United Nations human rights committee, said that Harris "has clearly and publicly made the issue a Jewish issue when it's not just a Jewish issue. It's a discrimination issue for all people who want religious education for their children and who are not Catholic. It's a Muslim, Sikh, Protestant and Jewish issue.

"It's amazing in 1999 to hear comments like that," he said, adding it was improper for the premier to attempt to score debating points by focusing on Jews.

Harris' press secretary, Bob Reid, told the *Toronto Star* the premier never made a commitment to funding health programs in private schools.

"He said to the Congress he was prepared to have his ministers sit down with them and discuss ways that non-education programs currently provided through the public and separate systems might also be extended to private independent schools," Reid is quoted as saying.

McGuinty advisor Bob Lopinski said the Liberal party is committed to universal coverage for health services although funding for education is another matter.

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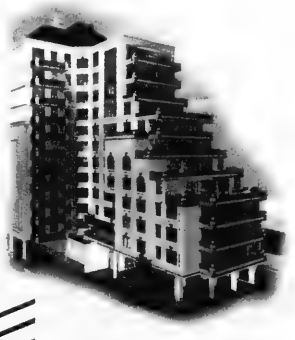

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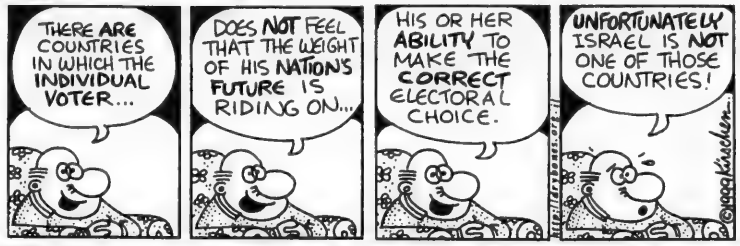
Dry Bones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DOES NOT FEEL THAT THE WEIGHT OF HIS NATION'S FUTURE IS RIDING ON...
HIS OR HER ABILITY TO MAKE THE CORRECT ELECTORAL CHOICE.
UNFORTUNATELY ISRAEL IS NOT ONE OF THOSE COUNTRIES!
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Ehud Barak

The Israeli election drama is over. The drama of governing now begins. Prime Minister-elect Ehud Barak faces the formidable but so very vital task of having to build a solid, stable, secure governing structure from among the 15 splinters that more than 4.25 million voters shaved from the timber of Israel's diverse political parties.

The largest party grouping, Barak's own One Israel, garnered only 27 seats in the Knesset. The rival Likud party won 19 seats. Combined, the two largest "mainstream" parties won barely more than a third of the popular vote. Shas, surprisingly, won 17 seats. The remaining 57 seats were divided among12 other parties.

The party vote was, therefore, a distribution of increasingly narrower loyalties among 15 discrete political banners. The vote for the prime minister, on the other hand, was an impressive, unambiguous display of the people's clear-cut preference for the challenger over the incumbent.

It is this very strong demonstration of voter support, that gives Barak the moral, as well as the legal authority to lead the country along paths less travelled in recent years.

Those paths, Barak has promised, will be paths to peace: peace at home among brothers; peace abroad, with neighbors. But as all observers know, neither path leads inevitably to the hoped-for destination.

Many have travelled; fewer have arrived. In the Middle East especially, the roads are treacherous, strewn with the debris of previously failed efforts, with highwaymen lying in wait, hidden in dark corners.

Ehud Barak's agenda is full. He has won the election and it is no longer the agenda of a candidate, aspiring be the prime minister. It is now, rather, the agenda of an entire people.

We extend to him our congratulations on his victory and our best wishes for continued and renewed strength. May God bless his deliberations as prime minister with wisdom and courage and may God protect him and the people he represents as together they travel unexplored paths towards peace.

Benjamin Netanyahu

For Benjamin Netanyahu, both the election and the governing drama are over. Rejected by a majority of the voters in favor of his former commander, he has decided to step away from public life altogether, at least for the time being. A complex man, he engendered strong reactions from friend and foe alike.

In the end, he lost the support of a majority of the people because of those strong reactions, which, in certain circles, were relentless and unrestrained.

The legacy of his three-year term has yet to be written.

Elected in the horrible wake of the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin, the people still traumatized by that unimaginable act, newly terrorized by the spate of murderous suicide bombings in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv, and caught in the existential anxiety of a peace process moving more quickly than many could cope with, Netanyahu continued the process but slowed it down – many, of course, say he nearly derailed it – to a pace more manageable for most Israelis.

He also helped staunch Palestinian terrorism by publicly insisting upon reciprocal fulfilment of Oslo obligations from the Palestinian Authority. We pay tribute to Prime Minister Netanyahu's dedication and tenacity in the service of Israel.

WISDOM OF THE AGES
"May God bless you and protect you."
(Parshat Naso)

Parents play crucial role in school shootings

Over the last few weeks, the disgusting acts of violence we have witnessed shocked all the adults of the world. But, I want to make it clear to all nations, cities and countries, that we, the youth of the world, have emotions, and feelings of desire to win or to lose, to laugh or to cry, to hurt.

There is no "cure" for what we have seen in the last few weeks. There is someone to blame. But it is not right to blame us, the ones who have not done anything, or us, the ones who have done something to broaden our horizons.

I, being young and part of the education process, have lived long enough to see that any one from your best friend to yourself can turn around and strike the innocent with or without realizing that they are doing it.

The answer to finding out what is wrong, lies in the need for social workers and teachers to see more than what is on the outside of any given student's actions. The outside may not always tell the truth. Then, there are the parents, the ones who can see on the inside. You, the parents, are the ones who have to find out; search within to find out the problem deep inside your child. (You can find the answer because they love you just as much as you love them, even if they do not show it). Then, the process of searching for the cure can start.

Being only 16, it has not taken me a certain degree of time to realize that the way I act or the way the people around me act, is from the environment that they have grown up in.

The sayings – excuse me or bless you – show some guidance in life. So please, to all you parents, guardians and teachers, show your children respect, and give them a little guidance. You will be surprised to see what you get in return. It may not be so bad after all.

On behalf of students of Canada and the youth of the world, my sincerest wishes of sympathy to all who have lost someone they loved, who have been hurt, or have just been touched by this tragedy.

Rena Fracht
Age 16
Montreal

Croatia can't be compared to Holocaust

Lately, it has become quite fashionable to compare the situation in the Balkans to the Holocaust. To me, a Holocaust survivor, this phenomenon is obviously quite irritating.

What really surprises me, was to see such a shocking comparison in a Jewish newspaper.

Your contributor to guest voices (April 22), Jill Cracower, made such an outrageous comparison in her article: "Shock, sadness in Croatia."

I don't doubt for a moment, Cracower's sincerity and devotion in helping the unfortunate. However, would she have paid more attention in her history classes, her choice of country in which to demonstrate her passion might have been different.

Now some advice to you Ms Cracower: Please don't ever compare any disaster, no matter how bad or cruel, to the Nazi Holocaust.

Cities and houses are easy to rebuild. Refugees, with some unfortunate exceptions, eventually return to their homes and are reunited with their families.

But the six million Jewish men, women and children who perished in a network of Nazi concentration camps and in the gas chambers of Auschwitz, Majdanek and Treblinka, will never return.

Benjamin Kuzawski
Montreal

Balkan crisis demands UN act on self-determination

In "Rethinking support of NATO air strikes" (*CJN*, Apr. 22), Henry Srebrnik raises a number of interesting points. I believe that the crucial statement, "Every people has the right to self-determination..." (derived from the 1966 UN Covenant on Civil and Political Rights), can only be a recipe for disaster if the term "people" is not clearly defined.

The problems created by present day nationalisms can be traced to two events: the Fourteen Points of Wilson, where the term "self-determination" entered the political lexicon, and the United Nations Charter, which banned any territorial conquest by force.

After 1946, any remaining "people" still with no land of their own, were caught in an impasse. The Jewish people is a case in point. Their tortuous path to recover their nationhood after 2000 years of "non-nation" status is an eloquent example of the difficulties created by those two seminal events in 20th-century politics.

The idea of self-determination, though it certainly has a positive impact in the post-colonial era, should be given a new breath of life, lest a multitude of grouplets of every conceivable size and background start igniting bloody conflagrations throughout the world. We must recognize that very few countries can boast being as truly democratic and peacefully multicultural, as Canada is. Western Europe is not spared from brewing nationalisms, even if sometimes the particularities of the "people" in question are difficult to identify ("Padania" in northern Italy). Therefore, an international commission, possibly under the auspices of the United Nations, should take the lead in formulating the criteria under which a "people" is entitled to become a sovereign nation within a defined territory.

Salomon Benzimra, P. Eng
Toronto

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures. Letters sent by e-mail must also include the sender's municipal address.

Barak followed mentor Rabin

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

Ehud Barak swept to a lightning victory in Israel's elections last week, as befits a man whose Hebrew name means just that.

Barak's stunning victory over Likud's Benjamin Netanyahu is just the final step in the former army chief of staff's near-meteoric rise from career military man to the top of Israel's political ladder.

It is also another way in which Barak's trajectory has followed that of his mentor, the slain Yitzhak Rabin.

Like Rabin, Barak, 57, came to politics following an illustrious military career. And like his mentor, he appears to have similarly meshed an image of soldier-peacemaker.

Barak, along with Maj.-Gen. Yitzhak Mordechai, surveys an apartment destroyed by a Katyusha rocket in 1992.

Barak was born in 1942 near Netanya, at Kibbutz Mishmar Hasharon – which his mother, Esther Brog, an immigrant from Poland, helped found.

An accomplished pianist, he earned a bachelor's degree in physics and mathematics from the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, and a master's degree in economic-engineering systems from Stanford University.

He is married and has three children.

Israel's most-decorated soldier, Barak's military career spanned more than 30 years. He held key command positions in the Israel Defence Force during the 1967 Six Day War and the 1973 Yom Kippur War.

As head of the IDF's most elite unit, he commanded Netanyahu in one of its most well-known missions, leading an assault on a hijacked Belgian airliner at Ben-Gurion Airport in 1972, killing the hijackers and rescuing scores of passengers. A year later, he posed as a woman, in a raid in Beirut in which three Palestinian fighters were killed.

Barak, who left the army as chief of staff in 1995, served briefly as interior minister in Rabin's Labor-led government. Following Rabin's assassination in 1995, Barak served as foreign minister in the government led by Shimon Peres. He succeeded Peres as party leader in 1997.

On election night

Visiting the Western Wall

As IDF chief of staff in the 1990s, he was involved in Israel's emerging peace negotiations with its Arab neighbors. He helped finalize Israel's 1994 peace treaty with Jordan, and met with his Syrian counterpart in negotiations with Damascus. He also oversaw Israel's redeployment in parts of the West Bank and Gaza Strip under the Oslo accords.

Throughout his campaign, Barak pledged to reinvigorate the Middle East peace process spearheaded by Rabin and brought to a near standstill under the three-year government of Benjamin Netanyahu.

In his victory speech, Barak reiterated his commitment to achieving peace with the Palestinians – calling for a separation of the two peoples, and reiterating that Jerusalem will remain the undivided capital of Israel.

Regarding Syria, Barak has said he is open to territorial compromise on the Golan Heights, but would not return to the pre-1967 borders. Barak pledged during the campaign to pull Israeli troops out of Lebanon within a year of being elected. He has already seen a taste of what lies ahead on this track, when Katyusha rockets landed in northern Israel overnight last week.

Addressing jubilant supporters before dawn at the Tel Aviv square where Rabin was shot by Yigal Amir, Barak promised to continue in Rabin's path.

Later that day he visited Rabin's grave at Jerusalem's Mount Herzl after stopping at the Western Wall in Jerusalem.

But his first task is to bridge the deep social and ethnic divides in Israeli society, which were so starkly evident in the bitter five-month campaign that preceded his election.

In the campaign against Netanyahu, Barak assembled a Labor-led list incorporating representatives from Gesher, the predominantly Sephardi movement that champions the rights of blue-collar Israelis, and Meimad, the moderate Orthodox movement.

"I intend to be the prime minister of all. Whatever differences there are between us, we are brothers, and brothers stay together," he declared in his victory speech after the election.

In the next few weeks Barak must cobble together a governing coalition from the 15 parties that will have seats in Israel's next Knesset.

As Chief of Staff

Two ex-generals, Yitzhak Rabin and Ehud Barak, share a joke at a 1995 reception at the Tel Aviv Museum.

Opinions

The controversy over 'Life is Beautiful'

By this time, most readers of this column will be aware that the recent award to the Italian film *Life is Beautiful*, and the singling out of the chief actor, Roberto Benigni, as the best actor in the business, has aroused a great deal of controversy. The critics say, in effect, that the term "life is beautiful" is offensive to the memory of the Holocaust, and that the awards to the film and to Benigni in a glitzy ceremony, added to the insult. There is nothing remotely beautiful about the Shoah and its memory, say the critics, and it should not be abducted into a Hollywood spectacular.

Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

Elie Wiesel once said that silence is the only true response to the terrible realities of the Shoah. Though for many years he did write about it, he has of late returned to his first opinion and no longer lectures on the subject.

Yet, it is the film industry, that through such pictures as *Shoah, Schindler's List* and *The Last Days*, has kept the gentile world aware of the Holocaust; the fact that they have attracted much attention, as has *Life is Beautiful*, is to be welcomed rather than targeted as the object of criticism.

The fact is, that describing the Holocaust is in and of itself an impossibility. One cannot do it right – and though one says much about it, it can never be enough, Nor can it ever be accurate and recall the extent of the tragedy. Saying "six million dead" are a mere three words that imply the inexpressibility of what they try to describe.

The best defence that I have yet read of *Life is Beautiful* comes from Dennis Prager, who devotes a page to it in his publication, *The Prager Perspective*. Here are a few brief excerpts from his arguments: "First, the depiction of the father's love for his son is the most powerful of such depiction I have ever watched. As a father of two sons, I so completely identified with Guido (Roberto Benigni) that at one point in the film, I walked out, so deep was the pain caused by my tension over the fate of the boy and his father.

"Second, every fibre in my body resonates with the film's idea that a good parent does everything in his power to protect his children from pain and from losing their innocence. If the criterion is an accurate depiction of true horror, what Holocaust film came close? Perhaps no Holocaust film has ever forced people to relate as intimately to Jewish victims as did *Life is Beautiful*. That is why the first half of the film, during which we come to love the family that ends up in camp, is so crucial. That is why this was the only Holocaust film that I had to leave for a few minutes because the tension was so great. I had to know and love the victims. And by the way, 'light' films do not end with the father murdered."

It is a sad fact, that historical revisionists who deny the existence of the Holocaust altogether will force us to retell the story time and again. Historians alone cannot do it because they are read by relatively few – the media will continue to have a role, and I for one, happen to agree with Dennis Prager over his assessment of *Life is Beautiful*.

Life lessons learned

It took nine pieces of checked luggage and four carry-ons to get all my belongings back to Thornhill from my tiny Halifax home. I'm sure the laws of physics were stretched when I think about how much stuff I was able to fit into a not-quite eight feet by eight feet room all year long.

Jennifer Fox in Thornhill

A month later, I can't say I miss my former living quarters, though I can say that I miss the experience of being on my own, and the city which I call mine for eight months of the year.

Way back in September, I wrote of my fears of starving because I didn't know the difference between an oven mitt and a muffin tray. I did manage – hats off to whoever invented peanut butter – but not without learning a few things here and there. For example, oven mitts are those things that prevent you from burning your fingers. Unfortunately, I learned this important lesson a tad too late.

Of all the life lessons I received this past year, the most important is what I learned about Haligonians and their city. From a student's point of view, Halifax is a nice place to live.

Walking distance isn't a concept that's applicable to life in the suburbs. Walk 15 minutes, and you might just make it out of your subdivision. Another 20 minutes, and you'll arrive at the bus stop that takes you to the subway where you'll finally get to where you're going.

Not the case in my East Coast home. In 15 minutes you're on campus, and in another 15 minutes you've made it downtown. More often than not, you'll spot a fellow classmate on your journey. The only unfortunate part, is that your nice, leisurely walk down to the water is uphill on the way back.

What I truly admire about Halifax, is the way Haligonians and other Atlantic Canadians possess hometown pride. Over the past two school years, I have defended Toronto in the occasional debate between Maritimer and Upper Canadians (as we're called), but it is usually because I feel the need to play devil's advocate.

I don't feel as attached to the land as they do. My friends explain that they could never live far from the ocean. Unless they can hear it lapping on the shore, it's too far. I wish for that kind of connection with a city.

If I left Thornhill permanently, I wouldn't be too shook up about it. My only criteria for happiness are having four distinct seasons and a decent used bookstore.

During my time at King's, I was often heard to whine about the Jewish (or lack thereof) community in Halifax. I apologize for my whining because it's simply not true.

Though Halifax, or the entire East Coast provinces, may never have synagogues that equal the number found in Toronto, or have grocery stores carrying large selections of Passover food, you can be a fully functioning and happy Jew in the city.

There are families who open their homes to strangers for the holidays, and organizations giving kids, students and adults the opportunity to meet and do things with other Jews. And in my experience, there are those people who are not Jewish, but are accepting and interested in that which is different from them.

Now, I'm back in Thornhill. It's back to cars and subways instead of feet and buses. My belongings are all unpacked, and have found a place in a room larger than a closet. But I know that in four months time, I will bundle everything back into the nine suitcases, hop on a plane and return home.

May a time of change

I lay in bed the other morning trying to figure out what I should write about. My brain had been in vacation mode for three weeks, and on vacation, I tend not to like to think too hard about anything.

Erica Horn in Montreal

I scanned my brain for current events in the news – both the shootings at Columbine High School and the attack on Yugoslavia had already been editorialized to the point of supersaturation.

The new *Star Wars* release is receiving enough media attention, and I was never really much of a fan. Darth Vader's voice sends shivers down my spine and I never really understood what was going on with R2D2. This robot rolls around talking gibberish, which only a select few can understand.

Then there is Princess Leah (I doubt any relation to Jacob's daughter) whose braids on the side of her head are always perfect, with not even a single hair out of place. The characters fly on some sort of ship, trying to avoid their enemies.

Also, I always used to confuse *Star Wars* and *Star Trek*. So, I came to the realization that a piece on the new *Star Wars* movie would, at best, be an inaccurate representation of something I could barely make sense of myself.

I decided, therefore, to think of events closer to home. The Yom Hashoah and Yom Hazikaron commemorations and Yom Ha'atzmaut celebrations had already passed and school is now over.

And then, suddenly, as though the suggestion had been staring me in the face all along, I knew what I could write about: the month of May – May mania, May madness, and May mayhem. The month of May has always been a month of transitions, of shifting gears and of change.

This year, my last exam was on April 30 and thus, May 1 represented my first day of vacation. On May 1, I packed my notebooks and textbooks in brown boxes and put them at the back of my cupboard. I threw away inkless pens and printer cartridges, transforming my room from Hurricane Exams to Vacation City. I was free at last.

This year, May brought with it warmer weather than usual. It was time to put away the spring jackets and long pants and try on shorts and T-shirts. And, then, in the second week of May, it was time again to take out the spring jackets and long pants. So, as I said, May is the month for shifting gears (I just never specified exactly how many times).

Our five-month-old chocolate lab, Truman, has started to shed his coat. Our house which used to be absolutely spotless, is now being covered in his hairs.

Last week, I got my wisdom teeth pulled (not one of the more pleasant experiences I have endured) and thus, my mouth has shifted from being full with 32 teeth to being swollen and stitched up with only 28.

This May, most of my friends are taking MCAT and LSAT courses to prepare for the tests, which will hopefully secure them a spot in the medical or law school of their choice. May, therefore, has come to symbolize a point in time when my friends are able to focus on what they want to do with their lives, while I am still left pondering.

I am aware that these changes are personal and therefore are unlikely to affect most of you. However, it is important to be aware of changes occurring in your own lives and to look forward to them.

During the school year, the only constant I am guaranteed is being inundated with work. Towards the end of April, I found myself anxiously awaiting the beginning of May.

When it finally arrived, I was so overwhelmed, I didn't know what to do first (although my mother had my first week planned – she insisted I clean my room and then she arranged for me to have my wisdom teeth pulled).

The key to happiness is having something to look forward to. In the coming weeks, I have planned a trip to Plattsburgh and to La Ronde. I will also spend time with my friends, get in shape (I always say that!) and relax before leaving for camp. I may even go see the new *Star Wars* movie to finally try to understand it.

Happy May!

Dry Bones
ONCE AGAIN ISRAEL HAS PROVEN THAT WE ARE AN ALIEN ENTITY
AND IGNORANT OF MIDDLE EASTERN TRADITIONS
YOU MEAN?
YUP.
WE JUST HELD FREE DEMOCRATIC ELECTIONS!
KIRSCHEN

The Kirshner File

Character counted in Israeli elections

Character counts, as Benjamin Netanyahu belatedly discovered on May 17, when Israeli voters turfed him out as Israel's first directly elected prime minister and replaced him with his Labor party rival, Ehud Barak.

Sheldon Kirshner in Toronto

The election campaign ultimately focused on Netanyahu rather than on the plethora of issues facing Israel – the frozen peace process with the Palestinians and Syria, the faltering economy, the ethnic and religious fissures convulsing Israeli society, and the continuing mini-war in southern Lebanon.

At the end of the day, Netanyahu, the most divisive Israeli prime minister since 1949, was indubitably the overriding issue, at least as far as 56 percent of Israelis were concerned.

In essence, the election turned into a referendum of Netanyahu's personality and style of governance, and the people found him wanting.

Netanyahu, Israel's youngest prime minister, alienated core supporters, and confirmed the worst suspicions of his adversaries. By all accounts, he was arrogant, cynical, insincere, secretive, untrustworthy and lacking that most basic of qualities – integrity.

In the aftermath of the 1996 election, which he won by the skin of his teeth, Netanyahu was presented with the opportunity of healing the self-inflicted wounds of a divided nation traumatized by the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin. But Netanyahu failed the test abysmally. He stoked the fires of divisiveness, playing on old resentments and fears. He was a politician, not a statesman.

Former Likud colleagues and cabinet ministers, ranging from Dan Meridor and Benny Begin to David Levy and Yitzhak Mordechai, grew disillusioned, and abandoned him in disgust. Even his mentor, Moshe Arens, challenged his leadership. Virtually all of them concurred that he was temperamentally unfit to be prime minister.

The antipathy he aroused crystallized on the eve of the election. Mordechai, the Centre party leader who had served as his defence minister, endorsed Barak. Begin, the far-right candidate who resigned as Netanyahu's science minister, pointedly refused to endorse him. And Natan Sharansky, the trade minister whom Netanyahu had assiduously worked to free from a Soviet gulag, remained studiously and devastatingly neutral.

These were not the sole factors contributing to Netanyahu's demise after less than three years in office. He ran an increasingly desperate campaign, masterminded by American adviser Arthur Finkelstein, which accentuated the negative. There was an inevitable backlash.

Netanyahu, a consummate insider who masqueraded as an outsider, spoke darkly of the "elites" ruling Israel. He disengenuously identified himself with the Sepharadi "riff-raff." The master of the soundbite, Netanyahu mercilessly attacked the media, which had nurtured him at the outset of his career.

Harking back to a 1996 campaign theme which eventually destroyed Shimon Peres' candidacy, he claimed, falsely, that Barak was a "leftist" who would "divide" Jerusalem. And in a series of lurid, counter-productive advertisements of buses being blown up by suicide bombers, Netanyahu strongly suggested that terrorism would return with the election of the Labor party (In fact, there were three suicide bombings during his watch, claiming the lives of 24 persons).

Netanyahu signally failed to convince voters that "the left" would countenance a Palestinian state which "would endanger our very existence." He took credit for forcing Yasser Arafat to defer a proclamation of Palestinian statehood on May 4, but few voters were swayed by the claim. And he lost further credibility by attempting to foment an artificial crisis over Orient House, the PLO's headquarters in eastern Jerusalem, and by ordering ground to be broken at Har Choma, the planned housing estate in Jerusalem, on the day before the election.

Benjamin Netanyahu

And in a final burst of electioneering which rang hollow, he claimed that Barak had reached an agreement with "anti-Zionist forces" (namely the Israeli Arab candidate Azmi Bishara) to withdraw from the prime ministerial race. In fact, there was no such understanding.

Beyond all that, there are a number of other reasons for Netanyahu's downfall, exactly 22 years to the day that the Likud triumphed in its first election. Barak, the former chief of staff, was widely perceived as a strong, security-minded candidate in the mould of Rabin. Barak's centrist One Israel coalition, which co-opted Levy's Gesher party and the Meimad movement, siphoned away crucial Sephardi and moderate Orthodox votes from Netanyahu. Moreover, Barak improved his standing in the Russian community, and thanks to Bishara's and Mordechai's withdrawals, gained a pivotal advantage over Netanyahu.

Most important of all, perhaps, the campaign was not marred by suicide bombings, which had doomed Peres' chances of reelection.

***

Netanyahu's tenure as prime minister was characterized by a roller-coaster of crises and one scandal – the Bar-On affair – which gave him the dubious distinction of being the first premier against whom the police recommended criminal charges.

Without consulting his security officials, he authorized the opening of an archeological tunnel exit in Jerusalem which touched off the most serious Palestinian rioting in the territories since the Six Day War.

Under Netanyahu, Israel's relationship with the Palestinians – and the Arab world in general – deteriorated sharply. He expanded existing Israeli settlements in the West Bank, permitted supporters to build unauthorized new ones, and failed to renew talks with Syria. Netanyahu treated Arafat as an adversary and not as a partner in peacemaking, and often they were not even on speaking terms.

Netanyahu initially condemned and then grudgingly accepted the Oslo peace process. To his everlasting credit, he jettisoned the Likud's rejection of territorial compromise in the West Bank, persuaded many Likudniks to embrace the reality and logic of Oslo, and moved the party toward the centre of the political spectrum.

But for every step forward, Netanyahu took one or two steps backwards. After months of bitter negotiations, he finally agreed to sign the 1997 Hebron redeployment accord. But then, in a unilateral maneuver designed to appease his extreme right-wing constituents, he announced plans to build Har Choma, a development which prompted the Palestinians to more or less boycott the peace talks for about 18 months. The impasse was broken when Israel, under the 1998 Wye memorandum, agreed to make a further 13 percent phased withdrawal from the West Bank in exchange for Palestinian promises to crack down on terrorism.

Netanyahu carried out the first of three withdrawals, but in the face of fierce resistance from some cabinet ministers, he turned against Wye on the grounds that the Palestinians were not fulfilling their reciprocal obligations. He thereby antagonized his prime supporters, lost the Labor party's "safety net," and was forced to dissolve his government and call new elections.

Netanyahu promised to bring Israel "peace with security." But when he resigned as Likud party leader last week, Israel had neither peace nor security.

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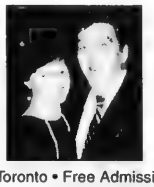

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Defining leadership

By AVI BENLOLO

The question of what makes a good Jewish leader has perplexed me for some time. Defining leadership itself is nearly impossible and often leads to controversy rather than consensus.

There have been many pre-eminent Jewish leaders such as Moses, King David, Theodor Herzl and David Ben-Gurion, to name just a few.

In my view, Don Yosef Nasi was amongst the great Jewish leaders of the world. As a leader, Nasi represented the most important tenets of Judaism, including charity to Jewish institutions and to the needy, love of HaShem and the Torah, devotion and commitment to his people and personal sacrifice.

Nasi was a Marrano who, as a child, fled Spain and then Portugal with his family during the Inquisition in the 15th and 16th centuries.

Forced to adopt Christianity, the Nasi family continued to practise Judaism in secrecy, despite the fact that Nasi's parents were burned to death at the hands of the inquisitors.

The Nasi family was prominent and influential. They owned banks and properties throughout Europe. However, they were not spared the trials and tribulations of the Inquisition.

From Portugal, the family escaped to Antwerp. They went on to Venice and Ferrara, finally settling in Turkey. Once in Turkey, Yosef Nasi was circumcised so that he could become a full-fledged Jew.

Wherever the Nasis settled, they saw their task as coming to the aid of their fellow Marranos – forming numerous institutions like a Free Loan Fund and a Bridal Dowry Fund in Antwerp.

One of the numerous scholarly pieces they subsidized was the Spanish translation of the Bible, which inevitably helped many Marranos who could not read Hebrew return to their faith.

Nasi's leadership of the Jewish people peaked in Turkey as he became deeply involved in the affairs of Jewish life. He planned and financially supported escape routes throughout Europe for fellow Marranos. Moreover, he inspired a financial boycott of the Italian port city of Ancona after Pope Paul IV arrested and imprisoned all of the city's ex-Marranos as apostatizing Christians.

He viewed the fate of the Jewish people as his concern. For example, using his close relationship with Turkey's Sultan Suleiman the Magnificent, Nasi convinced him to grant the Jews settlement in Tiberias. He quickly invited the persecuted Jews of Europe to settle there, even offering his ships to transport them there, free of charge.

Nasi's dream was clearly to rebuild the nation of Israel in the Holy Land. His intention was to rescue Jews from the clutches of the Inquisition to enable them to freely practise their religion. Nasi even convinced the sultan to go to war with Venice in order to capture Cyprus as a future kingdom for the Jews.

In the eyes of his Jewish brethren and Muslim friends, Nasi became Yosef HaNasi – Yosef the prince. He was no longer a private person, but a public servant. He understood that in leadership, it was not enough to be responsible for one's own family, but that he also had to look out for the entire nation.

An assortment of riches

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

Today an assortment of sites where you could find out how to win a lot of money, get some free advice about life's problems, debate about the world's best deli and maybe even find out how to save your life.

A few generations ago, if you needed help with a problem all you had to do was ask Yenta. Nowadays, just Ask Yenta **[http://www.AskYenta.com]**. This is a lively new discussion area where you can get some homespun advice from the virtual Yenta and other surfers. You can pose a question (Should all Jews live in Israel?) or if you want, share a favorite recipe or joke. ("If a pig loses its voice, is it disgruntled?") This is a new site which could benefit from more traffic and Yentas.

Dr. Suzanne Schwartz has done a real service with her Jewish Observance and Burn Prevention Web site **[http://www.bethsholom.org/burnsafe.htm]**. It never occurred to me how many Jewish traditions revolve around fire and how dangerous a Jewish home can be to a young child. There are so many ceremonies in the home that call for candles, like Shabbat, holidays, Chanukah and havdalah. And there are constant electrical risks posed by sukkah space heaters, hot water urns and stove elements left on for days. Schwartz points out that the incidence of burns among children of observant families is inordinately high. Then she details how families can prevent those tragedies.

Sara Davidovits has asked me to mention The International Coalition for Missing Israel Soldiers **[http://www.mia.org.il]**. Ron Arad is the best known missing Israeli soldier. Unfortunately he is not alone. This site also tells the stories of Zvi Feldman, Zachary Baumel and Yehuda Katz.

According to the site, in June 1982, Yehuda, Zachary and Zvi were captured at the battle of Sultan Yakoub, Lebanon. They remain captives, held incommunicado for over 15 years. The coalition works for their release.

Here's a site to sink your teeth into. The Deli Project is a repository for jokes, recipes and memories about that quintessential Jewish institution, the delicatessen **[http://www.deliproject.com]**. According to the authors, the deli is more than just a restaurant. It's a piece of modern Jewish archeology. "The delis of yesterday contain more than pastrami and blintzes – they hold the values, the pleasures, the connections of our community. Jews and non-Jews alike come to the deli to feed a hunger that goes beyond the stomach. That hunger is for the sense of identity, the feeling of being 'home' with our people – this is the other hunger that the deli satisfies."

Do you spend much too much time surfing the Web? At least make your hours profitable. At Treasurusalem, you are challenged to be the first to decipher their online jigsaw puzzle and win a $5,000 prize **[http://www.snunit.k12.il/treasurusalem/]**. Problems are solved by deciphering of a series of devilishly hard riddles. Good luck!

Have you created a Web page that you are proud of? Or is there a Jewish page that you find your yourself constantly revisiting that you feel everyone should know about? Please e-mail me about them at the address below.

* * *

This weekend the eyes and ears of Europe will be trained on Jerusalem. Fortunately, the focus this time is music, as Israel hosts the Eurovision song contest. Israel has won the Eurovision three times. In 1978, Yizhar Cohen won with the song *A-ba ni-bi* and the next year, Israel won again, with Gali Atari & Milk and Honey singing the now famous *Halleluyah*. Last year, Dana International won with the song *Diva*. As winner of the contest, Israel will be staging this year's competition.

You can listen to the *Yom Huledet* (Birthday) by the group Eden **[http://eurovision-pr.walla.co.il/]**, compare it to the 22 other entries **[http://israeliculture.miningco.com/library/weekly/aa042799.htm]** and choose your own winner.

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a Toronto-based television producer who writes, lectures and teaches about the Jewish Internet. He can be contacted at [mdm@inforamp.net].

Roots & Remembrance

The family custodian

By ZE'EV GLICENSTEIN

"A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches." – Prov. 22:1.

David Birnbaum pulls a book off a shelf, opens to the frontispiece, and unfolds a genealogical chart. The book is *Et Laasot*, and contains collected works of his renowned grandfather, Nathan Birnbaum, and a large and beautifully drawn family tree.

The chart goes back 34 generations to Rashi, the medieval biblical and talmudic commentator. It is filled with the names of many illustrious rabbis: Luria, Shapira, the Maharal of Padua, the Maharam of Eisenstadt, Moshe Isserlis, Schach of Moravia....

A retired urban planner and architect, David is the son of Solomon Birnbaum, a Yiddish scholar and expert in Hebrew paleography who also wrote numerous books, including one on the Dead Sea Scrolls. David's grandfather, Nathan Birnbaum, was a writer and proponent of early Zionist ideology, who co-founded Kadima, a Jewish student organization, in 1882.

"He invented the word 'Zionism,'" David says of his grandfather. "He always thought of it more in a cultural sense, not just a territorial sense. As time went on, he got interested in Yiddish as an expression of Jewish culture."

David has become the custodian of an astonishing collection of books, manuscripts, articles, photographs and other artifacts of his distinguished family legacy. A room on the main floor of his modest home in North York is stuffed with a seemingly impossible amount of archival material. But most of the collection is downstairs, in a large room cramped with rows of shelves and filing cabinets which give it the distinct appearance of an institutional library.

"My father organized everything. I'm just trying to keep the ship afloat. It's very hard. I'm trying to get everything catalogued. I've been looking for some good software, in Hebrew and English..."

The filing cabinets contain tens of thousands of letters to his grandfather, some with famous signatures – Herzl, Hildesheimer, Adler, Jacobovits, Nordau, Sassoon, Roth, even Glicenstein. "A library in Israel [the National Jewish Library] wanted all my grandfather's letters, particularly those on early Zionism. They photocopied them, and helped us organize and preserve them."

David pulls a book from a shelf: *Yiddish, A Survey and A Grammar*, written by Nathan Birnbaum and published in Toronto in 1979, when the author was 88. He shows me another of his father's works, *The Sayings of the Baal Shem Tov*, based on original Yiddish sources. He gestures towards a shelf of more than 100 books written by his grandfather. The shelf also contains numerous books about him.

"These box files here are about my father — all sorts of people discussing him, attacking him, defending him. My father never had enough money, but he kept things going."

David, too, tries to keep things going, answering the many inquiries that reach him from all over the world. "I spend a lot of time answering them. My brother helps me when he has time."

The Birnbaum family has established an official charity, the Nathan and Solomon Birnbaum Archives Foundation. "All of this material is eventually going to go into an institution," says David. "Right now, I don't know where."

Every successful family historian eventually has to contend with the problem of where to place one's collection for posterity.

The role of angels

By RABBI BERNARD BASKIN

Books
Bernard Baskin

The well-advertised exhibition at the Art Gallery of Ontario, Angels from the Vatican, has rekindled interest in a complex and many-sided subject. Are we back to the angelic fervor of a few years ago? Do we face a new torrent of books, cards, calendars, gift items and assorted paraphernalia about these strange and disturbing creatures?

As supernatural celestial beings, angels play a significant role in Jewish thought and literature from earliest biblical times. The Hebrew word mal'ach signifies a messenger or agent; it is as God's messenger that the mal'ach becomes an angel. There is a vast trove of aggadic lore, legend and speculation about angels.

In Genesis, angels assume the form of three human messengers. They tell Abraham and Sarah, in their old age, that they will soon have their first child. An angel stops Abraham from sacrificing Isaac on Mount Moriah and orders him to offer up the ram instead. Jacob wrestles with an angel. Moses, at the Burning Bush, receives the Divine Message through an angel. God promises the Jews who leave Egypt that angels will precede them in order to bring them safely to the Holy Land. There are numerous other examples.

Individual Israelites, in the mystical tradition, have guardian angels. A Jew is given one angel with the fulfilment of each commandment, and two accompany him constantly. On Sabbath eve, a good and evil angel accompany each worshipper as he returns from the synagogue. In the sanctuary on high, the mal'achei ha-sharet (ministering angels) perform the priestly functions.

Some Jewish teachers believed that each Jew is represented by an angelic advocate in heaven. The Jewish patron angel is Michael, who outranks even Gabriel. Whenever the Jewish people are accused of wrongdoing, Michael steps forward before the heavenly court to defend them.

The most terrible of the destroying angels is the mal'ach ha-mavet (the angel of death), who waits at the bedside of the sick. At the tip of his sword hangs a lethal drop of venom. Originally the angel of death, like other angels, personified a function of the divine will, but gradually he acquired a definitely demonic individuality. He is linked and at times identified with "satan" (who tempts and accuses) the evil inclination, and "Samael," the prince of demons.

Many sages thought that angels restrained individuals from doing evil. One such teacher was Eleazar ben Judah of Worms, who lived about 700 years ago. In his *Book of the Angels*, he asserted that God created angels to assure proper human behavior.

The Kabbalah asserts that Jews can appeal to angels through incantations, amulets and magic words. On amulets, Jews can write the names of angels and add a prayer to them for deliverance and relief. On one of these ancient amulets we find a convolutely worded prayer for the cure for stupidity.

"Take a piece of parchment made of kosher deer and suspend it on your right arm. Fast that day, and write the following on it: 'I perform a cure from heaven. May this stupid heart be opened up, and the names of…Michael and Gabriel, Ashriel and Shamshiel, and Zuriel and Azariel and Samhiel and Kabniel and Hodiel and Barachiel and Peniel and Anabiel, and Tarpiel, so that the stupid heart shall be opened which is harder than that of an ox, and he shall study and not forget. Amen, Selah, Hallelujah."

All the major Jewish philosophers – except Philo – adopted a nationalist view of angels. Maimonides insisted that an angel is nothing extraordinary or supernatural – a mere messenger. Therefore, every human being with a worthy message is, in a sense, an angel.

Generally speaking, contemporary Judaism regards allusions to angels in scripture and the liturgy as poetic and symbolic, rather than of doctrinal import or moral significance.

A popular and authentic guide to the entire matter of angels in Jewish tradition and literature is *A Gathering of Angels* (1994) by Rabbi Morris B. Margolies.

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Conservative, Reform stress diversity

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
CJN Staff

TORONTO – The desire for uniformity in Judaism will inevitably divide the religion, says the international president of the Rabbinical Assembly.

"To have a flourishing, harmonious community, we must make allowance for differences," Rabbi Seymour Essrog, a Conservative rabbi, said at a recent public forum sponsored by the Toronto Board of Rabbis. Also speaking at the forum, held recently at Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am, was Rabbi Richard Levy, international president of the Central Conference of American Rabbis.

Judaism should not be one individual mass, Essrog said, but rather, 12 tribes and 12 different roofs. "Recognizing our distinctions gives us a sense of oneness and unity, and unity for the Jewish people is more important than similarity.

"God has recognized these differences, and His creatures should be equal to the task."

Rabbi Levy, a Reform rabbi, said that being open to all Jews is a "two-edged sword. We not only need to respect other Jews, we want them to respect us. I want klal Israel to include concern for the equality of women and concern for gays."

The Reform movement's new statement of principles, which should soon be passed, said Rabbi Levy, will give people a positive definition of Reform Judaism. "The statement will reaffirm the individual notion of mitzvot. We have always stressed the role of the individual in mitzvot.

"We hope, that as we help Reform Jews see them as options, that more and more people will see the call of the mitzvot.

"Appropriate dialogue will remove the idea that some mitzvot are banned to Reform Jews.

"This will make it easier for Reform synagogues to place tallit in full view of congregants without feeling that they are imposing on people."

The new statement of principles should "commit the Reform movement to take into account the views and sensitivities of Jews around the world."

The movements within Judaism are very important, said Rabbi Levy. "To eliminate them would lessen diversity, and lessen the particular impacts of Judaism from the various streams.

"We should value the fact that we find value in the different types of davening our movements have developed."

A reconfiguration of Judaism, he said, would mean the loss of experience for many people. "This is most important for Reform Jews. We should help them be open to all of Torah, not necessarily accepting it, but being open to dialogue.

"My view of pluralism is that all of us receive the Torah; all of us receive it differently; and we can all learn from each other."

Israel Funwalk '99 set

TORONTO — The Jewish community's largest annual event combines healthy activity, a visual sampling of historic Jewish Toronto and support for a good cause.

On May 30, thousands of walkers will meander through the streets of downtown Toronto – including former Jewish neighborhoods – in the UJA Federation Israel Funwalk '99.

The festivities will begin at Nathan Phillips Square with registration commencing at 9:15 a.m. The walk itself will kick off at 10:30 and end at Ontario Place, site of the Israel Funwalk Festival. In between, walkers will enjoy entertainment, food, prizes, celebrities and music.

Steven Page of the Barenaked Ladies, Liberty Silver and the Stars Band will perform at Nathan Phillips Square while the Simpletones, klezmer and Jewish music are on tap for Ontario Place.

"We've added three new features to the walk this year," said Fran Grundman, one of three Walk co-chairs. "At Nathan Phillips Square, we're creating a carnival atmosphere to add more excitement to the start of the walk. There's a new checkpoint, with added entertainment and cartoon characters. And the gigantic kosher barbecue at Ontario Place is a welcome addition for the many hungry walkers."

An array of prizes will be distributed, including a free flight to Israel, compliments of El Al Israel Airlines, Leafs and Raptors tickets, sports equipment, T-shirts, a Nintendo Gameboy and movie passes.

Incentives for walkers include a free pass at Ontario Place for every $25 in sponsorships.

UJA Federation expects the funwalk will attract 10,000 participants. Last year, 20,000 walkers turned out to celebrate Israel's 50th birthday. They raised $250,000 for the UJA's annual campaign. Proceeds raised at this year's Funwalk are slated for the UJA's 2000 campaign.

Information kits are available at UJA Federation offices at 4600 Bathurst St., at the Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St., or the Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave.

For more information or to volunteer, call 631-7500 or check out the Walk Web site at www. feduja. org/funwalk99.

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Adath Israel (C)	37 Southbourne Ave. (416) 635-5340	7:00 PM	9:00 AM	8:00 & 9:00 AM	7:00 & 7:45 AM	8:50 PM
Agudath Israel of Toronto (O)	129 McGillivray Ave. (416) 789-5514	7:00 PM	8:45 AM	7:00, 7:30 8:00, 8:30	Mon. Thurs. 6:25, 6:50, 7:15 Tues. Wed. Fri. 6:30, 6:55	8:40 PM
Baycrest Centre (O)	3560 Bathurst St. (416) 789-5131	4:30 PM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	----------
Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am (C)	55 Yeomans Rd. (416) 633-5500	8:30 PM	9:00 AM	8:30 AM	7:00 & 8:00 AM	6:00 PM
Beth Lida (O)	22 Gilgorm Rd. (416)489-2550	7:00 PM	9:00 AM	----------	----------	----------
Chevra Shas (O)	3545 Bathurst St. (416) 781-7126	7:00 PM	9:15 AM	7:00 & 8:00 AM	6:30 & 7:30 AM	8:40 PM
Minyan Avreichim (The Boat Shul) (O)	2919 Bathurst St. (416) 789-4731	7:00 PM	8:30 AM	7:30, 8:00, 8:30 & 9:00	7:00, 7:30, 8:00 8:30 & 9:00 AM	8:40 PM
Shaar Shalom (C)	2 Simonston Blvd. (905) 889-4975	7:00 PM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	7:00 AM	7:00 PM
Temple Emanu-El (R)	120 Old Colony Rd. (416) 449-3880	7:30 PM	10:30 AM	8:30 AM	7:30 AM	----------
Temple Kol Ami (R)	36 Atkinson Ave. (905) 709-2620	7:30 PM	10:30 AM	----------	----------	----------

This is not a comprehensive listing of the synagogues in the Greater Toronto area. The information is provided by the Vaad Harabonim of Toronto and the Toronto Board of Rabbis. The Vaad and the Board will periodically revise the listings. For statutory holidays, please call the Synagogue for any changes in times.

Greater Toronto Area

Ontario Election '99

NDP battles incumbents in Don Valley East

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
CJN Staff

TORONTO — Liberal MPP David Caplan, Education Minister Dave Johnson and NDP hopeful Janaki Bala-Krishnan are squaring off in Don Valley East, the riding incorporating the old wards of Oriole, York Mills and Don Mills.

Janaki Bala-Krishnan

David Caplan

David Johnson

There are about 70,000 voters in the riding, with many Chinese, Iranian, Armenian and Italian residents. About 30 percent of the population are seniors, and half are homeowners.

Education is the Liberals' priority in this election, says Caplan, a former North York Board of Education trustee who, since 1997, has represented Oriole, the riding his mother Elinor, now an MP, held for years.

"There has been considerable damage done to the publicly funded education system," Caplan told *The CJN*, "and we have to bring back confidence and stability."

One of his party's priorities is to make junior kindergarten mandatory and fully funded.

"As it stands now, the school board is given money, and it can be used for something else, rather than for JK. We also plan on fully funding adult education, and providing funds for special education."

By slashing funding, he says, the Conservatives have pitted one group of students against another.

Seniors and youth, says Caplan have become the most vulnerable group of tenants.

"Seniors, by and large, live on fixed incomes, and some have to make a choice between rent and food. Without rent control, seniors are virtual prisoners of where they live. They can't move to be closer to family or certain amenities because their rents would go up tremendously in their new apartment."

The problem, he says, is rooted in the province's downloading of social housing on the municipalities. "It is costing $2 billion just to keep up the social housing that is now available, and there is now an eight- or nine-year waiting list."

Seniors are also suffering from lack of proper care, Caplan says, due to budget cuts to hospitals.

"The theory was that people would be taken care of by various organizations, but these organizations have also had their budgets cut. More and more seniors are being forced to stay at home without proper care. Their health is deteriorating."

Caplan, who is advocating an anti-racist branch of the Education Ministry, says it's "shameful" that Premier Mike Harris cut an anti-racism education program in the schools.

The Conservatives' first priority is to raise standards in the public education system, says Johnson.

Over the next five years, he says, a Tory government plans to test teachers to make sure they have up-to-date skills, guarantee classroom funding, and test students on core subjects.

The Tories also plan to increase funding for health care by 20 percent, which "will guarantee that better services will be available when seniors need them."

The Conservatives have maintained and improved existing subsidized housing and have reinvested hundreds of millions of dollars to bring social housing back up to proper standards, says Johnson. "We have been reforming social housing…to ensure that those who need help get it."

In March, he says, the Harris government announced an additional $100 million to help the homeless in Ontario.

The government, says Johnson, has "zero tolerance for hate crimes and propaganda…and expects all authorities with jurisdiction over hate crimes on the Internet to prosecute offenders."

Bala-Krishnan, an electrical engineer who ran in Don Mills riding in 1995, says the NDP's policy is to support public schools and "bring back what has been taken away from the kids. We also view heritage language as an important part of the public school system."

Bala-Krishnan, who served with the Community Care Access Centre of North York, says that "clearly, the population in North York is aging, and seniors need services that are not being offered. Our party plans on providing culturally centred services, language services, and services for people of particular religious backgrounds.

"These are things that seniors now are not getting. The Community Care Access Centre as it stands, is not representative of the cross-section of Don Valley East."

The NDP is committed, she says, to building social housing, some co-op, some non-profit.

It also plans some type of housing for the homeless, and service-providing homes for psychiatric patients.

Having served on the Alliance for Employment Equity and as chair of the South Asian Women's Centre, Bala-Krishnan says she is well aware of the issue of hate crimes.

"The present government removed the anti-racist policies initiated by the NDP, and we plan on restoring them. We will reintroduce anti-racism education into the schools, and promote it in the workplace. The government also has to take initiatives to stop hate on the Internet."

Also running in the riding are Jeff Pancer for the Green party and Elizabeth Rowley for the Communist party.

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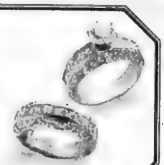

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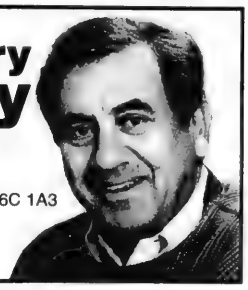

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Ontario Election '99

Health care, education top Thornhill concerns

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Health care and education are seen as the main concern of voters in Thornhill riding, in next week's election.

Thornhill, which extends from Highway 400 to Highway 404, and from Steeles Avenue to Highway 7, was carved out of the former York Central and Markham ridings, held by Conservative MPPs Al Palladini and David Tsubouchi. About one-third of its population of 95,000 is estimated to be Jewish.

Conservative candidate Tina Molinari, 42, has served on the Catholic Separate School Board for the past 10 years, the last four as chair. Lawyer Dan Ronen, 35, is the Liberal candidate, while 19-year-old Nathan Rotman is carrying the NDP banner.

Early on in the campaign, Molinari had to do some fancy back-pedalling when a pollster asked whether residents would vote for a "member" of Canadian Jewish Congress, or for the son of a Holocaust survivor, both questions obviously referring to Ronen.

Molinari insists she did not commission the poll. The party apologized, and fired the pollster.

She told *The CJN* that while campaigning, she's discovering that people "believe in the direction the government is going," and support the tax cuts.

She said that while she believes "there is a benefit in children being educated in their faith," the party has taken no stand on extending funding to day schools. "We must strive to improve the public school system," she said.

Molinari insists that the Tories' policy of restructuring has led to more long-term care beds and more social housing. "We spend more than twice as much per capita as any other province," she said.

Under Attorney General Charles Harnick, she said, there has been more action on hate propaganda, including on the Internet, than ever before, a process that will continue. "Hate propaganda is intolerable. Proponents should be charged," she said.

Rotman agreed with the NDP stand against government funding of day schools, although he added that "it is not fair that only the Catholic schools are funded – it should be everyone or no one."

Asked about giving students in independent schools access to special services, such as speech therapy, he said it is a parent's personal choice to send a child to an independent school.

"The public school system here is great, even if it is being demolished [by the Conservatives]," he said.

Rotman feels Ontario must stop moving towards an American-style, for-profit social services system. "We must restore rent control, so that more housing is available, especially for seniors," he said.

While asserting the NDP is "anti-racist," he believes that the Internet is a federal issue.

Ronen is promising to bring the issue of school funding to party leader Dalton McGuinty and to the caucus. "I support it if it is universal, and if the schools meet Ministry of Education guidelines."

The Liberals, he said, besides injecting $2.1 billion into the health-care system, would investigate each health-care facility scheduled to close, and consult with the community.

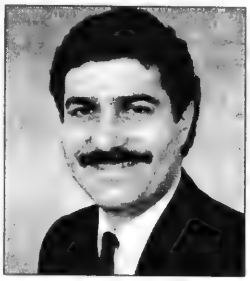
"We need to ensure that our elderly feel safe and secure, and that health care will be there for them if they want it."

The party intends to impose legislation under which an employee can have 12 weeks unpaid leave of absence to care for an elderly relative.

While acknowledging "you can't stop hate," one way to stem it is through public education, in schools, and businesses.

Ronen and Rotman are also concerned about implementation of amalgamation in York Region, and the sale of Highway 407 to the private sector.

Tina Molinari



Dan Ronen

Nathan Rotman

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Based in Toronto, Mr. Adler brings over 20 years experience in the areas of business valuations, acquisitions and litigation support. Mr. Adler has appeared as an expert witness in matters involving valuations of business interests on numerous occasions. Prior to his association with our firm, Mr. Adler was a partner, both in Canada and in Europe, with an international accounting firm. He was a member of the Faculty of Business Administration at Simon Fraser University.

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Greater Toronto Area

Former trustee running hard in Willowdale

By MIRIAM CHINSKY
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Redrawn boundaries in Willowdale riding mean there's probably a lower Jewish presence than before, and a significantly higher Asian population.

Ontario Election '99

The riding from which Attorney General Charles Harnick bowed out, now extends from Steeles Avenue to Chelmsford, Bathurst and the West Don River, along 401 to the East Don River, just east of Finch to Victoria Park Ave. and back to Steeles.

Liberal candidate Fahimeh Mortazavi, a human resources consultant with the federal government's public service commission, favors some provincial support for independent religious schools, including Jewish day schools.

"I realize the inequity and will raise this in caucus," she told *The CJN*.

Citing the rapidly growing number of seniors in the riding, Mortazavi opts for long-term elder care planning.

"We need to make sure that we have enough nurses and doctors." The Liberals, she states, are committed to increased funding for health care and education. The money would come from federal transfer payments, trimming the "top-heavy" provincial budget, which she says includes the cost of "high priced imported consultants," and re-allocation of current funds.

To promote affordable housing, the party would offer provincial sales tax rebates to builders on materials, and encourage Ottawa to do the same with the GST.

Liberal leader Dalton McGuinty is committed to restoring rent control, Mortazavi says.

She stresses early education to combat hate propaganda, and wants the message of the Holocaust emphasized. Hate on the Internet is frightening, she says, "because it's silent, a one-way communication with no dialogue.

"I'm all for freedom of the press but there should be a limit. If we don't allow hate propaganda in the newspapers, we shouldn't permit it on the Internet."

NDP candidate Mikael Swayze, a staff representative for the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE), is completing his PhD in political science at the University of Toronto, where he also teaches.

"I don't believe the state should fund independent schools," Swayze maintains. "I'm more in favor of a common public school system, despite the fact that our 16-month-old son is on the [waiting] list for Bialik [Hebrew Day School].

"My concern is that we could lose control of the curriculum and the way everything is taught if we accept government funding."

Swayze does support public help for special needs children, "to put everyone on the same field."

The Tories, he charges, dismantled the NDP plan to bring together all home care services in a seamless delivery under one umbrella.

"We've seen an incredible tendency to offer contracts to 'for-profit' organizations. The Americanization of health care makes it a business, not a public service. We would look to bringing in home care on a non-profit basis."

Social housing is a right, he insists, noting that the NDP would build 16,000 affordable housing units over the next four years, as called for by the Golden Commission on homelessness. The cost would be met by rolling back the tax cut for the top six percent of income earners.

Ontarians should work aggressively to prosecute those who violate anti-hate laws, says Swayze. He decries hate mongering on the Internet but declares that it's hard to regulate because its origins are decentralized.

David Young

Mikael Swayze

Fahimeh Mortazavi

The Progressive Conservative candidate, lawyer David Young, a former vice-chair of the North York Board of Education, says the government cannot undertake full funding for independent religious schools.

The party's priority, he says, is to ensure that public school systems have adequate funding, but he adds that Premier Mike Harris is prepared to investigate funding for health support services in all religious schools. "I'm doing work towards expending that," Young says.

Responding to elder care concerns Young states, "We have more geriatric specialists, the first Alzheimer's strategy in Ontario and expanded regional-care programs." Branson Hospital, he notes, will have 98 interim, long-term care beds.

Young wants to see the different levels of government work together to provide tax incentives to private organizations, like B'nai Brith, corporations and builders, to construct affordable housing.

"We have to be more relaxed toward zoning," he says, suggesting the conversion of unused buildings, like closed schools, for use as affordable living quarters.

A director of the Canadian Society for Yad Vashem, Young is committed to the battle against racism and believes it extends to opposing hate mongering on the Internet.

"It can be done through legislation which ensures that Internet providers in Ontario and North America can be prosecuted if they're involved in the propagation of this trash."

Elizabeth Rhodes is the candidate for the Green Party and Bernadette Michael is running as an independent.

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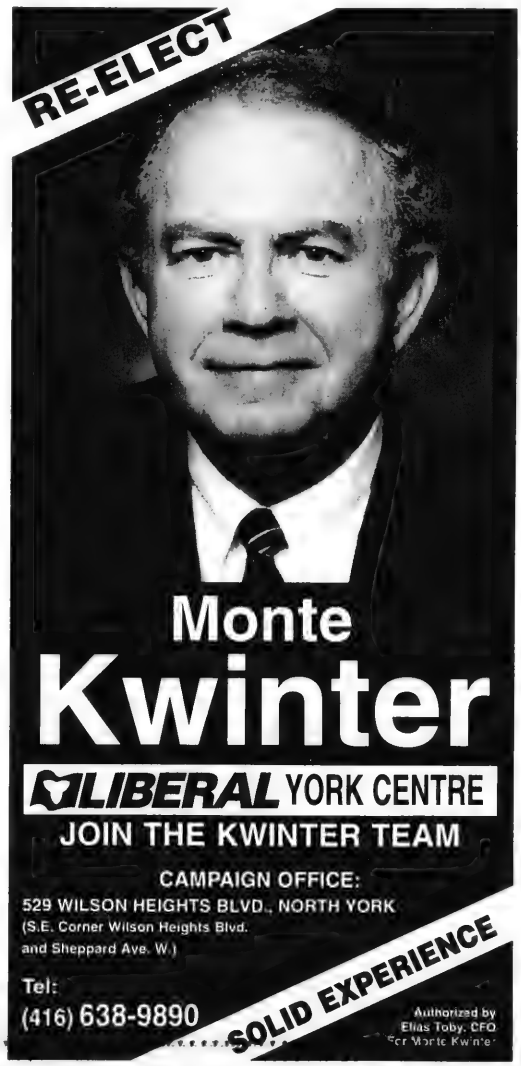

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

CANADIAN SOCIETY FOR YAD VASHEM
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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Monday, May 31, is deadline for June 10 issue, and Monday, June 7, is deadline for June 17. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Thursday, May 27

AUDITIONS

Jewish Theatre Projects seeks strong, flexible actors who are able to portray multiple characters and ages for the full-length new play *Mark Down*, a comedy, Bathurst Jewish Centre. To book time and for information 531-2555.

Sunday, May 30

CANADA AND JERUSALEM

Entertainment and Cultural Connection and Shaarei Shomayim Brotherhood present **Brian Morris**, chair, Canada Israel Committee, speaking on Is Canada Prepared to Sacrifice Jerusalem?, 8 p.m. at Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. Guests $2. Co-ordinators **Jerry** and **Sandra Genesove**.

GARAGE SALE

Jewish Women International Markham-Unionville chapter garage sale, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. 273 Main St., Unionville. All proceeds to charity. **Susan** 905-940-0286 or **Sheryl** 905-305-7026.

Monday, May 31

CASINO RAMA

A trip to Casino Rama arranged by Pride of Israel Sisterhood. $7 includes lunch (or bring your own). Reserve. 226-0111.

A STAGED READING

Medina Theatre Ensemble presents Scenecraft in Action, a staged reading of scenes from various plays directed by **Roselle Stone**, and starring Medina members. 7:30 p.m., B'nai Brith Building, 15 Hove St. Pay what you can. 633-2057.

Wednesday, June 2

LUNCH AND LEARN

Holy Blossom Temple Lunch and Learn in Retirement Group features Jewish Textiles Throughout the Ages, speaker **Elaine Genesove**, member of Pomegranate Guild of Judaic Textiles, noon. Bring lunch, coffee, tea, cookies served. $1.

Thursday, June 3

GALA EVENING

Mount Sinai Hospital Auxiliary gala evening, Laugh It Up With Bill Cosby, 6:30 p.m., Sheraton Centre, 123 Queen St. W. Cocktail reception, dinner and dance, auction, performance, raffle. All proceeds go to Breathe Life Into Birth campaign. 586-8290.

LAUGHTER UNLIMITED

Laughter Unlimited with the Comedy guys **Norm Winkler** and **Sam Rosen**, 8 p.m. Beth Sholom Synagogue.

And What Else Is New

THE DEATH OF DEATH

The Death of Death: Resurrection and Immortality in Jewish Thought is the topic **Rabbi Neil Gillman**, professor of philosophy at Jewish Theological Seminary and author of *The Death of Death*, addresses this weekend May 29 and 30 at Beth Tikvah Synagogue.

Saturday, May 29, Rabbi Gillman speaks at Shabbat services, as guest speaker during Shabbat luncheon and then leads the studying during seudah shlishit.

Sunday, May 30, Rabbi Gillman shares wisdom during breakfast, following services at 9 a.m. Co-sponsored by the Friendship Group.

Shabbat lunch $15, breakfast $5. 221-3433, ext. 0.

HAVURAH RETREAT

The Canadian-American Regional Havurah Retreat, sponsored by the National Havurah Committee and the National Havurah Community of Canada, takes place June 18-20 in the Hamilton area at Canterbury Hills Conference Centre in Ancaster. Services, workshops, study sessions, singing, dancing, storytelling, children's program. Featured speaker is **Rabbi Elyse Goldstein** of Kolel: A Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning. Register early. **David Bender** 465-4377.

THE BEGINYAN

The Beginyan at Ohr Somayach Thornhill, led by **Rabbi Mordechai Yaffe**, was launched seven months ago. Designed for people with little knowledge of

Continued on page 19

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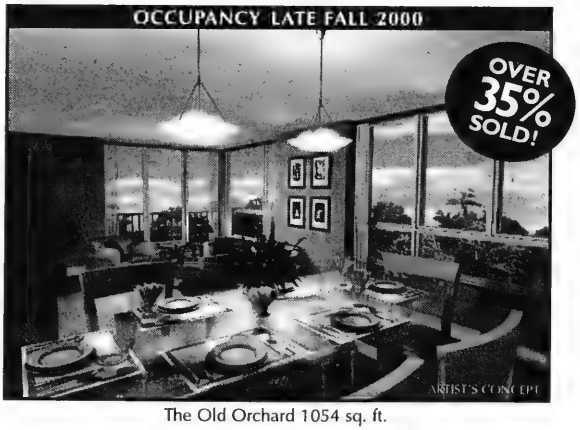

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What's New

Continued from page 18

Judaism, combining instruction on how to pray as well as the deeper meaning of prayers, it is held every Saturday at 10 a.m., followed by a post-Beginyan kiddush. 905-886-5730.

MOVEATHON PICNIC

Zareinu Moveathon Picnic and Carnival, Sunday, June 6, noon to 4 p.m. at Earl Bales Park. Inflatable obstacle course and rock climbing wall, carnival games with prizes, food vendors, music, races, free T-shirts for first 2,000, free Crazy Bones for all kids. Rain or shine! **Shaindy** 781-1064.

SUMMER ULPAN

Looking forward to learning Hebrew this summer? Canadian Zionist Federation presents **Chana Sargon** leading its first intense summer ulpan session beginning mid-July. Explore current events, newspaper articles, literature, all in Hebrew. Registration now open for day and evening classes, beginner, intermediate, advanced (Chug Ivrit) levels. Classes held at 3995 Bathurst St., Suite 300. 633-3988.

WEEKEND RETREAT

Shaarei Shomayim Congregation Weekend Retreat June 18-20 with **Rabbi Michael Skobac** at Maple Lake Resort and Convention Centre, Parry Sound. Theme: Is Religion Killing Judaism: Today's Focus on Spirituality. Saturday evening program, comedy videos, lectures and more. Adults $225, children 4-12 $55, under 4 free. Bus available at extra cost. 783-7365.

LECTURE SERIES

Kehillat Shaarei Torah three-part lecture series, The Man Who Would Be King, a study of Samuel, Saul and David focusing on the transition in leadership from Judges to Kings. Featuring **Rachel Turkienicz**, Sundays May 30 (Samuel: The Ambivalence); June 6 (Saul: The Disappointment); June 13, (David: The Seeds of Success) 8 p.m., 2640 Bayview Ave.

THE EYE OF EXPERIENCE

The Eye of Experience art exhibit of juried art by seniors and retired persons (50 plus) on view May 30-June 6 at the Galleria, BCE Place. Organized by LIFE Institute for Seniors, affiliated with Ryerson Polytechnic University and the Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living. **Harriet Law**, president LIFE Institute, 967-3347 or **Helen Burford**, 979-5286.

HIDDEN CHILD/SURVIVOR

The Czech Hidden Child Group is hosting an International Hidden Child/Child Survivor Conference in Prague Sept. 2-5. Register. **Hanna** 635-2883, ext. 153. Travel arrangements **Lily Feder-Rosta** 231-7333. Deadline for hotel and registration June 30.

TRADITIONAL MINYAN

Shomer Israel Congregation traditional heimish minyan welcomes all non-affiliated. No dues. Shabbat 9 a.m. Shabbat Minchah study class with **Rabbi Sheldon Schwartz**. Sunday morning minyan 8:30 a.m. 60 Rockford Rd. (behind Rockford School). **David** 256-1600.

FOR SENIORS

Association of Jewish Seniors all-candidates meeting, Tuesday, June 1, 10 a.m., National Council of Jewish Women, 4700 Bathurst St. **Goldie** 635-2860.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: July 5-11, Catskills; May 27, June 16 and 30, Casino Rama; Sunday dances May 30, June 6, 13, 27; ballroom dancing Thursday mornings; lessons for cutting special glass twice a week with instructor. 395-7881.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: July 27, trip to Kingston, cruise, entertainment; Aug. 25, morning cruise, matinee performance of *Move Over Mrs. Markham* at Gryphon Theatre; Oct. 12, *West Side Story* at Stratford. **Lena** 785-5773. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). May 27, video *Les Miserables*; June 3, bingo; June 6, trip to 30,000 Islands; June 10, video; June 24, lecture by **Prof. Sara Ginaite** on her experience in the Resistance in Lithuania. **Jerry Bengall,** president, 905-707-7334.

LZA Seniors in the Borochov Centre, 272 Codsell Ave., is open for socializing Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Ladies Folk-dancing Thursdays 1:30 p.m. Cultural Discussion Group Tuesdays 10 a.m. Register now to see *My Fair Lady* at Stage West, June 16; Famous People Players Sensational Lunch and Performance *Leave the Porch Light On* Sept. 29. 630-9444.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

The Jewish View of Aging with **Franci Ann Williams**, University of So. Australia, Tuesday, June 1, 10 a.m.

Lillian Disenhouse Concert, opera, operetta and more, tenor-artistic director **Michele Strano,** soprano **Fernne Kane**, **Keith Addison**, music director **Adolfo Di Santis.** Tuesday, June 1, 7 p.m.

Low Vision Support Group meeting Tuesday, June 1, 1:15-2:15 p.m. **Gloria Krane,** president of the Canadian Council for the Blind, discusses Blindness-Overcoming the Obstacles.

Arthritis Management Clinic with **Bev Tobe,** therapist with Arthritis Society, Thursday, June 3, 1-4 p.m. Make appointment at Wellness Desk, ext. 131.

Israeli Club Etrog: Do you speak Hebrew? Join club members 7 p.m. Tuesdays for movies, lectures, dances, sing-alongs, bingo, picnics. Programs conducted in Hebrew. June 1, Israeli movie. **Anna.**

AWARD WINNER

Roselyn Fedder Garber, formerly of Toronto, has received the prestigious Founders Award from the Synagogue Council of Massachusetts. This award is presented to individuals who support and enhance the activities of the Council and who, by their commitment and actions, enrich Jewish life. Garber served as outreach associate and later assistant director of the Council for 10 years. The daughter of **Maxine Feder** of Toronto and the late Dr. Jack Feder, she and husband **Lou** reside in Boston, and are the parents of three daughters **Ilana**, **Shira** and **Yaffa**.

SINGLES EVENTS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 22

TRIBUTE DINNER CHAIR

Susan Muskat serves as chair for the 1999 Tribute Dinner, Sunday, June 6, at Le Parc, sponsored by the Association for the Soldiers of Israel. The dinner invites you to spend an Evening on the Oasis-Neve Midbar in support of a social and recreational centre in the heart of the Israeli desert.

REFORM SUMMER CAMP

In a formal signing ceremony, the Canadian Council for Reform Judaism (CCRJ) officially assumed ownership of Camp George, Canada's first Reform summer camp, two hours from Toronto on Maple Lake. Present at the signing ceremony were from left Joey Steiner of the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto; Gavin Herman and Jack Feldman, representatives of the CCRJ and Camp George; Frank Tizel, president of the Jewish Camp Council.

PRESENTATION TO JF & CS

Don Mills Lodge, B'nai Brith, present a check to Jewish Family & Child Service. From left Joanne Blaier, past president, Don Mills Lodge; Selma Elzas, Foster Care coordinator, JF & CS; Hermy Gimpel, president, Don Mills Lodge.

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jewish toronto

UJA Mission Welcomes Ethiopian Jews to Israel

by Adi Neuberger

As a new chapter in the history of Ethiopian Jewry unfolds, 20 Torontonians were the first to meet with Quara Jews who arrived in Israel from Ethiopia just weeks ago.

The new immigrants are the first of an estimated 3,000 Jews waiting to be brought to Israel by the UJA Federation funded Jewish Agency. The final emigration of Quara Jews is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

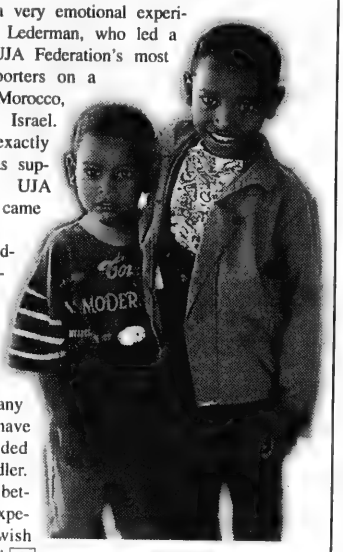
The latest group will join the more than 70,000 Jews of Ethiopian origin now living in Israel after being rescued from exile during the Jewish Agency's dramatic airlift operations in 1984 and 1991. The Quara Jews, living in remote regions of the country, were not included in Operation Moses and Operation Solomon.

UJA Federation supporters, including corporate partners, greeted the new arrivals at the Mevascret Zion absorption centre, outside Jerusalem, where the newcomers began their integration into Israeli society. Many parents who had sent their children on earlier flights were re-united with their families after months of separation.

"You could just tell by looking into their eyes how happy they are to be in Israel," noted Harold Lederman, who was in Israel to witness the arrival of the first wave of Ethiopian Jews during the early 80s.

The sole English-speaking adult in the group thanked the visitors for "helping us return home."

"It was a very emotional experience," said Lederman, who led a group of UJA Federation's most active supporters on a mission to Morocco, Paris and Israel. "This is exactly what we, as supporters of UJA Federation, came to see."



"It's incredibly satisfying and rewarding to know where our dollars go and how many people we have helped," added Eleanor Nadler. "There's no better way to experience Jewish peoplehood."

UJC APPOINTS AIN

New North American entity chooses Canadian leader

Steven Ain, Executive Vice-President of UIA Federations Canada, will become the second person from this country to lead the newly-created United Jewish Communities (UJC).

Ain was asked by fellow Canadian and UJC Chairman Charles Bronfman to serve as the interim Chief Operating Officer for six months to assist with the transition from three separate organizations - the Council of Jewish Federations, United Jewish Appeal and United Israel Appeal in the United States - into UJC.

Together with UJC Interim President and CEO Stephen Solender, Ain will help develop policy in four key areas: Jewish renaissance/renewal; human services and public policy; overseas needs; and campaign/financial resource development.

"This new entity will serve and respond to Jewish needs wherever they exist and will form a single continental voice for issues embodied in our four platforms," explains Ain, who, in addition to seven years as head of UIA Federations Canada, served as Executive Vice-President of UJA Federation of Greater Toronto. In both prior positions, Ain traveled to Israel many times to assist the Jewish Agency, UJC's overseas partner, with its strategic planning.

UJC Executive Committee Chair Joel Tauber says Ain's more than 30 years of Jewish communal leadership will "prove invaluable in making the newly-merged entity an effective voice for the community."

"I am very excited to have the opportunity to help this new organization, representing North American Jewish communities, get up and running," says Ain, who will stay on at UIA Federations Canada on a part-time basis to help ensure a smooth transition while incoming Executive Director Maxyne Finkelstein assumes her post.

Loan Cassa Celebrates 75 Years

For three-quarters of a century, the Toronto Jewish Free Loan Cassa (TJFLC) has provided dignity and hope to thousands of people in need through interest-free loans.

Founded in 1924, to help newly-arrived Jewish immigrants start businesses and bring family members over from Europe, the Cassa remains steeped in the Maimonides philosophy of helping people to help themselves. Continuing its tradition, the TJFLC provides close to $1.5 million a year in interest-free personal, educational and business loans annually.

In recent years, the Cassa has assisted thousands of Jewish immigrants, including many from the former Soviet Union, as well as students, single mothers, the unemployed and those seeking a fresh start. Veteran Cassa volunteer Jerry Blitzer calls the agency "one of the Jewish community's best kept secrets."

"Most of our clients don't realize how long we've been helping people improve their lives," explains Blitzer, who is responsible for client follow-up and membership recruitment. "Many of our contributing members were clients at one time," says Blitzer. "Some of our former clients volunteer because they want to give something back."

"The banks and everyone else turned me down when I needed help," recalls Harry Greenblat, owner of Helpful Hands Inc. which provides transportation and homecare services in the Toronto area. "The Loan Cassa helped me keep my business afloat during some very lean times," adds Greenblat. "Even though I've paid back my loan, I still feel like I owe the Cassa a great deal."

Immigration consultant Raya Fridman went from working in a beauty salon to owning her own business thanks to a TJFLC business loan she received in 1992. A year earlier, a terrible car accident left Fridman, a single mother with no close relatives to lean on, unemployed until a friend told her about the Cassa. "I've always had a positive attitude but the Loan Cassa gave me the support I needed to get back on my feet," explains Fridman, who now chairs the Personal & Educational Loan Committee. "I find tremendous satisfaction in helping others and in being a part of such a wonderful organization."

(pictured left): A TJFLC loan received by Harry Greenblat in 1997, helped him keep his company's bus on the road and in good repair.

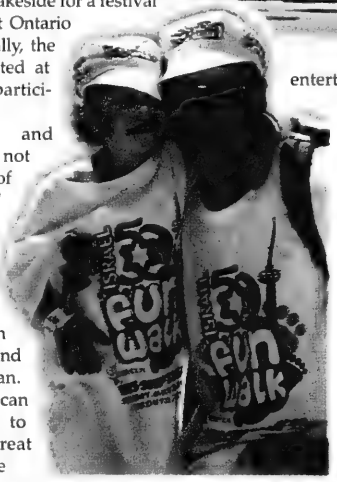
jewish toronto, *a supplement of the Canadian Jewish News, is sponsored and produced by UJA Federation. Jewish Toronto Website: www.feduja.org*

We're Ready To Walk!!

Thousands of walkers will wind their way through the city's core this Sunday as UJA Federation's Israel Funwalk 99, Jewish Toronto's largest annual event, takes to the streets.

Come rain or shine, Funwalk 99, from Nathan Phillips Square to Ontario Place, will begin at **10:30 a.m., Sunday, May 30**, with a huge outdoor carnival in front of City Hall. Opening ceremonies include free rides for the kids, live musical entertainment with Liberty Silver and the Stars Band and a special appearance by singer Stephen Page of the Bare Naked Ladies.

Funwalk 99 participants will then head south through old Jewish Toronto, stopping at checkpoints for fun and refreshments along the way, before arriving lakeside for a festival and barbeque at Ontario Place. Historically, the Walk has attracted at least 10,000 participants.

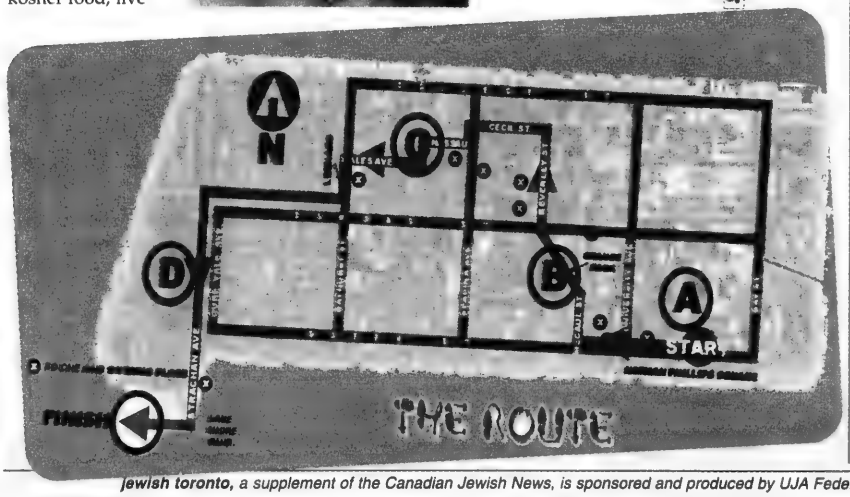


"The fun and excitement do not stop at the end of the Walk," stresses Harvey Cooperberg who is co-chairing Israel Funwalk 99 with Corey Mandell and Fran Grundman. "Festival-goers can look forward to plenty of great kosher food, live entertainment and a lot of community spirit."

This year UJA Federation's recruitment team made special effort to attract walkers of all ages such as 81-year-old Rachel Kanner who is celebrating her 25th year as a Walk participant. "This my way of showing support to the State of Israel," says Kanner who raised $3,000 one year. "I'm very grateful to my generous sponsors who have lent me their support year after year."

Last year's record breaking event raised $250,000 for Jews in need.

For more information or to pick-up a sponsorship kit call (416) 631-5700 or check out the UJA Federation Israel Funwalk 99 at the Jewish Joronto website www.feduja.org/funwalk99



jewish toronto

Walk Runs Clothing Drive

Israel Funwalk 99 participants can take an important step toward helping Jews in need by bringing along an extra item or two of new or gently used clothing for the Jewish Family & Child Service clothing drive on Sunday, May 30.

The UJA beneficiary agency, which provides clothing directly to the needy through its Just-A-Second Shop, will be collecting clothing at Nathan Phillips Square, between 9:15 and 11:30 a.m. Donations should be brought to tables located under the Just-A-Second Shop - Jewish Family & Child Service banner near the registration area on the east side of the square.

"This is a great opportunity for the store to acquire urgently needed inventory," says Barbara Barak, Coordinator of JF&CS Volunteer Services. "If every walker brings just one item we could collect thousands of pieces of clothing in just one day."

After the Walk, donations can be brought to the Just-A-Second Shop, 4117 Bathurst Street, Monday-Thursday 11:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. and Sunday 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. or at donation boxes located in front of the store, the Bathurst Jewish Centre and at 7241 Bathurst Street in Thornhill.

Sponsorship Soars

It's a record-breaking year for Funwalk corporate sponsorships.

In just two years, the number of companies sponsoring the Jewish community's most popular annual event has increased from two to more than 25 including some of the biggest names in Canadian business.

Israel Funwalk 99 Co-Chair Fran Grundman credits its Walk cabinet members - a core group of volunteers - for obtaining additional support from the private sector. "They made many calls and worked long hours to reach as many businesses as possible," says Grundman. "We couldn't have pulled it all together without them."

"Some companies even came to us on their own because they realize how important this event is to our community," adds Grundman.

UJA Federation thanks the following sponsors for supporting Israel Funwalk 99. We apologize for inadvertently omitting some names due to our publication deadline.

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Greater Toronto Area

Choir director celebrating 20 years at Beth Emeth

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The simple pleasure of hearing children sing is the aspect of his work Charles Heller enjoys the most.

The choir director at Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue – who also works in the public school system as a Grade 6, 7 and 8 music teacher – will be honored at a synagogue breakfast next month on his 20th anniversary with the shul.

Heller, who was born in London, England in 1946, has a degree in biology from Cambridge University. He taught science at the Jews' Free School in London, but soon found his niche was in music, particularly conducting.

At Beth Emeth, he directs three choirs – a synagogue choir of men and boys, a community choir of men and women (the two-time award-winning Zemer Chorale), and a children's choir.

He has also worked closely with cantor emeritus Louis Danto as conductor, arranger and accompanist.

Heller set out on his career path at age 8 as a boy chorister at the Stoke Newington Synagogue in London. "It was the most natural thing for me," he recalls.

The product of a traditional Jewish home, Heller attended Hebrew school three times a week.

His late father, an electrician by training, was a tenor in the synagogue choir. A native of a small town in the Austro-Hungarian empire, he had fled his hometown, Polna, once the Nazis came to power. His family had been involved in synagogue life there since at least the 1780s, according to archival records Heller has found.

Heller's English-born mother, a dress designer, now 89 years old, also came from a family that was involved in the synagogue.

Charles Heller

Professional standards

Before joining Beth Emeth, Heller spent a year at Kitchener's Beth Jacob Congregation as cantor and teacher, following his immigration with his wife Helen and daughter Sarah in 1977.

Heller's work as a teacher enhances his work at the synagogue, and vice versa, he believes.

But unlike children at school, the boys in the Beth Emeth choir are held to professional standards.

"Choir is essentially a grown-up activity," said Heller. Children as young as 8 are expected to be on their best behavior for hours at a time and to work as part of a musical team with the cantor, doing a professional job, he explained.

"At school, all that's expected is that you try your best."

Over the years Heller has observed a "worldwide decline in getting kids to sing.

"It used to be every school, church and synagogue would have a choir. Very often [now] children feel uncomfortable singing because they've never been asked."

But it's "a very natural thing" to sing, insisted Heller. "It's a different kind of communication. There's something very human about it."

Conducting a choir at services is challenging, Heller said. "You've got to concentrate all the time. You've got to know everything the cantor is going to do, then everything the choir's going to do, and you've got to make sure they go together."

Among his fondest memories of his Beth Emeth career, is the time the Zemer Chorale braved a blizzard to sing at a downtown hospital. They have also performed at venues like Mel Lastman Square and the Canadian National Exhibition.

In his spare time, Heller serves as consulting editor and arranger for the Cantors Assembly of New York. He also served as vice-president of Jewish Music Toronto for four years and enjoys researching Jewish music, a subject he taught at the University of Toronto in the early 1980s.

Baroque Jewish music

He used musical fragments to reconstruct baroque Jewish music for the CD *I Heard a Voice from Heaven*. "The best baroque synagogue music was written for special occasions [like] Chanukah or weddings," he said. "You'd need a little orchestra, so it wasn't for holidays."

He sees his role in that area as "a kind of detective work. I'm very proud of the recording."

Vaughan *The City Above Toronto*

NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNERS TO DESTROY NOXIOUS WEEDS

Notice is hereby given to every person in possession of land within the City of Vaughan that unless noxious weeds or weed seeds are destroyed by June 1st 1999 and throughout the season, the Municipality in accordance with the Weed Control Act, Revised Statutes of Ontario, 1990 Chapter W.5, Sections 3, 16 and 23, may enter upon said lands to cause the noxious weeds or weed seeds to be destroyed and charge the property owner in a like manner as taxes.

In the interest of public health, noxious weeds which require eradication are: Thistles, Ragweed, Goat's Beard, Poison Ivy, Wild Carrot etc. Dandelions, Burdock and Goldenrod are not considered noxious weeds within the City of Vaughan, therefore complaints regarding these weeds cannot be accepted. However the cooperation of all citizens is solicited in the elimination of all nuisance weeds.

Persons in possession of parcels of lands less than ten (10) acres in size, who are recurring offenders will receive no other notice.

The City of Vaughan does not promote the use of chemical spraying as a means of eradicating noxious weeds, and therefore suggest that cutting be used as a method for controlling noxious weeds or weed seeds.

Your cooperation is greatly appreciated. **For further information and to contact the Municipal Weed Inspectors, please call (905) 832-8577 (ext 6144) or choose option #3.**

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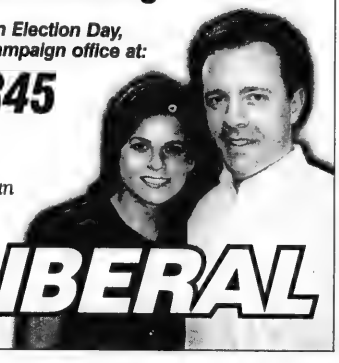

Michael Bryant and his wife Susan Abramovitch

LIBERAL

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(Authorized by the CFO for the David Young Campaign)

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On Campus

Scholarship winner hopes to help AIDS patients

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

Eden Rosen

TORONTO — Last summer, Eden Rosen juggled two university courses and five volunteer commitments, including concurrent stints as a Jewish Hospice Program volunteer and at two hospital palliative care units, as well as at a hospice catering to AIDS patients.

A roller-blading accident in June, requiring hand surgery, barely slowed her down.

This fall the gregarious 22-year-old will enter Yeshiva University's Wurzweiler School of Social Work in New York.

To recognize her leadership qualities and commitment to community, the family of the late Stephen Cooper, who died in 1988 at age 18, has selected Rosen to receive its annual memorial scholarship given at Beth Tzedec Congregation.

"I found her very wise and sensitive for such a young age," said Adi Neuberger, a member of the award committee.

Rosen, who recently completed her BA in sociology at the University of Western Ontario, would like to return to Toronto once she completes her education, to serve the needs of AIDS patients in the Jewish community.

"Our community is so wonderful and so charitable," she said, citing the work of Jewish Family & Child Service and the many organizations that support Israel.

"I want to push it a little further and open our arms to people who are gay and who have AIDS."

It's difficult enough in everyday situations when people don't have family and tradition to turn to, but it's even harder when they're suffering, she explained.

In a thanatology (death and dying) course Rosen took at Western, there was much discussion about people turning to religion when they are sick or dying, she said.

A Jewish AIDS hospice is "so needed," she believes. "AIDS is an epidemic, and it's spreading."

Rosen was determined to get into the social work program.

"One of the reasons I want to help people who are stigmatized is that I was labeled too, although not to the same extent," she said, referring to a learning disability diagnosed when she was a youngster.

A graduate of Metropolitan Preparatory Academy, she relies on a variety of learning strategies, and attended Western on a scholarship, maintaining an A average all three years.

It was through her confirmation class at Temple Sinai that she got her first taste of community service at age 14, working with disabled children at Bloorview Children's Hospital (now part of the Bloorview MacMillan Centre).

"I've always wanted to help people," she said. Her parents, Noel and Heather, a physician and family therapist respectively, are both in the helping professions, she noted.

"Eden has always had this ability to relate to people who were different," said her mother. "When she was 5 or 6, she'd give money to the homeless."

At 15 she was friendly with a gay teen at an arts camp. She later discovered he was ill, likely with AIDS. "That was enough of a first experience to know I would have done anything in the world to help him," she said.

Rosen has also been affected by the death of a close friend at age 18, and by the deaths of several parents of friends.

Her only fear with respect to volunteering in palliative care, was of becoming depressed and not being able to shake it.

"I do get sad," she said. "I'm not by any means made of steel. I get so close to them, and they die, but society can't write these people off... It's so important to me to give them what they deserve."

When she meets people who have AIDS, Rosen endeavors to give them her friendship, her attention, her care and her "normalcy" in terms of how she approaches them.

"People with AIDS deal with multiple loss," she said. "It's unbelievable how much these people have lost, unbelievable how many families have distanced themselves, how many friends they've lost, and then they go to funerals twice or three times a month, or they can't go because they're too sick."

Rosen considers herself lucky to have met the patients she's worked with. "It's one more person you meet in life who obviously isn't taking life for granted and not taking you for granted. A really strong bond develops, and I cherish that."

SHAVUOT FRUIT DONATIONS

Students at United Synagogue Day School, Richmond Hill campus, recently learned about the customs and laws of Shavuot. Seen here with some of the fruits that was donated to needy families is (from left) Ariel Stern, Laura Pellow, Leslie Kleiner, Jeremy Goldberg and Ethan Amaev.

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Authorized by the CFO's for the Campaigns of John Parker, Tina Molinari & Isabel Basset

Two Hamilton area ridings draw Jewish interest

By WENDY GOLDBLATT SCHNEIDER
Special to The CJN

HAMILTON — In the upcoming provincial elections, the two ridings of greatest interest to the Hamilton and area Jewish community are Hamilton West and Wentworth-Burlington.

This is the first election since the provincial ridings were restructured. As a result, there are two incumbents running against each other in Hamilton West, namely Conservative MPP Lillian Ross, and New Democratic Party MPP David Christopherson. The third candidate is Liberal Frank D'Amico.

Running in Wentworth Burlington, which includes Ancaster, Dundas and Burlington, are Conservative MPP incumbent Toni Skarica, Liberal candidate Vicky Wylson Sher, and NDP candidate Jessica Brennan. Candidates from all three parties in this riding were asked to express their views on certain issues.

Ontario Election '99

On the question of funding for Jewish day schools, Skarica replied that while the Harris government does not support extending funding, he himself would support providing a tax credit for tuition fees.

Sher, the one Jewish candidate among those running, said that although the Liberal party supports the ideology of extending funding towards independent religious schools, their first priority is to restore stability to the existing public and separate school system.

Christopherson was unequivocal on this issue, saying the entire focus of public dollars on education should be in the public school system.

As for making health care funding readily available to students enrolled in Jewish day schools, all the candidates expressed their wholehearted support. Sher, who herself is the parent of a child with special needs, felt particularly strong about this issue.

With regard to the privatization of health care, Ross cited the large number of privately run facilities that provide excellent care. The objective, she said, is to make sure that seniors are looked after as well as possible. Skarica talked about his government's commitment to breaking the logjam in hospitals by creating more long-term beds. Sher cited her party's stand against privatization of health care, which, they believe, would lead to a two-tiered system.

Christopherson emphasized the NDP's steadfast opposition to privatization, referring to studies that have shown the private sector's need to increase the profit margin is accomplished by reducing wages.

The Conservative and Liberal candidates were in agreement that governments should not be in the business of building social housing units. But Ross and Skarica did say that the Harris government plans to offer tax incentives to builders of low income housing and a commitment of $50 million for rent supplements. Skarica added that he believes the ultimate solution to homelessness lies in a booming economy.

Sher said that rather than getting involved in the actual building of affordable housing, government should be working with business and community leaders to ensure there are enough units in place to help with this problem. The Liberals, she said, plan to establish an additional 7,500 community units for former psychiatric patients and patients with special needs, recognizing that a large number of the homeless come from those populations.

Christopherson took a different stand on this issue, saying the problem of providing adequate affordable housing cannot be solved without the government playing a role. He said people tend to forget that half of those who are on social assistance are kids, and the Harris government's declaration that their policies were going to create all kinds of affordable housing just didn't happen. An NDP government, he said, would provide 6,000 units of affordable housing as well as 4,000 units of supportive housing for de-institutionalized psychiatric patients.

The question, he said, is "Do we have enough caring and enough compassion to say there are dollars within our budget that will go to affordable housing, or do we continue to see more and more people sleeping on our streets."

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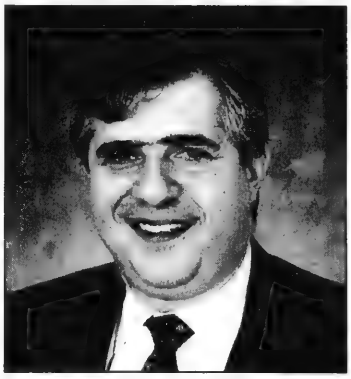

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Ottawa doctor helps Kosovo refugees in Trenton

By DIANE KOVEN
Ottawa Correspondent

OTTAWA — When planeloads of refugees began arriving in Canada, rheumatologist Dr. Rose Goldstein spent a weekend at the Trenton military base.

Goldstein, whose parents are both Holocaust survivors, said, "With my history, I would help any people in need. I am the volunteering type; I feel that if I can help in such a situation, I will.

"They made it easy for me to help because it was all organized. I just had to offer the services that I know how to provide."

The idea of organizing medical teams to assist the military in processing newly arrived refugees began with Dr. Peter Walker, an endocrinologist and dean of the faculty of medicine at Ottawa University, who suggested to a Health Canada official that the faculty might be able to help with the relief effort.

An organizing committee was formed, but when the planes began to arrive, says Walker, "we had maximum 72 hours' notice to get the first team down there. The team provided feedback on a regular basis," as they were basically learning on the job.

Open arms

"The organization by the military on the ground was superb, and they welcomed our people with open arms," said Walker.

Medical teams are being sent to Trenton in rotating shifts every 48 hours, to meet the planes, do triage at the airport, deal with any medical emergencies, and interview and examine the refugees.

Walker said he was impressed with the spontaneous outpouring of support by the doctors, nurses and medical students.

"I have not heard anyone address the issue of compensation, but if there is to be any, the volunteers want to give it back to the refugees. I think everyone who has gone has found it rewarding personally, professionally and spiritually."

Goldstein, team leader for a group of 20 nurses, doctors and medical students, said that when 250 people of all ages, including many children, got off the plane, "you could hear a pin drop. It was eerie. They were carrying nothing. They arrived with the shirts on their backs."

The immigration screening included chest x-rays and immunization. "Then they were given fresh new bathrobes and toiletries; they had showers and received packages of new clothing.

Shell-shocked

"The packages reminded me of the packages my parents received from the American Red Cross when they were liberated.

"Seeing the faces of the people, seeing how they were dressed and sunburned from exposure, many dehydrated and shell-shocked...to see so many people walk off a plane with nothing, was very emotional. Among the refugees were medical students, doctors and nurses; they come from every walk of life.

"When I returned home, I was exhausted. Even our team of 20 people didn't know each other when we started. It was really a challenge to help each other and make it work, but we formed a strong bond and most of us are anxious to return for another stint," says Goldstein.

Dr. Rose Goldstein (front row, second from left) along with the medical team she worked with at CFB Trenton. The medical teams met refugee planes, did triage at the airport and dealt with medical problems.

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Coast to Coast

Family Matters

by

John Syrtash, B.A. (Hon.), LL.B.

Good news for divorcing women (or is it?) *Part 2 of 2*

In the May 7 issue of the *CJN*, we discussed *Bracklow*, in which Madame Justice McLaughlin of the Supreme Court of Canada ruled that Mrs. Bracklow was entitled to spousal support by virtue of need, even though this need was not caused by the marriage.

Justice McLaughlin referred the issue of "quantum" back to the trial judge, but stated that in determining the support amount, a Judge must consider many factors, such as need and ability to pay. Most surprisingly, the Court also ruled that the "conduct" of the one or both of the spouses could be a legitimate consideration in determining the amount to be awarded, even though Section 15.2 of the Divorce Act says the opposite — i.e. that a party's conduct is irrelevant.

Potential hornets' nest

Does this mean that an adulterous husband could be penalized by a greater amount of support awarded against him because he committed adultery? Does a spouse who supposedly failed to shop or clean the house adequately pay or receive more or less support? This is frankly a troubling implication, and I respectfully submit that Her Honour probably never intended for it to be interpreted accordingly. If this is now the new law of Canada, then it could obviously inflame litigation between divorcing couples (e.g. "What do you mean she wants $1,000 monthly? She's been yelling at me for three years! You go tell that Judge ....!" and so on.

Now, how wise are these trends? Do they really ultimately help all Canadian separated women in need? Or in virtually all such cases, is society simply shifting responsibility from the State (i.e. Welfare, Canada Pension Plan) to the income-earning spouse (usually the male, since there are comparatively few male recipients)?

And how practical and useful is it to disadvantaged women in need when such a shift is made? Clearly, *Bracklow* helps those women whose husbands obey Court orders and agreements. However, practically speaking, in many cases women must rely on their provincial governments to collect the spousal support that has been ordered.

Without the cooperation of their husbands, collection has become a nightmare for far too many, particularly where the spouses ordered to pay don't pay and are either self-employed (where they can bury their income "underground") or become deliberately underemployed.

In Ontario, it is not uncommon for women to confront an overworked and underfunded bureaucracy called the Family Responsibility Office that works best when its computers simply deduct the support owing from part of an employee's paycheque or suspend a payer's driver's license or passport. But the moment a payer evades payment, women are often stuck with Court orders or agreements that are useless since there are often insufficient resources to enforce them or, at the very least, these resources are applied inconsistently.

In Ontario, by law, a recipient is not even permitted to collect the support owing to her by hiring her own lawyer and seeing a Judge without getting her ex-partner's agreement to take enforcement out of the government's hands, or at least partly out of its hands. And why would the payer agree to do so if he has no intention to pay? He can be reasonably confident that the government will take its time or fail to find his hidden assets or undisclosed income. Even if the government does, on occasion, take drastic steps such as commencing jail proceedings or even suspending driver's licenses, that does not automatically lead to payment.

In other words, whether through Welfare or more expensive enforcement procedures, in many cases the taxpayer may ultimately pay for divorced women in need. However, for many disadvantaged women, direct government assistance that is delivered in a timely manner (i.e. every two weeks) through Welfare or other programs is far more secure than hoping that some provincial enforcement agency will some day succeed in collecting on a Court order or agreement. (We lawyers call these "Paper Judgements".)

"Show me the money!"

So, before women gleefully embrace these trends in law that appear to be in their favour, they may wish to think practically and say: "O.K., now show me the money!" It will take a combination of this new legal régime of support, more aggressive and efficient enforcement administration by governments, the ability to enforce an order or agreement privately (at least in part), and continued public assistance before society can financially secure all disadvantaged women. Meanwhile, the decision in *Bracklow* alone will only help certain women with husbands who do not evade their legal responsibilities.

In the June 17 issue we'll discuss how *Bracklow* will affect men.

John Syrtash is a partner and family law lawyer with the Toronto firm of Basman Smith. Neither B'nai Brith Canada, Basman Smith or John Syrtash is liable for any consequences arising from anyone's reliance on this material, which is presented as general information and not as a legal opinion. John Syrtash can be reached at (416) 860-1942.

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Scene in Ottawa

By G.K. SIMCOE

Canadian fascination with last week's Israeli election is remarkable. Television networks ran prime-time programming on the event during the day and the print media featured extensive coverage and analysis in both the lead-up to the election and in the days following One Israel's convincing victory.

Talk about the Jewish state has dominated conversation in the nation's capital.

Officials at the Department of Foreign Affairs cheered the results almost as lustily as the most ardent kibbutznik.

It has long been their view that Benjamin Netanyahu was the single (only?) important obstacle to a comprehensive Israel-Palestine peace treaty. That view, shared by Canada's Foreign Minister, has been the source of increasing tension between the Jewish community and the federal government.

The expectation is that the new Israeli government will move dramatically ahead in resolving the outstanding issues between Israel and her various Arab neighbors, especially the completion of the final phase of negotiations with the Palestinians.

Every reasonably informed Canadian Jew, however, knows that issues like Jerusalem, Israeli settlements in the occupied West Bank and security guarantees do not lend themselves to an easy resolution.

Curiously, the only people in the political sector who have greeted the results of this election in a restrained fashion are those politicians who have actually travelled to the region.

They have seen firsthand the narrow silhouette of Israel's borders before the Six Day War, the strategic significance of the Golan mountain range and the proximity of the Lebanese border to Israel's northern communities. Therefore, they appreciate the difficulty of the situation facing the new Israeli premier – any Israeli premier, for that matter.

The Jewish community should draw two conclusions from the above. First, the trips it sponsors for parliamentarians to travel to Israel are effective and essential for advancing its pro-Israel interests. Second and more ominous, the tensions attributed to the previous Israeli administration may be marginally ameliorated, but not eliminated.

The Jewish community had better prepare itself for some difficult battles over the coming months if it hopes to influence official Canadian thinking on the "gut" issues of the Final Status negotiations.

שישאר בינינו

גידי קורן וחברים

הרגישות הקנדית:

כחמשת אלפים אלבנים מקוסובו עומדים להגיע לקנדה. בטלביזיה מראים מתנדבים קנדים בני שישים ושבעים סוחבים חבילות של בגדים או שמיכות ומה לא - כדי לתת לפליטים האלבנים הרגשת בית. ואחד מהם אומר למראיין: "אני מקווה שנהיה רגישים מספיק לא לפגוע בהם תרבותית או בכל צורה אחרת". ואחר כך אמרו ברדיו שהצבא החליט שאת פני הפליטים לא יקדמו חיילים במדים אלא חיילים בחולצות טריקו וכובעי בייסבול עם סמל קנדה, כדי לא להחזיר להם את הטראומה של החיילים הסרבים, ואז כבר עמדו דמעות בעיני. הרגישות הזאת יפה בעיני; אין מה לעשות, כאומה הלב של הקנדים נמצא במקום הנכון.

עברית קשה שפה (ב'):

"מכבסת מלים" הוא הכינוי שניתן לשפה שמשתמשת במלים באופן מגמתי, לא מדוייק ומפלה. הקונפליקט הפלשתינאי-ישראלי יצר מכבסת מלים מגמתית, אם כי מובנת. הינה כמה דוגמאות: כשאנשי חמאס פוגעים ביהודים - הם תמיד "רצחו". כשאנשי צה"ל הורגים מחבלים - הם תמיד "חיסלו", כשמטוס צה"ל הרג בשוגג אם ושבעה ילדים בלבנון- " כוחותנו פגעו במספר אזרחים". בסיסי החיזבאללה הם תמיד "קיני מרצחים". התיאורים הללו הינם טבעיים. ברור שמי שפוגע בנו משתקף אצלנו שונה ממי שמגן עלינו. עוד דוגמא למכבסת המילים, קשורה בכל אחד מאיתנו השוהה בצפון אמריקה: אם אתה סתם ישראלי שהיגר לצפון אמריקה- אתה "יורד". אבל אם אתה ישראלי שמגיע כבוד למדינה (מייק בורשטיין, דיויד ברוזה,יצחק פרלמן, חיים טופול) , או אתה "האמן הישראלי" שזכה בפרס זה או אחר. המילה "יורד" כמובן באה מהתנ"ך, מירידתו של יעקב מצריימה. ועם חזרתו ארצה - הוא "עלה". יש בתיאור הזה כמובן גם ערך שיפוטי, כי "יורדים" למקום פחות חשוב, לדרגת קיום נחותה יותר. את השיא, כמובן, השיג יצחק רבין המנוח שתיאר את היורדים כ"נפולת של נמושות" לאחרונה הופיע מאמר ארוך ב"ידיעות אחרונות" שתיאר את מצב הישראלים בצפון אמריקה וכותרתו היתה "לא נפולת ולא נמושות". ואין פלא בדבר: אין כמעט ישראלי תושב ישראל שאין לו חבר או אח או בן משפחה שאצלו הוא מבקר ובביתו הוא ישן. קשה לתאר את כל הציבור הזה כ"נפולת נמושות"אחרי שישנת בביתם. במערכת הבחירות הנוכחית קיבל השינוי הזה גוון מעשי, כאשר קבוצה מובילה של ישראלים בעלי אמצעים יושבי אמריקה היתה מטרה לביקורים של מנהיגי מפלגות המרכז והעבודה לשם תמיכה כספית. אבל שיישאר בינינו.

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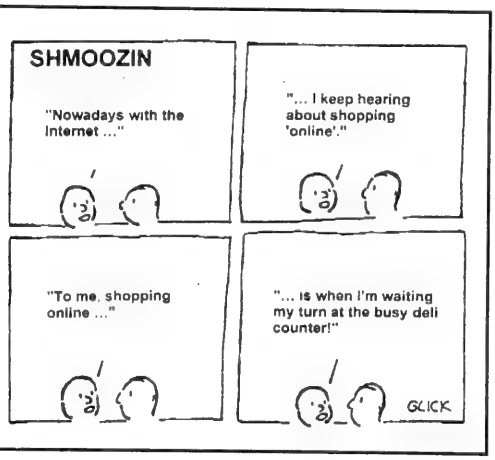
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Election reaction is muted in the Arab world

By DANIEL SOBELMAN
Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

JERUSALEM — The Arab world's reaction to Ehud Barak's victory was relatively muted, with responses ranging from hope to suspicion.

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak was the first to place a congratulatory phone call to Barak.

Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Moussa, speaking at a press conference in Cairo, said Barak "can rely on Egypt" to help with Israel's peace negotiations with the Palestinians, Lebanon and Syria.

"Egypt is ready to work toward changing the general atmosphere here in the Middle East, which has been heavily poisoned during the last three years, especially in recent months," Moussa said.

The editorial in the Syrian state-controlled newspaper *Tashrin* called the regime of Benjamin Netanyahu a "three-year nightmare."

The paper called on Barak to "make drastic changes in Israel's positions regarding a full withdrawal from occupied Arab lands and a just and inclusive peace based on UN resolutions."

Barak wrote Syrian President Hafez al-Assad a letter in August 1997, expressing his commitment to the late Yitzhak Rabin's maxim that "the extent of the withdrawal will depend on the extent of the peace."

The news of Barak's victory was given relatively short shrift in most of Syria's newspapers, although *The Syria Times* expressed optimism regarding Barak's past statements on Palestinian statehood, Syria and a Golan withdrawal.

The general uncertainty as to Barak's precise intentions was captured in a cartoon published on Monday in the state-controlled Jordanian paper *Al-Ra'i.* The cartoon, titled *Barak-yahu,* showed a face that was Barak's on the bottom and Netanyahu's on the top.

Jordanian officials expressed cautious optimism at Barak's victory. Deputy Prime Minister Marwan Hamoud said Jordan believes Barak is capable of breathing new life into the peace process, but added, "Of course, everything depends on the government he puts together."

Some Jordanian opposition leaders said they were not sure they could tell the difference between the incumbent and the prime minister-elect.

An announcer on Radio Iran said he was certain there was no difference between Barak and Netanyahu.

In Lebanon, Hezbollah Secretary General Hassan Nasrallah said any Israeli premier will have to decide whether to withdraw from Lebanon unilaterally, without preconditions.

Lebanese premier Selim al Haas said all of Israel's wars with Arab nations came when the Labor party was in power.

Meanwhile, according to Yasser Arafat's aide, Nabil Abu Rudeyna, Barak, in a telephone conversation with the Palestinian Authority (PA) chairman, has promised that the peace process would be revived.

"In the course of their phone call, Arafat and Barak promised to continue with the peace process,"the aide said.

Palestinian reactions to Barak's victory ranged from cautious optimism to condemnation of the new leader as "more of the same."

After the exit polls were announced, Arafat told reporters: "I respect the results of the elections in Israel and praise Ehud Barak."

Asked whether he thought Barak's ascendancy was a victory for the peace process itself, Arafat responded, "I hope so."

Hamas' spiritual leader, Sheikh Ahmed Yassin, was far less sanguine about the change.

"The victory of the terrorist, Ehud Barak, will not change a thing," he said.

"Barak is located on the political map to the right of the Labor Party and he is one of its extremist hawks. His past also is steeped in the blood of our people," Yassin said, in a press statement.

"The Likud and One Israel are identical parties," the statement added.

Yasser Abed Rabbo, the PA's minister of information and culture, took the middle ground.

"The Palestinians and the Arabs must not rush to celebrate Barak's victory," he said. "First of all, we must observe the policies he actually pursues," he told French reporters.

Barak's victory speeches, meanwhile, earned the prime minister-elect a chilly reception from top Palestinian negotiator and cabinet minister Saeb Erekat, who found fault with Barak's statement on Jerusalem as "the eternal and united capital of Israel."

Incoming Knesset has record numbers of women, immigrants and factions

By GIDEON ALON
Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

JERUSALEM — The incoming 120-member Knesset will set records for the number of factions, as well as the number of women and recent immigrants joining the legislative assembly as members.

Only 11 parties constituted the outgoing 14th Knesset, while no fewer than 15 parties will now be represented.

The number of women entering the next Knesset s also unprecedented. Fourteen women will become members of the 15th Knesset, a sharp increase from the nine female MKs who served in the last Knesset.

Until last week's elections, the 13th Knesset, with 12 female MKs, had had the largest number of women serving in any Knesset.

There is also a dramatic increase in the number of recent immigrants from the former Soviet Union serving in the 15th Knesset. That number has risen from seven in the 14th Knesset to 11.

Besides Yisrael b'Aliyah, which served in the previous Knesset, the new party identified with the immigrant community, Yisrael Beitenu, will also be represented in the next Knesset.

Arab parties also increased their numbers. A total of 12 MKs from minority groups, which is up from nine, will serve in the 15th Knesset. Until now, the ninth Knesset with 10 minority members, had had the largest number from this group.

Instead of two Arab parties (Hadash and the Democratic Arab Party) the incoming Knesset will have 10 representatives from three parties identified with the Arab sector – the United Arab List (five seats), Hadash (three), and Balad (two).

The party that had the greatest proportional increase in MKs undoubtedly is Shas, which improved its standing by 70 percent. It rose from 10 to 17 seats. Shas first made its appearance in the 11th Knesset with four seats. The party won 10 seats during the 1996 elections.

Shinui also dramatically improved its position, having grown from one to six seats.

The country's traditionally larger parties, Labor and Likud, both took a beating from the voters. Labor's new incarnation, One Israel, will enter the new Knesset with 27 seats, which is down from 34.

That represents the lowest number of seats to be held by the largest left-leaning party since the creation of the state. The lowest number of Labor members to hold seats in the Knesset prior to last week's vote was 32, in the ninth Knesset.

Likud with only 19 seats, suffered an even stronger blow, losing nearly half of the 32 seats it had held in the 14th Knesset. The last time the party had so low a proportion of seats was the Fifth Knesset.

Neither Tsomet nor The Third Way crossed the threshold to win a single seat.

Composition of the 15th Knesset

Following are the projected number of seats won by Israel's political parties in the incoming 15th Knesset. Numbers in parentheses indicate a party's representation in the outgoing Knesset.

Labor's One Israel Coalition – 27 (Labor alone had 34)
Likud – 19 (32)
Shas – 17 (10)
Meretz – 9 (9)
Yisrael b'Aliyah – 7 (7)
Shinui – 6 (new party)
Centre – 6 (new party)
National Religious Party – 5 (9)
United Torah Judaism – 5 (4)
United Arab List – 5 (4)
Israel, Our Home – 4 (new party)
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Hadash – 3 (5)
National Democratic Alliance – 2 (new party)
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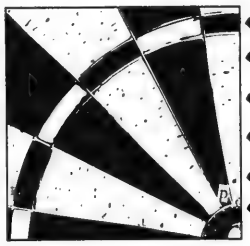

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New landscape emerges from election rubble

By DAVID LANDAU
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

Pundits everywhere are calling Israel's election results a political earthquake.

In fact, two distinct tremors have indeed overturned the rules

News Analysis

and realities that have governed the Jewish state and its policy-making for the past three years.

Labor party leader Ehud Barak's 56 percent to 44 percent victory over outgoing prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu, signifying the collapse of the "Greater Israel" ideology, is a seismic shift that has brought undisguised joy from leaders around the world.

But the massive success of the haredi Shas party, which draws predominant support from Israel's Sephardi population, is also an earthquake.

Shas scored the most dramatic victory in last Monday's voting for the Knesset, boosting its representation from 10 seats in the outgoing Knesset to a projected 17 seats in the new legislature. The gain makes it one of the "Big Three" in the Knesset alongside the much-reduced Likud and Labor factions.

Given that Shas' strident election campaign focused almost exclusively on the four-year sentence for bribery and corruption recently imposed on its leader, Aryeh Deri, the party's victory, on the face of it, is a victory for the anti-court and anti-establishment rhetoric that its leaders espoused.

Deri announced last Tuesday that he was resigning as a Knesset member and withdrawing from political life, a move that could clear the way for coalition negotiations between Barak and Shas.

But on a deeper level, Shas' triumph dramatically illustrates the daunting task facing Barak in his quest, as he proclaimed on election night, for "unity, brotherhood and a healing of the rifts" that have threatened to tear apart Israeli society.

Ironically, it was Netanyahu's close alliance with Shas that, probably more than any other single factor, brought on his crushing defeat.

As the election campaign neared its climax – and especially after Deri's sentencing in April and Shas' vociferous rejection of the ruling – it became increasingly clear that Netanyahu's "coalition of the non-elites," as opposed to the "elitism" he ascribed to Labor's traditional Ashkenazi following, was splitting at the seams.

The vast immigrant community from the former Soviet Union bridled at finding themselves lumped together in Netanyahu's governing coalition with a convicted felon whose followers were threatening the judges who had found him guilty.

Yisrael b'Aliyah, the immigrant rights party led by Natan Sharansky, brilliantly turned this sentiment to its electoral advantage by running a catchy campaign directed against Shas' control of the Interior Ministry.

Shas officials, Yisrael b'Aliyah claimed, used their power in that ministry to harass and discriminate against immigrants whose Jewish status, under religious law, was deemed uncertain or unsatisfactory.

In the month before polling day, tens, probably hundreds, of thousands of immigrants shifted their support from Netanyahu, who was perceived to be in the thrall of Shas, to Barak, whose election promise was, "I will not bow to extremists."

On the morning after, however, all election promises must undergo searching re-examination under the harsh light of the new Knesset arithmetic.

Knesset arithmetic

Shas' 17 "extremists" are not, arguably, as easily dismissed as 10. In practical terms, Barak will find it hard to set up a stable government without either Shas or Likud. On paper, he can possibly do it. But the patchwork of agreements with tiny factions that this would entail is a recipe for grief.

Granted, his theoretical ability to do without Likud and Shas will lend him strength in his negotiations with one or both of these factions as he moves forward in forming a coalition government.

Projected Knesset results give Barak several possible allies to choose from in the 45 days he now has to form that government: The Meretz party, Yisrael b'Aliyah, Shinui, a party that says all haredi parties should be kept out of the next government, the Centre party (the new grouping headed by Yitzhak Mordechai, who dropped out of the race for prime minister a day before elections), and the National Religious Party (NRP).

If the NRP agrees to enter an otherwise secularist and left-of-centre coalition, this would give Barak something of the unifying "rainbow effect" that he has pledged to strive for.

Nevertheless, his larger goal of reconciliation would seem to dictate a pact with Shas or Likud, and most pundits believe he will try to include one of them in his coalition.

Each, however, holds out major problems for Barak.

Meretz, a natural Barak ally, has issued a firm declaration that it would refuse to join any government with Shas. In this, Meretz is following the lead of another election success story, the avowedly anti-Orthodox Shinui party.

Barak needs one or both of these factions inside his tent. But how can he get them there and have Shas inside, too? Indeed, within Barak's own party there is a strong body of opinion opposing a deal with Shas.

During his victory address at Rabin Square on the evening of the election, Barak was confronted with placards demanding: "Not the haredim," and the huge throng picked up that slogan and shouted it at Barak and his leadership team.

But Labor Knesset member Yossi Beilin has left the door open for negotiations with Shas, saying that Labor had ruled out negotiating with Shas only if Deri remained at its head.

Barak himself had pledged not to negotiate with Deri since the Shas leader's conviction. But this obstacle has been removed, because Deri, a historic victory under his belt, has stepped down to prepare his appeal and allow others to run the party for the meantime.

The Likud, smarting from its defeat and reeling under Netanyahu's swift resignation, will now undergo a grueling leadership battle.

The political persuasion of the new leader may prove a determining factor in whether Likud is prepared to make the doctrinal compromises necessary for a partnership with Labor.

For their part, Barak and his team are not prepared for a unity government that is in effect a government of paralysis, which was the case for the governments that ruled from 1984 to 1990.

His resounding victory in the vote for prime minister gives him the perfect right to insist that any coalition must follow One Israel's lead.

Two likely Likud leadership contenders, Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert and outgoing Finance Minister Meir Sheetrit, are seen as relative pragmatists.

But hard-liner Ariel Sharon seems to be preparing a leadership bid as well, and this could spell the end of any possible alliance with Barak.

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Barak wins landslide victory

Netanyahu resigns

Continued from page 1

Other posters, stickers and flyers that littered the country's streets during the campaigning period were slowly being cleared away.

As for Netanyahu's resignation from politics, no one was really surprised he was stepping down but rather that he announced his departure when he did. His departure from the Likud was necessary for the party to rebuild itself. Foreign Minister Ariel Sharon took over on a temporary basis allowing likely candidates to prepare for the battle of top spot.

Those jockeying for the Likud top job include Communications Minister Limor Livnat, Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert, Finance Minister Meir Shetrit, and Science Minister Silvan Shalom.

Israel's much anticipated Election Day has passed. Now Israelis are looking to Barak to turn a new leaf, to lead a new government that does not rely on, and encourage rifts between its citizens.

"Israel returned to itself yesterday, casting out the man who threw a challenge in its face," wrote Ofer Shalach, a reporter with the Israeli paper *Maariv*. "The work of healing begins with creating a broad government – with the Likud, without Netanyahu."

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June 3, 1999

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B/37

The Week in Israel

May 17

• Israeli media reported upon the results of a Gallup Poll conducted in the United States between May 7 and May 9 that showed some 86 percent of Americans said Israel is vital to U.S. interests. The poll of 1,025 U.S. citizens has a margin of error of three percent.

• Dozens of Katyusha rockets were fired into Kiryat Shmona during the night. Four people were lightly injured.

May 18

• Aryeh Deri, leader of the Shas party, announced that he is resigning from the Knesset and withdrawing from political life.

• Zalman Shoval, Israel's ambassador to the U.S. and confidant of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, announced his resignation as a result of the election results.

May 19

• Ze'ev "Benny" Begin announced his retirement from politics.

• The leadership of the Likud party recommended that Foreign Minister Ariel Sharon serve as acting party chair in place of Prime Minister Netanyahu who resigned the post on Monday.

May 20

• Prime Minister-elect Ehud Barak told *Ha'aretz* that he will retain the defence portfolio for the first two years of his term in office. Barak said he is aiming "to establish a broad government that will bring change, unity and hope."

• The Central Bureau of Statistics announced that the unemployment rate rose again in March, breaking the 200,000 mark for the first time since 1993.

• President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt placed a call to outgoing prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu and invited him to visit Egypt with his wife Sara.

May 21

• Shavuot.

Files from JTA and Ha'aretz

Health

Parents urged to use 'no' properly with kids

BY CAROLYN BLACKMAN
CJN Staff

Natural need to establish power

VAUGHAN — The "no" word is one of the most important concepts a child has to learn, says a child and adolescent psychiatrist with the Centre for Addictions and Mental Health – Clarke Site.

"Children need to push limits. They need to understand the boundaries of the world by confronting authority," Dr. Umesh Jain said at a recent discussion sponsored by Jewish Family and Child Service York Region office, Rosedale Heights Public School and Janssen-Ortho Inc.

If the word no is used inappropriately, he said, then a child will learn to hate it. "That means he will not apply it to himself, and that, in turn, leads to impulsive behavior. A child who can accept the no word is a child who has self-control. Too much respect for the no word, however, can make a child rigid."

To use the no word, properly, he said, "we can't just say, no, stop or don't. That gives the child too narrow an interpretation. Tell him to stop banging the spoon on the table, and he'll bang it on the floor. You should tell him to use the spoon to eat his dinner. Then he knows how to interpret what you've said."

A child has a natural need to establish power, said Jain, and giving him limited choices are a way of giving him a semblance of power. "It allows the child to feel in control; it gives him a belief of power. Don't tell him he is having cereal for breakfast. Ask him if he wants cereal or toast. Then, he is making the decision. He feels powerful."

A child's destructive behavior is intensified, he said, if he senses that his parents are vulnerable. "If he's worried about the strength at the top, then he is going to do something to test that strength. Oppositional behavior stems out of a child being insecure about his environment."

Changes such as deaths, losses or moves change a child's security, he said, and force oppositional behavior. "Strong parents can preempt that behavior. Strength at the top gives kids a feeling of safety and security."

For parents to regain power, said Jain, they must be able to ignore simple, bad behavior. "If you don't look at bad behavior, it will escalate, and then it will stop. At first the child will respond to being ignored by intensifying his behavior, but eventually he'll grow tired of it."

The next step, he said, is to communicate with your child in a way that establishes your power. "Talk in a firm, calm, positive way that puts you in command. Force yourself to think of alternative behavior. Don't think about what you want your child to stop doing, but rather, what you would like him to do, and make that known, calmly and positively."

Jain stressed that if you look at behaviour, good or bad, it will escalate. "Give a lot of attention to good behavior. Catch your child being good."

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Sometimes the interpretation of these numbers greatly changes the way the total number appears. Also, the necessary dietary interventions are very different, depending on which values require improvement.

Q. I commonly hear people saying that they are trying to cut down on their carbohydrate servings. On labels, carbohydrates are expresses in grams. How many grams constitute one serving?

A. Fifteen grams of carbohydrate constitute one serving. Six to 11 servings per day are recommended for Canadians, depending on their age, size and activity level.

Lisa Weinberg is a registered dietitian/nutritionist, specializing in pediatric and adult nutrition in Toronto. If you have any nutrition questions, send them to The CJN.

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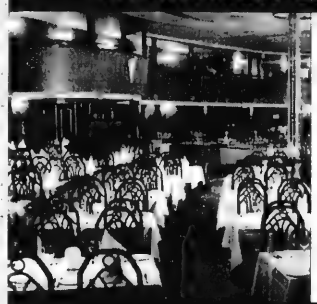

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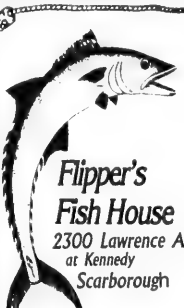

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Grey to headline fundraiser

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

Joel Grey

TORONTO — Whether he is belting out *Romania, Romania*, playing the lead in his award winning role as the MC in *Cabaret*, or singing a Yiddish song made famous by his father, vaudeville great Mickey Katz, Joel Grey's enthusiasm, vitality and boyish demeanor have not waned in almost six decades.

Grey will be the headliner at the Ashkenaz fundraiser, Kensington Cabaret. The gala black tie dinner and English/Yiddish musical extravaganza will be held at the Sheraton Centre, Grand Ballroom on June 17.

Hinda Silber, chair of the Ashkenaz gala committee, said the funds raised will support the Ashkenaz summer festival of Yiddish/Jewish culture running from Aug. 30 to Sept. 6 at Harbourfront Centre.

The fundraising dinner will include a silent auction, and the backdrop will be reminiscent of world of the '30s and '40s.

"The ballroom will be decorated with elements from our ancestors' Kensington Market-Spadina Avenue past. Guests will stroll into the past," Silber said.

In a telephone interview from Los Angeles where he is completing *A Christmas Carol*, a special for the *Hallmark Hall of Fame* to be aired in December, Grey said he is "excited and overwhelmed" with the concept of Ashkenaz. "I would like to come back for Ashkenaz this summer," he added.

Grey, who began performing at the age of nine, said he has "very fond memories of Canada. One of my first professional performances was with my father in Vancouver when I was a teenager."

He was recently in Vancouver again to shoot an episode of the television series, *Outer Limits*.

"I remembered that first appearance in Canada with my father and my many forays to Canada when *Cabaret* played in Vancouver and at the O'Keefe Centre in Toronto, where it had the biggest box office ever to that time," he said.

Grey was born in Cleveland before the Katz family moved to Los Angeles. He said everyone on the Katz side of the family sang, danced, or did both.

"My dad reflected the immigrant experience," he said.

With a revival of Yiddish, Grey said there is "so much interest in my father's material; there is a new respect and reverence. My dad's comedy and music have more clarity and seriousness now in looking at the immigrant experience."

He noted that his father's material is being sold through the Internet and it is becoming more and more recognized.

He said he always includes some of his father's material in his performances, adding that he has a keen respect for the past and likes to connect with his roots.

Speaking of his appearance at the Ashkenaz fundraiser, Grey said, "I think you have to know about the past in order to go forward. If people are not aware of their roots, I think it is a stumbling block to becoming a full person."

Grey is very involved with Yiddishkeit, although he described his Yiddish language skills as "food Yiddish and humor Yiddish."

He got his first big break with comedian Eddie Cantor, who hired him to perform on his television show, *The Colgate Comedy Hour*. He went on to win a Tony for his role as the MC in the musical *Cabaret* and an Oscar in 1972 for the movie version.

He replaced Anthony Newley in Neil Simon's *Come Blow Your Horn*, appeared with the San Francisco Symphony Pops, and went on to star in the musical hit *Chicago*.

Grey, who is 5 foot 5, has tackled virtually every medium of entertainment – stage, screen, nightclub, concerts and television.

In 1985, he received a star on Hollywood's Walk of Fame, and in 1994, he was inducted into the Theatre Hall of Fame in New York.

He is proud of his two children. Jennifer is an actress (*Dirty Dancing*) who is starring in the TV series, *It's Like You Know*, and son James is a chef in Hollywood's swank Les deux Cafe.

For information and tickets for the Joel Grey Ashkenaz Kensington Cabaret, call 703-6892.

Quibble aside, Patinkin impeccable

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — One quibble with Mandy Patinkin's *Mamaloshen* concert – the English explanation of each Yiddish number consists of a mere sentence or phrase projected on a banner.

Without a more complete translation, or perhaps an explanation of some of the more colorful phrases, a large segment of the audience misses out on the linguistic richness of the songs.

Then again, as one audience member commented at last week's Toronto concert, held May 17 at the Hummingbird Centre, Patinkin would be worth hearing even if he sang the phone book.

Technically, his work is impeccable – or close to it. Accompanied by his longtime pianist Paul Ford and, in a few numbers, by nimble-fingered violinist Saeka Matsuyama, Patinkin used his broad vocal range – from rich bass baritone to delicate falsetto – advantageously.

The *Mamaloshen* portion of the 110-minute concert draws exclusively from his 1998 CD of the same name, a mix of Yiddish standards and songs by American Jewish composers, translated into Yiddish.

Patinkin, who grew up in Chicago not knowing any Yiddish, is in the process of learning more Yiddish songs, he said.

"I will never let this die till the day I die," he vowed.

The concert began on a restrained note with the lullaby *Rozhinkes Mit Mandlen*, followed by *Mayn Mirl*, a love song better known in English as Leonard Bernstein and Stephen Sondheim's *Maria*, from *West Side Story*.

Dressed in his trademark all-black – his t-shirt paired for this event with a tuxedo instead of more casual attire – Patinkin interspersed his performance with snippets of Paul Simon's *American Tune*, mostly in English, to provide a framework and convey the immigrant experience.

For the audience, a goodly number of whom were of Eastern European Jewish origin, Patinkin's Yiddish renditions of *Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious* and *Take Me Out To The Ball Game* provided a delightful change of pace.

Equally adept as an actor and a singer, the Emmy and Tony award winner – best known to youngsters as Inigo Montoya in *The Princess Bride* – put his acting skills to use, hamming it up plenty in some songs, to transcend language barriers.

His eclectic Yiddish repertoire included the old standard *Oyfn Pripetshik*, *Motl Der Opreyter* about a young family man killed in a sweatshop workers' strike, a song about the doomed Titanic, and, of all things, Irving Berlin's *White Christmas*.

A set of popular American tunes followed, including selections from his upcoming CD, *Kidults*, "an album for children of all ages," to be recorded next month.

"Because we have been on the road, we have not had very much time to rehearse," said Patinkin, 46, holding the music in his left hand

Continued on page 36

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Location manager smooths way for Lost Tribes shoot

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — When the 1997 Donald Brittain Award, the prestigious documentary award at the Geminis, was presented to Bill Cobben, director of *The Selling of Innocents*, Cobben made a point of singling out the work of location and production manager Felix Golubev.

The Selling of Innocents, the film that netted Cobben and co-producers Elliott Halpern and Simcha Jacobovici that prize, is about illegal child prostitution in India. It was shot entirely on location in India, and Golubev, 39, had to organize all the logistics pertaining to the shoot.

Aside from the responsibility of feeding, housing and transporting the crew, he had to prepare the locations. This entailed finagling with the authorities to film a Bombay brothel and a Nepalese jail, smuggling cameras into Nepal, and orchestrating a raid on a brothel in conjunction with the local police.

Golubev's mettle was also relentlessly tested in Jacobovici's most recent production, *Quest for the Lost Tribes of Israel*, which will be screened at a fundraiser for the Riverdale Jewish Community at the Music Hall, 147 Danforth Ave. at 2 and 7 p.m. on June 6.

Lost Tribes, chronicling Jacobovici's quest for the Israelite tribes, was shot in remote regions in India, Pakistan, Afghanistan and Uzbekistan.

Golubev, the production and location manager for most of the filming, has many stories to tell about the behind-the-scenes adventures he and the crew experienced in the wild east.

The Russian-born Golubev immigrated to Canada in 1984 and later graduated from Ryerson Polytechnic University's television program. He said growing up in a Communist regime helped prepare him for productions in "precarious locations where access is difficult and the local authorities are not cooperating.

"I do all the local contacts…I make sure everything is running smoothly. When you live in Russia, you learn survival skills. It teaches you to be savvy and street-smart.

"Lots of Third World countries have similarities [to Russia]. I can see things that the Canadian don't see. I speak the same psychological language as the locals. We understand each other."

Bargaining for hotels and transportation is a big part of his job, Golubev said. "You can't be naive. It's very easy to be ripped off. People see the cameras and they think it's Hollywood. Documentaries have small budgets…You can't waste a lot of money."

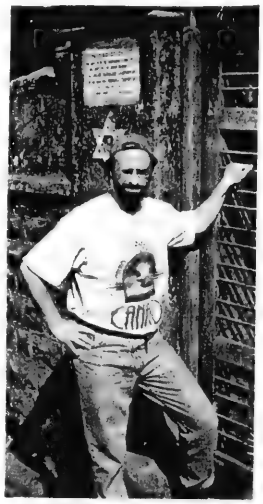
And because resources are limited, he has to get the film footage as quickly as possible. He travels ahead of the crew to work out the kinks and to develop contacts with local people, he said.

"You have to assess the situation quickly. You fish around for sources. You're constantly looking for sources. You drink tea with a person and you think, 'How is that person going to advance your cause?'"

And there are times when it is necessary to "misrepresent yourself," Golubev noted, explaining that all the footage from Uzbekistan in *Lost Tribes* was shot illegally.

He said the crew would have been denied permission to shoot in Uzbekistan if he had revealed the true subject of the film. And so he spent months in Canada making contacts with government officials. Uzbekistan was like home turf for him, and he knew how to circumvent the bureaucratic roadblocks, he said.

From Canada, Golubev contacted the Uzbekistan minister of information, telling him that the Canadian crew would be doing a "*National Geographic*-style piece on Bukhara's 2500-year history," and he asked the minister to fax a letter of support.



Felix Golubev in India.

"Had he known the subject was about Jews he would not have been so supportive."

Travelling to the Uzbekistan Embassy in Washington, Golubev said he used the minister's letter to get visas for the crew, then made contact with a local customs manager and maintained contact by phone for months. By the time the crew arrived, the customs officers didn't even bother to check the crew's papers, he said.

By the eighth day, the Bukharan authorities discovered that the crew was shooting in Makhala, the city's Jewish quarter, and an official threatened to confiscate the video tapes, Golubev said.

"After this meeting I called the crew and said, 'You have 15 minutes to pack up and get out of town.' We just threw things into our bus and we hit the road."

Golubev had many hair-raising stories to tell about the lawless Pakistan frontier near the Afghan border, an area ruled by tribes rather government.

He compared the lawlessness of the region to that of the American wild west: everyone carried a gun, but instead of cowhide pants the men wore long black robes.

"We travelled with armed guards. You go to the tribal authorities to get permission to travel. If they agree, they give you armed guards to escort you. We had five or six guys from the ruling tribe with Kalashnikovs [Soviet guns]… We didn't know what to expect."

Golubev said dealing with the unexpected is what makes working on documentaries so exciting. "You never know what's coming next."

In July, he'll be travelling to the islands in northern Russia where Joseph Stalin once had his gulag prison camps, to do preproduction for a film about whales. One camp is now a research station for beluga whales, he said.

To get tickets to *Quest for the Lost Tribes*, call Ticketmaster at 870-8000. For a reduced group student rate – matinee only – call Jennifer at 504-6662, in advance.

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	Bathurst & Sheppard 10:30am	Sheppard Plaza Dairy Queen
	Bathurst & Finch 10:35am	Finchurst Plaza Buckstop
	Wilson & Keele 10:45am	Plaza N.E. Corner Coffee Time
THORNHILL	Bathurst & Centre 10:45am	Promenade Mall Transit Terminal
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RICHMOND HILL	Yonge St. & 16th Ave. 10:00am	Hillcrest Mall S.E. Corner Parking Lot
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Wednesday & Saturday Departures		
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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

COMEDY WILL BENEFIT ISRAELI HOSPITAL

Funny man **Steve Levine** is the headliner of As Funny As It Gets, an evening of stand-up comedy to support the research efforts of Ezrath Nashim-Herzog Hospital in Israel. The lineup also includes **Simon Rakoff, Les Aaron, Daniel Cole** and **Adam Growe**.

All proceeds go towards The Canadian Friends of Ezrath Nashim-Herzog Hospital in support of research into Alzheimer disease.

Leah Posluns Theatre, May 27, 7:30 p.m. $25 in advance (256-4222) or $30 at the door. Includes post-show reception, door prizes.

* * *

Musical Events

• The Lifelong Learning Institute of the Bernard Betel Centre presents the Second Annual Lillian Disenhouse Concert, Opera, Operetta and More, with **Michele Strano**, tenor and artistic director, **Fernne Kane**, soprano, and **Adolfo Di Santis**, music director. June 1, 7 p.m. Auditorium. Free. 1003 Steeles Ave. W. Bookie Kwart, 225-2112, ext. 116.

• Singers, dancers and theatre artists bring in the spring with a glorious multifaith celebration of the Song of Songs. May 26, 8 p.m. and May 30, 3:30 p.m. at Trinity-St. Paul's United Church, and June 2, 8 p.m. at Leah Posluns Theatre. $20. 924-6211 or 636-1880, ext. 0.

• **Gavin Hope**, formerly with the **Nylons** and the musical *Rent*, appears with numerous "hip new artists" and host **Jennifer Podemski** at a fundraiser for the North York Women's Shelter for Abused Women. Big Bop, Queen and Bathurst. May 27, 8:30 p.m. $10. 782-9917.

* * *

Film News I: The award-winning Canadian film *The Red Violin* is being screened June 1 at New York's Lincoln Centre. The film's American premiere is helping to raise funds to purchase quality violins for use by members of the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra who are recent immigrants to Israel, were unable to bring their instruments with them and cannot afford to purchase new ones.

"Welcoming emigre musicians to its ranks is an important part of the Orchestra's mission," says **Itzhak Perlman**, co-chair of the American Friends of the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra.

"After all, the Orchestra was founded in 1936 by the renowned violinist **Bronislaw Huberman** and was originally composed of first rate musicians from throughout Europe who were fleeing the Nazis." 212-697-2949.

* * *

Film News II: Clarence Square Pictures Inc., a Toronto-based film production company, has optioned the film rights to **Anne Michaels'** internationally acclaimed novel, *Fugitive Pieces*.

"We intend to make a significant, moving film for an international audience on a scale that will do justice to the extraordinary scope of the novel," said **Jeffrey Berman**, Clarence Square's vice-president.

The much-lauded Holocaust novel was originally published in Canada by McClelland & Stewart, Inc., which negotiated the film rights. M&S's **Marilyn Biderman** expressed delight at the company's "artistic acumen" and "the strength and depth of their interest in this project."

"We received many offers for the film rights," said Michaels. "Both M&S and I were impressed by Clarence Square's integrity of vision and their commitment to preserving the spirit of the book."

The scenario might sound familiar to those who follow the local book trade. What previous best-selling novel written by a Toronto author went on to become a movie – winning an Academy Award for best picture? Answer: **Michael Ondaatje's** *The English Patient*.

* * *

At the Galleries

• The Eye of Experience, an exhibit of juried art by seniors and retired persons in Ontario. Opens May 30, 3 p.m. Until June 6. Galleria, BCE Place, Toronto.

• **The Willowdale Group of Artists** presents Thirty Paintings at the Lower Link Gallery, Civic Garden Centre, Edwards Gardens (southwest corner of Lawrence Avenue at Leslie Street). May 29 to June 14. Free admission, parking.

• The 15th annual Tarragon Spring Arts Fair takes place May 29 and May 30 at 30 Bridgman Ave. from noon till 6 p.m.

This annual tradition provides an extraordinary free festival of the performing arts including short plays, works-in-progress, music, dance-works, readings, puppet shows, kids' programming and more.

* * *

Staged Reading: Medina Theatre Ensemble presents its annual Scenecraft In Action, a staged reading of scenes from various plays, directed by **Roselle Stone**. PWYC. May 31, 7:30 p.m. B'nai Brith Building, 15 Hove St., North York. 633-2057.

* * *

In The Spotlight: Israeli-born **Benjamin Z. Maissner**, who has been cantor at the the Holy Blossom Temple for 20 years, has made a major impact not only on the musical life the Temple but also on the entire Jewish community of Toronto.

Maissner has sung in many cantorial concerts throughout the city, as well as in Israel, Russia the United States and across Canada.

Holy Blossom marks Maissner's 20 years as cantor and music director with a special tribute. The evening includes a musical program featuring noted musicians, composers and colleagues, and Holy Blossom's own Temple Singers.

To honor Maissner, a fund is being established to finance a series of CDs encompassing the entire musical legacy of the temple. June 16, 8 p.m. Holy Blossom. 789-3291.

Patinkin impeccable

Continued from page 33

and putting on reading glasses with his right.

The new album promises to be most charming, with an exceptional medley of the parallel songs sung by the Scarecrow, the Tin Man and the Cowardly Lion in *The Wizard of Oz* lamenting their lack of a brain, a heart and "the nerve" respectively.

Patinkin also closed with a *Wizard of Oz* number, *Somewhere Over the Rainbow*, in Yiddish. But the real finale came in the lobby, when Patinkin personally collected donations for Doctors Without Borders and LOVE (Leave Out ViolencE), a Montreal-based organization dedicated to combating on-screen violence and working with affected teens.

In the wake of the crisis in Kosovo and recent high school shootings, Patinkin and his wife, actress-writer Kathryn Grody, came up with the fund-raising idea to give Patinkin "a reason to sing."

Travel, Arts & Business

Kid favorites Judy and David to play Ford Centre

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
CJN Staff

TORONTO — Nine years ago, David heard a demo tape of a female vocalist named Judy. "I just fell instantly in love. I heard the music and I had to meet the woman," he told *The CJN*. "It was clear that she had this great soul, and I was completely smitten."

He said things got even better once the two met over lunch, and "we continued to fall madly in love," he said.

Indeed, they got hitched romantically and professionally. Today, Judy and David, a husband and wife musical duo are among Canada's best-known children's entertainers.

They have released six albums, and their latest one, *Livin' In a Shoe*, won the 1998 Juno Award for best children's recording. Beginning in the fall of 1999, they will be seen daily coast to coast on their own television show, *Judy and David's Boom Box*.

The duo will be making its first appearance at the Ford Centre for the Performing Arts in North York on May 30 at 4 p.m. Their gala concert with the All Together Now Band is a fund raiser for the ELI Society for Child Protection in Israel.

"It's finally all coming together," David said. "It's an incredibly busy and exciting time in our career...The Juno was a real vote of confidence for what we were trying to do."

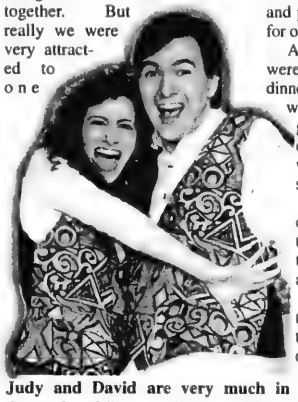
He said his interest in singing and performing children's music dates back to his summer camp days when he was a song leader, at a Reform camp. "Jewish music is what got me into the whole field of music." At one point in his life he had even considered becoming a rabbi, he said.

When he met Judy, she was teaching instrumental music in the public school system. "Music has been part of my life for as long as I can remember," she said. "I was the youngest of three girls, and both my sisters took piano lessons. I couldn't wait until I was old enough to take piano.

"I always sang as a kid. I participated in musicals at summer camps. When I was in high school, I studied classical voice training at the conservatory."

She majored in piano performance at the University of Toronto, but she also plays cello, flute and guitar. She eventually got a teacher's certificate in instrumental music.

Like her husband, Judy had also been a song leader at various summer camps. She had heard about David through mutual friends before they actually met. Before their first lunch date she had already been "toying with the idea" of performing children's music, she said. "We got together on the pretence of doing children' s music together. But really we were very attracted to one another."



Judy and David are very much in demand and "can get the whole place singing."

At the time, David was going to different synagogues to lead family group sing-along evenings, and within two month of dating, Judy became part of the act, she said. "Originally, we called ourselves David and Judy. By the time our act was established, we became Judy and David."

And while they now sing in large concert halls across the country, they still like to go back to their musical roots – a mixture of children's and Jewish music – and give concerts at synagogues, David said.

In the duo's early years, they both kept their day jobs while they performed at a series of venues. Judy taught while David had a variety of jobs in the entertainment industry which included raising money for corporate underwriting, and putting together opportunities for other creative acts.

As performers, Judy and David were very much in demand for dinners and functions, because they were very skilled in getting groups of people to sing, David explained. "We would get the whole place singing. That was such a joy.

"That's why we went into children's music, because there's an unspoken agreement to let your guard down and sing a little...in our case a lot."

In 1992, David left his job to start Altogether Now Entertainment, the couple's company. "The name is no accident," he said. "That's what we're all about. Judy kept teaching and paid the bills while I worked very hard to launch us as an act... We decided that if we were going to do this, we would go all the way."

That year, they released a demo tape called *Jumping Up and Down*, which led to – *Little Yellow School Bus* and *My Little Red Firetruck*, tapes they made for a flat fee that were marketed with toys – a schoolbus and a firetruck, respectively– and sold door-to-door.

"We did the project on a shoestring," David said. "We played all the instruments ourselves. We used friends, whoever happened to come by."

More than five million copies of those albums were sold worldwide, significantly increasing the couple's exposure, David said.

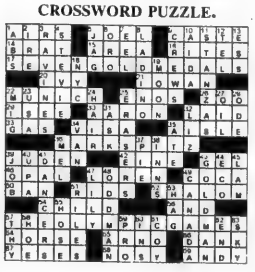
In 1996, Judy and David developed a television special for the Family Channel and they gradually began doing guest spots on other children's television series.

Livin' in a Shoe, the couple's first real studio album netted them the 1998 Juno Award, but negotiations with YPT for their daily four-minute television show were already in process, David said. They showed a lot of faith in us long before the Juno. I'm sure the Juno didn't hurt."

All the songs on that last album are original material, he said. "We discovered we're a good writing team. But it certainly had its growing pains."

Looking back over the last nine years, there was "no single turning point" in their musical career, but rather "a series of milestones," David said. "You work hard. You keep on singing and you try to enjoy yourself."

ANSWERS TO THIS WEEK'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE.



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BEAUTY SHOP

By Carol Wise

A myriad of colors adorn the summer palette. It seems nursery blue and bubble gum pink are the darlings of the season. But don't get carried away folks. They are not quite screaming the '80s; the colors are much more translucent.

Cosmetic companies seem to be bent on words like – "all day," "forever" and "long wearing." What a phenomenon: makeup that doesn't come off. Clearly this is the season to take advantage – lips, eyes, foundation, it all works. Looking fresh at the end of a long, hot, humid day is a welcome possibility, as I'm sure you would agree.

Protect you skin from the sun every day. Most sunscreens take about 30 minutes to become effective, so make application part of your morning routine. Without a shadow of a doubt, *Ombrelle* covers the gamut of sunscreen requirements. It is non-greasy and even spreads evenly on your scalp. Remember, reflected UV rays are just as dangerous as direct rays. White sand reflects 25 percent, water reflects up to 100 percent.

Some great advancements have been made in the area of self-tanning cremes. You will find that color staining is more natural and a lot less orange. Try *Lancome's* Flash Bronzer gel for both face and legs and achieve that sun-kissed look without damage.

CAROL'S TIPS

SKIN CARE: Put your rich cremes away for the summer. The added humidity will provide you with extra hydration. Lotions and gels are perfect for this time of the year. Vitaminize your skin with *Chanel's* Hydra-Serum Visage and Hydra-Serum Corps. These cocktails have a concentrated complex of vitamins B, E and F to help prevent loss of moisture – a great after sun drink.

Check out *Biotherm's* Hydra-Detox Yeux, a moisturizing eye gel – totally refreshing. While you're at the counter, take a look at *Chanel's* eye care system; it is fascinating.

Lancaster introduces Skin Maximizer, a line of seven skin care products based on a technological breakthrough that help stimulate microcirculation on the surface of the skin. The principle is to stimulate the skin's energy potential and provide advanced protection from the environment. These velvety soft cremes feel incredible and do create a certain radiance.

FOUNDATION: Keep it sheer and translucent. Apply it sparingly and when you go to the beach, forget it and use a bronzer. Use a thicker formula to cover discolored or blemished areas. *Derma Blend* is a good choice. *L'Oreal* has created Quick Stick Longwearing Makeup. It's fast, effective and fabulous for touch ups. *Clinique* has developed an oil-absorbing, lightweight, long-wearing makeup, named Superfit. This makeup appears fresh all day, no matter how much oil, perspiration and humidity it is up against. *Lancaster's* Light Enhancing Matte Finish Foundation is designed for lovers of the "natural look." It provides a transparent veil of color with medium coverage and a matte finish.

L'Oreal's On-the-loose shimmering powder [top] is so much fun. Lancaster's skin maximizer provides long-lasting radiance.

EYES: Color is everything this summer. Try *L'Oreal's* On-the-loose shimmering powder, it's so much fun! For extra definition, try *Lancaster's* eye enhancing pencil; the texture is perfect, not too soft, not too hard. *Christian Dior* treats us with Multi-Touch, a monochrome makeup that is all about doing everything with one color – eyes, lips and cheeks. This little mini-compact is just great and the best is, you can apply it with your fingertips. Paint your nails with matching polish for the total look.

LIPS: Define your lips with a colored pencil. Most popular shades this season are fruity. Always top up with shiny gloss. Try *Dior's* Rouge Sirop directly on bare lips or over your favorite color. This is a limited edition, so don't miss it.

Take a look at Flin Flan from *Cargo* – absolutely fabulous! – guaranteed to make your lips luscious. *Chanel* has created sheer liquid color in five ultra-shiny shades – a must this summer. *Lancome* makes another discovery called Rough Magnetic,

Continued on page 39

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BEAUTY SHOP

Continued from page 38

a weightless lip color that feels satiny. And guess what – it stays on all day.

NAILS: Nail specialists from *L'Oreal* offer five easy to use products to help make your nails healthy and look great. *Chanel's* new glaze, quick dry, is fun makeup for your fingertips. Transparent color leaves your nails looking like stained glass.

HAIR: "Soft, silky and long describe the look for summer" says Daniel Fiorio, proprietor of Salon Daniel (25 Bellair). "Hair extensions, (Gwenyth Paltrow – *Shakespeare in Love*) are the buzz among the fashion cognoscenti. If you don't have natural length or volume, this unique technique might be for you. Long hair, bare shoulders suggest *Summer in the City,*" jests the stylish designer.

How great is this! Think about it. If you want long hair, it's yours in just a few hours.

Try *L'Oreal's* new hair spray, it is light and protects your hair's natural lustre.

FRAGRANCE: Smell delicious with your favorite guy. Get Together, two new fragrances from *Giorgio Armani*, one for men and one for woman, are quite individual, yet provocatively intertwined. *Clinique's* Happy is a lightly fragranced hydrating spray that scents the body with hints of citrus and exotic flowers. O'Oui bath and body collection from *Lancome* smells just like fruit sherbet, so good you can almost taste it. Bill Blass opens the door to a new fragrance – Amazing – and you know what, it is absolutely amazing! It is feminine, sensual and totally seductive.

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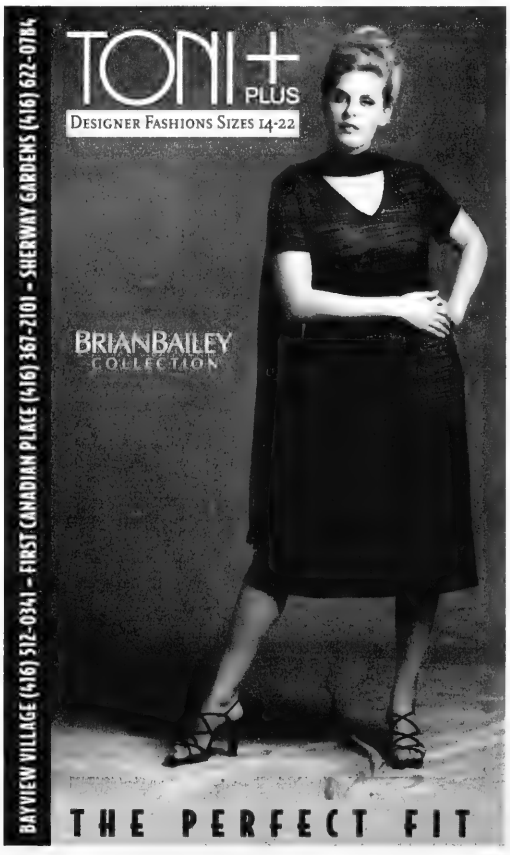
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Summer Fashion

MA DIVINE CLÉMENTINE

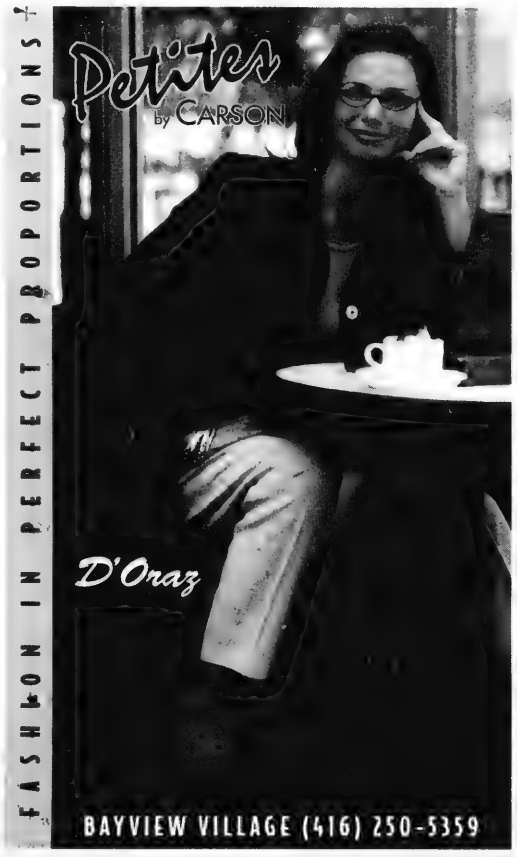
Ma Divine Clémentine is prepared to provide mothers-to-be and children with the lovely, cool fashions that add comfort and beauty to everyday dressing. This lovely light blue suit (left) can be worn all summer and in early fall. One popular work staple for mums-to-be is a navy pant suit with knit shirt that can be worn at all times.

JAEGAR COLLECTION

Shape is the focus this season and Jaegar makes the feminine form soft and subtle with pieces that gently drape and accept the body [left]. Fabrics offer a variety of textures, each lending a fresh sense of movement to the collection.

PROM TIME

Lori Ann, a division of Algo Group, launched its exciting new line for this year's high school grads. Check out the Lori Ann Prom collection at [www.loriann.com]



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Summer Fashion

ANIMAL PRINTS ARE IN

Everybody loves the bright, colorful clothing that matches the sunny summer weather. And if the fabric breathes and the style is cool and appealing, you are bound to wear the outfit for work and strolls through this season. Animal prints from the Olsen Collection continue to be a strong draw. In t-shirts, tops, skirts and twin sets, animal prints are making a splash in whimsical patterns and sophisticated motifs. Here the exotic appeal is highlighted in a palette of natural colors and earth tones like olive, muted browns and creamy neutrals.

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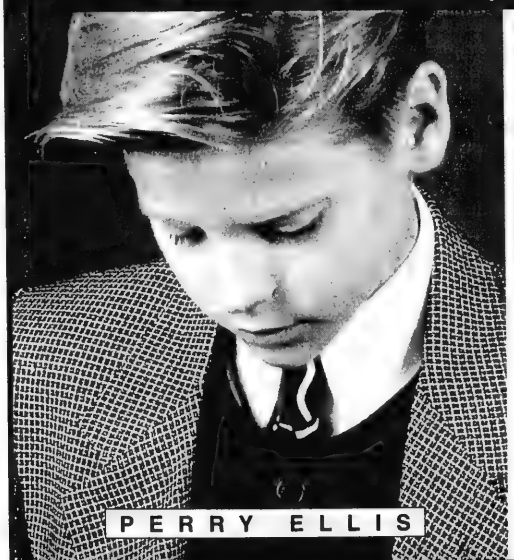

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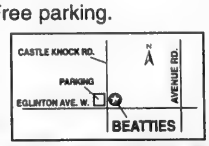

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430 LANDSCAPING
432 LAWN CARE
433 LEASING
434 LIMOUSINE SERVICES
435 LIQUIDATION
438 LOCKSMITH
439 MAKE-UP
440 MISCELLANEOUS
442 MUSICAL SERVICES
445 MOVING
449 PEST CONTROL
450 PAINTING/WALLPAPERING
451 PROMOTIONS
452 PARTY SERVICES
455 PHOTOGRAPHY/VIDEO
460 PLUMBING
465 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
470 RENOVATIONS
475 ROOFING
477 SECOND HAND STORES
478 SCHOOLS
479 SENIORS
480 SECURITY SYSTEMS
481 SEWING
482 SIGNS
483 SKIING
485 SNOW REMOVAL
490 TABLE COVERING
493 TAILORING/ALTERATIONS
495 TILING
498 TRAVEL & TOURISM
500 TUTORING/LESSONS
510 UPHOLSTERY
515 WATERPROOFING
517 WATER TREATMENTS
520 WINDOW COVERINGS
525 WINDOW REPLACEMENT
530 WINDOW CLEANING
548 WORD PROCESSING
550 WORKSHOPS

REAL ESTATE Section

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

"WE OPEN DOORS FOR YOU"

DAVID EICHORN REALTY LIMITED 787-1712

BATHURST / WILSON

Spacious 3 + 1 bedroom bungalow on 60 x 130 (irreg.) ft. lot, hardwood floors, separate entry to finished basement, close to all amenities. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

SOLD

BATHURST / LAWRENCE / WILSON

Spacious 3 + 2 bedroom bung., hardwood floors, eat-in kitchen, sep. entry to two in-law suites, fabulous location close to all amenities. Only $279,000 — **ACT NOW!** Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / WILSON

Fabulous building lot! 40 x 130 ft., close to all amenities, only $299,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

AVENUE ROAD / GLENCAIRN — EXCLUSIVE

NEW LISTING! Executive 4 bedroom, 2 storey on 47 x 200 ft. lot, renovated, new kitchen, magnificent pool, hot location! Only $599,000 — **ACT NOW!** Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / LAWRENCE / WILSON — CUSTOM BUILT!

Modern design, open concept, quality craftsmanship, 4 + 2 bedrooms, large principal rooms, ideal for entertaining, cathedral ceilings. Only $549,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

THORNHILL — BATHURST / CLARK

2 storey, 3 bedroom home on generous lot, family room, finished basement, only $269,900. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN

Brand new custom-built 4 + 1 bedroom, family room, gorgeous dream kitchen, ceramics, hardwood floors, Jacuzzi, sep. entry to in-law suite, only $499,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

AVENUE ROAD / BRIAR HILL

Executive 4 + 1 bedrooms, fam. rm., blend of contemporary & traditional, hardwood floors, marble fireplace, leaded windows, wainscotting ++, only $569,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / YORK DOWNS — BACKS ONTO EARL BALES PARK!

Spacious side-split on gorgeous 70 x 200 ft. lot (irreg.), serene private setting. Asking $679,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

HARVEY KALLES

REAL ESTATE LIMITED REALTOR

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1ST AD! BAYVIEW/WILLOWBROOK

$314,900 - Updated kitchen & baths, 3/4 bdrm. Freshly painted, new carpets. Mature garden w/pool. Cheryl Graff*

BROWNRIDGE "RARE" HUGE LOT!

Upgraded 3,100+ sq. ft., 4 bdrms., prof. fin. bsmnt. w/nanny's suite. Premium area lot. Only $419K. Maxine Povering**

BATHURST/WILSHIRE $498,000

Done to the nines. 4 bdrms., main library. Professionally fin. basement, pool size lot. Must be Sold! Maxine Povering**

BATHURST/WILSHIRE $499,000

Like to entertain? 6 person jacuzzi, sauna, pool size lot with 20 x 40 deck, hardwood, bar $$$ +++. Maxine Povering**

REDUCED! $469,000 – YORK MILLS/LESLIE

Fabulous spacious backsplit, 4 bedrooms, 4 baths, centre hall plan. Huge principle rooms. Call Cheryl Graff*

AVENUE RD./EGLINTON $629,000

Allenby area. 3 bdrms. + office/den, family room, modern Kitchen & baths. Private drive – 5 car pkg. Cheryl Graff*

NEAR RICHMOND HILL COUNTRY CLUB

Newly renovated 4+2 bdrms., 2 kitchens, finished basement with walk-out, 3 car garage. Large private lot. Tanya Jivov*

*Sales Representative ** Associate Broker

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CENTRAL PROPERTIES

ARMOUR HEIGHTS CUSTOM BUILT HOME!

Magnificent stone & stucco design, 4+1 bedrooms, 50 x 150 south lot. 10++. Brenda Westbrook* 226-1987

1ST AD! UPPER VILLAGE! $795,000

Move in family home! Main floor family room & library. Master w/ensuite, fin. bsmnt. Double garage. Cathy Kwinter* 488-2875

1ST AD! 45 CENTRE AVENUE! $729K

Yonge N./Cummer! Bldr's. masterpiece! 5+1 bdrms., 7 baths, w/o bsmnt.! 3 car gar.! 69 x 146'! Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

ST. CLAIR/SPADINA NEAR ARDWOLD GATE

Beautifully renovated Georgian home, centre hall, 4 bedrooms, 4 baths. $649,000. Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

1ST AD! BROADVIEW/DANFORTH $339K

Totally renovated 94/95. 16 x 157 ft. New maple floors, 2 new baths, new coachhouse, 3 skylights. Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

ALLEN EXPRESSWAY/EGLINTON - HURRY!

Charming 3 bedroom bungalow, stone exterior and leaded windows. Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

DETATCHED BUNGALOW NEAR EGLINTON W. SUBWAY!

Renovated 2 bedroom + apt. $199K. Barbara Peltz** 488-2875

BAYVIEW PROPERTIES

FABULOUS NEW HOME ON CUL-DE-SAC - BAYVIEW

Turn key-4+bdrms., granite, marble. Linda Reitapple* 488-2875

26 BAMBOO GROVE! 5+1 BDRMS., 3 BATHS

$519,900! Main fam.+lib.+lau.! Updated mechanics! Minutes to schl.+park+community centre! Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

CONSTRUCTION HAS BEGAN!!!

Freehold Townhomes at Yonge & Sheppard. 2,200 sq. ft. 3 bedrooms, Bonus package. Hurry! Anna Pollock* 226-1987

CONDOMINIUMS

1ST AD! 245 HILLHURST BLVD.! $275K!

Seldom Available. 4 unit complex! Updated 3+1 bdrms., 3 baths, w/balcony+sep. in-law suite! Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

1ST AD! 245 HILLHURST BLVD.! $249K!

Seldom Available. 4 unit complex! Spac. main level, 3 bdrms., 2 baths, cac! Garage! Fab. local! Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

OUT OF TOWN PROPERTIES

MUSKOKA LAKES! APROX. 1 ACRE LOT!

Asking $105K, 233 frontage, 2K from Port Carling. Boating, Fishing, Sandy beach! Make an offer! Ruth Trachter* 226-1987

** Associate Broker * Sales Representative

ALAN NEWTON

REAL ESTATE LTD. REALTOR

ON THORNRIDGE - STUNNING CUSTOM HOME

Grey stone/brick, 5+2 bdrms., 9 ft. ceilings, granite slabs, many extras. Among million $ homes! *Cila Fleischmann/*Sarah Tamin

• • •

BATHURST & CENTRE - UNDER CONSTRUCTION

Grey stone/brick, 5+2 bdrms., 9 ft. ceilings, granite slabs, many extras. Among million $ homes! *Cila Fleischmann/*Sarah Tamin

• • •

BATHURST & REGENT - IMMACULATE!

3,000 sq. ft. + finished bsmnt. in Heritage Estates. Premium lot, fantastic flr. plan, fully loaded! *Cila Fleischmann/*Sarah Tamin

• • •

BATHURST & CLARK - JUST LISTED! 1ST AD!

Det. 4 bdrm., fin. bsmnt. on huge pie shape lot on cul-de-sac backs on park! Walk to shuls, schls. $379,900. *Perry Waisglass

• • •

BATHURST-DEWLANE "PRIDE OF ISRAEL"

4 bdrm. backsplit, mn. flr. fam. rm. & office, fin. bsmnt., appls., air+++, premium pool size lot close to amenities! *Ted Waxman

• • •

BATHURST-STEELES "BATHURST VILLAGE"

Large 4 bedroom backsplit, hardwood floors, air, security, double garage, extras galore! Shows great!! *Ted Waxman

• • •

BATHURST-DREWRY "CHARLTON BOULEVARD"

Custom bungalow, main floor family room & laundry, 10 ft. ceilings, fin. basement, dble. garage, extras galore! *Ted Waxman

• • •

BATHURST-WILSON - CUSTOM TO PERFECTION!

3 bdrm. bung., sep. entry, loaded w/upgrds. *Robyn Reisman

• • •

BATHURST-CENTRE $284,800

Gorgeous 3 yr. old, 3 bedroom freehold townhome with fam. rm. + fireplace, 4 pce. ensuite + $$$ in upgrds.! *Perry Waisglass

• • •

HILDA & CLARK - STARTER HOME!

Pool size lot, strip hardwood floors & ceramics on main floor. Move-in condition! *Cila Fleischmann/*Sarah Tamin

• • •

BATHURST-CARVILLE FREEHOLD T.H. (LIKE A SEMI)

$214,900 - Just painted! 3 bedrooms, 4 pce. ensuite, finished basement. *Perry Waisglass

• • •

CONDOMINIUMS FOR SALE

BATHURST-CENTRE - END UNIT! $184,900

Fab. 2 bdrm.+sol., appls., air, locker, shows great! *Ted Waxman

• • •

BATHURST-STEELES $147,900! - CLOSE TO ALL!

2 bdrms., balc., 2 car park., hrdwd., appls., air. *Ted Waxman

• • •

* Sales Representative **Associate Broker

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Heritage Estates
5 bdrm. w/studio/loft on 3rd floor 1x5 pce., 2-4 pce., 1-2 pce., 9' ceilings, R2000 energy efficient home. Gracious home near park, lovely lg. kitchen, spacious rooms. Approx 4100 sq. ft. Wrought iron fence, interlocking driveway & walkway, priced to sell!

Bathurst/Drewry
3 bedroom bungalow, finished 1-4 pce., 1-2 pce basement, flagstone patio with B B Q., hardwood floors under broadloom. Close to transportation, schools, shopping

Sonia Banner-Shapiro • 1945 Leslie St. • (416) 383-1828

105 COTTAGE FOR SALE

Belle Ewart - Lakefront, shared lot, 3 bdrm., equipped, no agents. 905-881-3317.

110 COTTAGE FOR RENT

Innisfil - 4 bdrm., lakefront, shul, optional boathouse, avail. from June - Aug. 905-856-1686

Lake Simcoe.Bayview Bch, fab new cottage/chalet, 3 bdrm., full equip., 100 ft. lot, all glass facing lake, sauna, deck, dock, canoe. $1200/wk. Avail. Aug. 487-5686

112 FURNISHED COTTAGE FOR RENT

Big Bay Point, beaut 4 bdrm + loft, fam rm, 3 bth, wrap around deck, sandy bch, 416-636-8236

Lake Simcoe, rustic 4 bdrm, lkfront, scrnd porch, privacy, 90 min from Toronto, July $3000; try June weekend for $200. (416) 487-6050.

192 FURNISHED VACATION PROPERTIES

20 Min. N.W. of Collingwood. 3 bdrm., lge yard, w/in 5 min. walking dist. to beach, harbour, pool, public boat launch, fishing! June-Sept. Mos./bi-wkly. Days: 416-742-9956, eves:

210 LAND/LOTS FOR SALE/LEASE

Lot for sale. Thornhill. Franklin Avenue. 71x128 ft. irregular. $375,000. 416-223-8111.

230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

This **"Star"** Natural Food Product sold through networking is a true gift from Mother's Nature. Our sales ($22M US/mo) exploded by 32% in the month of Mar. 99 alone. National & international contacts needed. Mission of sharing. Some products are Kosher under the authority of The Orthodox Union of America. Avail in 16 countries & soon in Israel. **www.hugo-noni.com** 905-277-3362. 507 Parkview Blvd., Mississauga, L5B 3N3.

232 BUSINESS FOR SALE

Established Kosher restaurant for sale. Samy, 905-738-1532 or 416-736-7227.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

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Nannies, live-in &out, full &part-time, cleaning. In-home elderly care by RN's & nurses aides. Bonded, refs. **416-224-9907. Servicing Toronto since 1985.** ***NUMBER 1 DOMESTICS.***

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

I am looking for an outgoing, educated, assertive lady for my kind, handsome, prof. non-assertive son in early his 30's. Apply to Mom, CJN Box # 7180.

Male, 5'9', 160 lb , Israeli origin, useful, professional, tolerant, loves countryside, classical music, cultural affairs. Looking for a real partner, female, 47-54. 416-386-0218

Straight DJF seeks female friends, 33-40 yrs. for coffee, conversation, parties, travel etc. Please reply to CJN box 7181.

Traditional male, 50, is looking for an outstanding, kind lady for a serious relationship. All replies answered. CJN Box 7184.

Very good looking woman, n/smkr., slim, intelligent, out going, witty & romantic looking for a gentleman 55-65 prof., business man w/similar characteristics for serious relationship. Reply w/picture to 5334 Yonge St. #603, North York, M2N 6V1.

Replying to a Companion ad with a CJN Box Number?

Address your mail to:

The Canadian Jewish News
1500 Don Mills Rd.
Suite 205
North York, Ontario
M3B 3K4
Box # _____

*** CJN Boxes for Personal Companions Wanted ads are valid for 30 (thirty) days only (from 1st publication date). Replies must be received within this time frame in order to be forwarded to the correct CJN Box #.**

300 ARTICLES FOR SALE

Singer sewing machine for sale. 416-630-6678.

305 ARTICLES WANTED

Cash for jewellery, diamonds, coins & stamps. **416-605-1640.**

330 OBITUARIES

ALL MONUMENTS ARE NOT CREATED EQUAL

BENJAMIN'S
LANDMARK MONUMENTS
3429 Bathurst (corner of Melrose)
(416) 780-0635

SEIDMAN
REAL ESTATE LIMITED REALTOR
633-7373

BATHURST SHEPPARD
3 bedrooms, 4 baths, mod. kit., living & dining comb., fam. rm., w/out, fin. bsmnt. dble. garage.

• • •

BATHURST WILSON 4 PLEX
4+2 bdrms.+bsmnt. apt., 4 gar. +prkg., gd. income.Don't miss!

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STORE + 2 APARTMENTS
Avenue Rd.-Wilson, completely updated building, fully rented, busy A-1 location.

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BUILDING LOT 67' X 133'
Willowdale - build or renovate existing home. Great buy!

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BATHURST FINCH
3 bedrooms, den, family room, 3 baths, modern kitchen, large lot, double garage.

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A. & D. SEIDMAN 633-7373

10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

No agents please! Bathurst & Lawrence area, brick, 2 stry., 3,000 s.f., 4 bdrm., 2 car gar., fin. bsmt., CAC, huge kit., main flr fam. rm. $469,900. 783-8335

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

THE EXCELLENCE
by Tridel
89 Skymark Drive, Suite 2907
$789,000 *Rarely Offered*
Spectacular Panorama
Brand New * 9 ft. Ceiling
2 Parking * Upgrades
2,752 s. f. of Luxury
RE/MAX Goldenway Realty Inc., Realtor
Eric Chan sales rep. (416) 543 6200

WATERFRONT CONDO
The Admirality Point
Unobstructed lake view!
2,100 sq. ft., 3+1 bedrooms.
Wraparound balcony. $699K.
Olga Guvenal
Forest Hill Real Estate Inc.
(416) 226-1987

131 Torresdale - 2 bdrm., den, Florida rm., 1600 sq. ft., lots of extras & uprg. Private sale. 905-660-7982 or 416-588-6771.

3000 Bathurst-2 bdr, 2 bth, upgrades, pkg., excellent cond., 3 appl. $219,500. Call 364-1063.

30 CONDOMINIUMS FOR SALE

SANTEE REALTY INC. (416) 441-2003

SKYMARK
DON MILLS & FINCH (TORONTO)
SKYMARK II: Estate Sale - Renovated, open concept, 2 bdrm. + sun den, approx. 1,700 s. f., S. exp., overlooks skyline.
ELEGANCE: S. expos., 1,775 s.f., 2 bdrm. + fam.
ZENITH: rental, 2 bdrm. + fam. + sol. For our updated inventory, contact Santee Leung, F.R.I., Skymark Specialist.
THE MULTI-LINGUAL CONNECTION

BATHURST/TORRESDALE
Reduced to $219,900. Gorgeous 2 bedroom condo, huge solarium, 1,500 sq. ft., 2 baths. Quiet secure building, close to all amenities.
SALLY ROSEN, Sales Rep.
(905) 884-4425
CENTURY 21 SMITH LTD. BROKER

35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

Bath./Steeles - Townsgate, lux. 2 bdrm, 2 bth., 5 appl., huge PH terrace, 2 pkg. 905-882-1534.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

BATHURST WILSON

NEWLY DECORATED SPACIOUS 1, 2 & 3 BDRMS.
- Large balconies
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- Close to conveniences and TTC
- Underground parking available

CONVENIENT NORTH YORK LOCATION

125 Neptune Dr.
(416) 787-7171

81 APARTMENT TO SUBLET

Upper West Side, NY. Studio apt. End of June - mid August. Kosher, n/smkr. 212-580-6463.

84 ROOM WANTED

Room for elderly active gentleman along Bathurst from Baycrest to Steeles. 416-223-9579.

105 COTTAGE FOR SALE

Muskoka/Bracebridge,modern 3 bdrm, lkfrnt, encl. porch, safe, sandy bch., Jewish community, low carrying cost, 905-731-4466

125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE

Century Village, Boca Raton, Deluxe, 2 bdrm., 2 bth., CAC, newly reno'd., 2 shuls on site. $59,900 US. 410-578-1601.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

BATHURST-SHEPPARD
Very lg. 1, 2, 3 Bedrooms., ample closets, some 1½ baths & 2 balc., roof, laundry, ravine setting, pool, ind. pkg., 6 apts. per flr. From $900.
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377 or 631-0388 - Super

Keele/Wilson - bsmnt apt., sep. entr. Avail immed.416-636-6780

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

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Sole practitioner in growing community about an hour west of Toronto, seeks an ambitious and entrepreneurial C.A. to join him in a practice association or partnership arrangement, ultimately leading to succession. This opportunity will require relocation, and will reward you with a uniquely refreshing change in lifestyle. All replies held in the strictest of confidence. **Box #7183 Canadian Jewish News, 1500 Don Mills Rd., Suite 205, North York, Ont. M3B 3K4**

All Boys High School seeking English, History, Math and Science teachers. 4:40 - 6:45p.m. Excellent pay. Fax resume to 416-789-3797.

Part Time Retail Sales Position Sunday a must - Spoken & written English - Basic typing or computer skills. Fax resume to 416-650-5209.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

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Frustrated by trying to find a suitable nanny? Let us help you. We have dependable, caring nannies who are thoroughly qualified, personally interviewed & pre-screened. All refs. are checked. Some are CPR trained. Low finders fee.
Wee Care Placement Agency
416-789-3070

255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

Full time live-out nanny for Avenue/Eglinton area. For 2 & 3 yr old girls. Starting September. Hebrew an asset. Salary negotiable. Fax resume: 482-2860 or email: bnashman@yahoo.com

257 HEALTHCARE AVAILABLE

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Warm loving care in the comfort of your home. Provided by...
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✓ Recovering from Illness
✓ Recovering from Surgery
✓ Child Care
✓ Homemaking Services
SERVICES GUARANTEED OR IT'S FREE. CALL NOW!

A lady w/3 yrs. exp. of HCA in hospitals & homecare seeks F/T or P/T job. 416-782-5415.

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

INTERNET DATING SITE.
416-545-3283.
jewish.qualitysoulmates.com

Jewish Singles Registry. Over 1730 registered. **416-483-4151.**

264 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bill Lampert & Pearl Brooks-Lampert and **Len & Pearl Atkin** and **Della Romero** are delighted to announce the engagement of their children **Tara Lampert** to **Carlos Daniel Romero**, son of the late Carlos Romero. Proud sisters are Rosalie Lampert and Adriana Romero. Happy grandparents are Luba Lampert and Regina Levcovitch.

330 OBITUARIES

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Serving the Jewish community for over 80 years

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335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
MARVIN Z. MANDELL ז"ל
Loving husband, brother, father and grandfather
will take place
Sunday, May 30th, at 11:00 a.m.
Beth Tzedec Memorial Park
(5822 Bathurst Street)
Section 2
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
MYRA REICHLIN WEBB ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, May 30th at 11:30 a.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Dufferin St. N. of Major Mackenzie
Aish Hatorah Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
ANNE ENGEL ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, May 30th, 10:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Shaarei Shomayim Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
FRANCES PERKELL ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, May 30th, 10:45 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Beth Emeth Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
BEN KUPSOV ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, May 30th, 1:00 p.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
Ozrower Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
JACK WAISGLASS ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, May 30th, 12:00 noon
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Ostrovtzer Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
HELEN LEIBSZTEIN ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, May 30th, 10:00 a.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
Pride of Israel Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
BLANCHE WOLBROM ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, May 30th, 11:30 a.m.
Lampton Cemetary
(Royal York Road between Eglinton & Dundas)
Chmelnicker Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

336 SHIVA CATERING

SAME DAY SERVICE
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and Full Course Meals
* DELIVERY AVAILABLE
789-7651
3457 BATHURST ST.

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the beloved memory of the late
Laslo Steckler z"l
will take place
Sunday, May 30 at 12:00pm
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Yavne Zionist Section.
Relatives and friends are invited to attend.

336 SHIVA CATERING

KING SOLOMON'S CATERING
COR
630-0666
SHIVA
CATERING

CJN Classified Deadline

WEDNESDAY - 4:00 P.M.

(8 days preceding issue date)

All classified ads will be accepted on the basis of no changes in copy and no cancellation until after the first insertion.

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Women seeking Men

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KNOW WHAT HE WANTS
Single Jewish female, 5'4", 122lbs, brown hair, green eyes, enjoy working out, long walks, dancing, music, travelling, cycling, dining out, swimming. Seeking a male, 5'7"+, preferably jewish, university educated, good sense of style and humour, similar interests. AD#1400

LASTING FRIENDSHIP
Young looking Jewish female, 56, blond hair, blue eyes, attractive, quiet, intelligent, love life. Seeking a nice Jewish male, honest. AD#1120

FAMILY VALUES
Single Jewish female, professional, attractive, slender, romantic spirit, family values. Seeking a Jewish male, 38-50, attractive, easy going, family values, funny, kind, who enjoys life and sharing. AD#2041

HEALTHY LIFESTYLE
Single Jewish female, attractive, 36, quick witted, active minded, enjoy reading, classical music. Seeking a Jewish male, good hearted, concerned for others and loves to talk. AD#1075

NON SMOKER
Single Jewish female, attractive, mid 50's, 5'7", romantic, warm, enjoy travelling, dining, dancing, movies, long walks, quiet times. Seeking a male with similar interests to be a friend and lover. AD#1505

LOVES TO DANCE
Single mother, attractive, enjoy dining, dancing, outdoor sports, seeking a male, who is tall, dark, handsome, 32-40, who loves kids. AD#2039

RELIABLE
Single Jewish female, petite, honest, warm, enjoy reading, films, music, theater, nature. Seeking a male, 38-44, single, kind, reliable, with similar interests. AD#1421

NUMBER ONE
Single jewish female, 5'5", youthful, brown hair and eyes, attractive, kind, sincere, non smoker, fun to be with, personable. Seeking a Jewish male, handsome, tall, 45-55, kind, warm, sensitive, funny, and enjoys life. AD#1011

SOUL MATE
Single female, slim, attractive, 36, 5'4", professional, brunette, enjoy cottage life, dinning out, theater, movies. Seeking a male, 36-46, professional, employed, intelligent, sensitive, interesting. AD#1626

COMPANIONSHIP
Single white female, attractive, professional, intelligent, enjoy movies, dining out, long walks, dancing, travelling. Seeking a male, 55-63, with similar interest for friendship and companionship. AD#1099

LONG TERM RELATIONSHIP
Single Jewish female, professional, traditional, great sense of humour, enjoy gardening, good foods, theater, movies, romantic walks. Seeking a jewish male, professional, traditional, non smoker, with similar interest. AD#1403

SINCERELY YOURS
Very attractive female, 52, intelligent. Seeking a single male, 65, honest, established, affectionate, kind, non smoker. AD#1016

LIFE IS BEST SHARED
Single Jewish female, 45, with a positive attitude and a great sense of humour, who knows how to enjoy life Seeking a fun, honest, intelligent, and affectionate male for a committed relationship. AD#2116

ENJOY HAVING FUN
Attractive Jewish female, brown eyes & hair, 5'4", good sense of humour, bright, good personality. Seeking a male with same qualities. AD#1516

COUNTRY DRIVES
Single female, 40's, beautiful, blond, employed, great sense of humour, family oriented, enjoy dancing, movies, get aways in the country. Seeking a male, great sense of humour, wonderful. AD#2030

BOARD WALKS
Single female, 36, 5'5", blue eyes, brunette hair, non smoker or drinker, outgoing, enjoy movies, dining in and out, walks along the board walks. Seeking a Jewish male, 30-45, down to earth, trustworthy, honest. AD#2031

DEVOTED
Divorced female, 26, bright, professional, funny, a hockey fan, love dancing and dining, established. Seeking a devoted male, 45-56, how is a hockey fan, stable, knows what he likes, great sense of humour. AD#2033

KNIGHT IN SHINING ARMOR
Single female, 36, 5'4", attractive, slim, brunette, enjoy cottage life, weekend get aways, true romance. Seeking a male, 36-46, non smoker, good set of values, honest, romantic, down to earth, attractive - inside and outside. AD#1188

GOOD FRIEND
Single female, mid 50's, classy, attractive, artistic background, educated, caring, honest, truthful, enjoy arts, travelling, old movies, animals, romance. Seeking a male with a good sense of humour, 55-68, non smoker. AD#2034

NATURE LOVER
Single Jewish female, Orthodox, early 30's, fit, attractive, petite, easy going, good sense of humour, enjoy long walks, hiking, travelling, movies, good conversation. Seeking a male, active, Traditional Orthodox, with similar interests. AD#2025

Men seeking Women

To respond to an ad, call 1-900-451-4552 Ext. 65

CALL ME
Single Jewish male, attractive, 36, 5'10", 190lbs, enjoy tennis, reading, movies, dining. seeking a Jewish female, 28-45, who is fit, outgoing, with a good personality. AD#1192

MR. NICE MAN
Single Jewish male, non smoker, seeking a slim, attractive female, 65+, with a great sense of humour, who likes sports and travelling. AD#1292

GREAT OUTDOORS
Single male, 25, enjoy long walks, camping, sports, biking, outdoors. Seeking a Jewish female, 21-25, with similar interests. AD#1055

OPEN MIND
Single Jewish male, 48, 5'11", young looking, handsome, emotionally fit, dark brown hair, good shape, enjoy travelling, art, photography, writing. Seeking a female, 36-44, sensitive, intelligent, attractive, slim, good communicator, with an open, curious mind. AD#1648

SOCIALIZING
Single Jewish male, attractive, early 50's, 5'10", caring, compassionate, enjoy dancing, electronics, computers, socializing. Seeking a female, attractive, intelligent, caring, compassionate. AD#1119

AFFECTIONATE
Single Jewish male,e 42, attractive, honest, sincere, down to earth, never married, no dependents, enjoy movies, travelling, sports events, swimming, walking. Seeking a Jewish female, 32-43, up to 5'3", non smoker, attractive, honest, petite. AD#2032

Questions?? 416-236-6644

SOULMATE
Single male, 6'1", 160lbs, young looking, compassionate, enjoy nature, country site, classical music, dancing, dining out. Seeking a female with similar interests, looking for my soulmate. AD#1005

BEST IS YET TO COME
Single Jewish male, 53, 5'9", professional, successful, healthy, handsome, traditional, enjoy dining and dancing, long walks. Seeking a female with similar interests and qualities for long term relationship. AD#2017

FUN LOVING
Single male, 33, 6', blue-green eyes, slim, attractive, financially secure, fun loving, enjoy dining out, movies, dancing. Seeking a Jewish female, 28-35, tall, attractive, with similar interests. AD#2008

MARRIAGE MINDED
Single Jewish male, 46, fit, easy going, sincere, hard working, enjoy art, music, movies, long walks. Seeking a female, 25-35, for marriage minded, serious relationship. AD#2086

WHAT A CATCH!
Single Jewish male, 36, 5'10", 190lbs, enjoy tennis, squash, reading, movies, dining & dancing, TV. Seeking a Jewish female, 28-47, fit, outgoing, personality is a plus. AD#2014

ATTENTION LADIES!
Single male, reformed, 40, tall, slim, handsome, fair hair, hazel eyes, non smoker, social drinker, medical specialist, enjoy movies, blading, the outdoors, trying new foods. Seeking a slim, educated, fit, employed female, with a car and blue jeans, no kids or cats. AD#2000

WHO'S YOUR FAVORITE TELATUBBIE
Single dad of 2 little girls, 5'10", 190lbs, 41, fit, athletic, Health Care professional, enjoy sports, movies, dining & dancing, extensive knowledge of Barney and telatubbies. Seeking a female, 34-42, easy to look at, proud of her looks, smart, fun loving. AD#2003

ATTENTION LADIES!
Single white male, 56, self employed, romantic, warm caring, enjoy travelling, movies, quiet times, good conversation. Seeking a female with similar interests and qualities. AD#1996

LET'S CHAT
Single male, employed, tired of the bar scene, seeking a fun loving female, with wide variety of interests, for friends first relationship. AD#2056

SHARING HIS LIFE
Attractive, athletic male, 5'9", brown hair & eyes, employed, no children, enjoy reading, foreign movies, tennis, basketball, weight lifting. Seeking a female, honest, open minded, compassionate, with a great sense of humour. AD#1957

HIGH QUALITY
Divorced male, mid 50's, 3 grown children, well educated, tall, slim, life in British Columbia, enjoy the outdoors, travelling, camping. Seeking a female, warm sensitive, serious, and ready for intense relationship. AD#1962

ROMANTIC AT HEART
Single male, Jewish, 26, handsome, non smoker, enjoy long conversations, movies, music, animals, camping. Seeking an attractive, single female, non smoker, with similar interests. AD#1964

GOING OUT FOR COFFEE
Single Jewish male, 5'8", 180lbs, easy going, healthy, down to earth, old fashioned, kind, man of many talents, enjoy art, sports. Seeking a single Jewish female with similar interests. AD#1937

WARM AND CARING
Single white male, 56, self employed, romantic, enjoy travelling, movies, quiet times, good conversations. Seeking a

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Sports

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The Canadian Jewish news

Shawn Green emerges as a Major League star

By MORDECAI SPECKTOR
The American Jewish World

Toronto Blue Jays slugger Shawn Green signed autographs for eager students last week at Associated Hebrew Day Schools' Kamin campus in Thornhill. Green also addressed students on the importance of respect. He was invited by Associated grade 5 student Jared Garshowitz. [Ron Csillag photo]

MINNEAPOLIS — It's spring at the Hubert H. Humphrey Metrodome in downtown Minneapolis and the aroma of pine tar is in the air.

The Toronto Blue Jays are in town for the opening series of the 1999 baseball season against the Minnesota Twins, and coming down the stairs from the visitors' clubhouse is Shawn Green, an emerging star at the plate and roaming right fielder for the Jays.

Last year, the 6-foot-4 California native put up some impressive numbers: 35 home runs, 100 RBIs, 106 runs, 175 hits, a .278 average and 35 stolen bases. He's off to a strong start in 1999. By May 12, Green had tallied 11 home runs (tops on the team), 35 RBIs, 26 runs, 44 hits and a .306 batting average.

Many baseball mavens believe Green has the ability to emerge over the long haul as the most potent Jewish slugger since Hank Greenberg swung a bat.

"Last year was a real good season," comments Green, standing in front of the Blue Jays dugout as the Twins finish their turn in the batting cage. "It's a lot of fun to be one of the main parts of a good team, and, hopefully we'll get to the playoffs and the World Series."

Green, who finally got to play on a regular basis last year, became the first player in Jays' history – and just the ninth American Leaguer – to join the 30/30 club. His 35 homers and 35 steals point to a rare combination of power hitting and finesse on the base paths.

"It's something I didn't really think about that much until it started getting into the realm of possibility," Green allows. "Once that happened it definitely was a goal of mine to reach that milestone."

The personable ballplayer gives credit for his base stealing prowess to Maury Wills, the former L.A. Dodgers speedster who is a spring training instructor for Toronto.

"He's been great; he's taught me a lot," Green says. "He helped me with my stolen bases a great deal... He really encourages us to keep running and keep going. It's good to have a guy like that on our side."

In assessing his remarkable offensive production last year – Toronto baseball writers named him Most Improved Player for the Blue Jays – Green comments, "I'm always training hard and trying new things. Just learning from the veteran players that I get to play with, like [former Blue Jays slugger Jose] Canseco, [third baseman] Tony Fernandez and Paul Molitor, you try to learn as much as you can from them and that helps you improve your own game."

Green's respect for the veterans is reciprocated.

As the Blue Jays go through their pre-game stretches, Molitor – who played with the Blue Jays from 1993-1995 before returning home to play with the Twins – recalls how Green came to the club with a "lot of hype. He was a young player with a lot of skills: power, speed, a good defensive outfielder, a strong throwing arm."

Molitor, who recently retired and now works some games in the TV broadcast booth for the Twins, continues: "Getting to know him on a personal level, I knew he had the type of makeup to complement that ability. It was just a matter of time before he could blossom. Last year, we got a taste of what's in store for Jays fans and Shawn Green fans. He has a chance to be one of the dominant players in the American League."

Reviewing Green's accomplishments in 1998, Molitor concludes that the talented Jays star is the type of player "you build your club around... Personally and professionally, I think he's going to do a lot of great things in baseball. With his attitude and his approach to the game, he's going to have a positive effect off the field as well."

Leaning against the batting cage, Blue Jays manager Jim Fregosi echoes Molitor's assessment of the 26-year-old ballplayer's all-round skills: "He does everything you could ever ask out of a guy. He's got a great future and he'll play for a long time... I think that as his career goes on, he'll become a much better player."

Toronto baseball scribes say Green has become a big favorite of hometown fans – and he has his Jewish fan-base in mind.

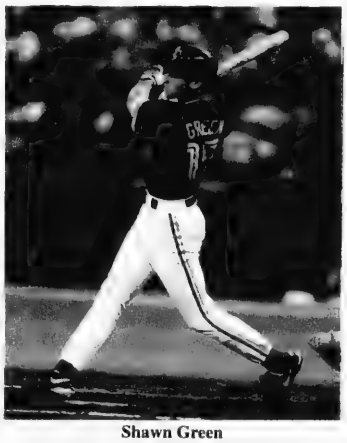
"The Jewish community in Toronto's been great. They have a large and supportive Jewish community there, big sports fans, so it's nice to be a member of that community," says Green. "I'd like to try to do more for the community. As far as charity work, it's been hard the first few years. I'm just trying to get settled in, but now I'd like to do some things to help out there... They definitely have been reaching out to me, so it's a good feeling."

* * *

In a recent development, UJA Federation of Greater Toronto announced that Green would appear in a video for the second year of the Campaign for Fifty, which aims to raise $50 million annually by 2001.

"No other Jewish organization is doing so much to help the vulnerable, bring Jews closer to their roots and rescue them from dangerous situations around the world," Green said in a UJA Federation news release.

"We're extremely excited that Shawn has joined us," said campaign vice-chair Howard Price. "His ability, modesty and identification with UJA Federation makes him a role model for thousands."



Shawn Green

Players in the Big Show

By MORDECAI SPECKTOR
The American Jewish World

MINNEAPOLIS — Who's Jewish in Major League Baseball in 1999?

Some 150 Jews have sojourned in the big leagues – from Nate Berkenstock, who played one game in 1871, to Hall of Fame pitcher Sandy Koufax.

In addition to Shawn Green, there are now five Jews on active big league rosters. (Jesse Levis, who was a catcher for the Milwaukee Brewers last year, was cut by the Tampa Bay Devil Rays, but is in their extended spring training program recuperating from an arm injury. Gabe Kapler, a promising outfielder for the Detroit Tigers, was on the team's opening day roster, but was recently sent to Toledo, their AAA farm team.)

The following players are plying their trade in the Big Show:

- Brad Ausmus, catcher, Detroit Tigers;
- Al Levine and Scott Schoeneweis, relief pitchers, Anaheim Angels;
- Mike Lieberthal, catcher, Philadelphia Phillies;
- Scott Radinsky, relief pitcher, St. Louis Cardinals.

And let's not forget Al Clark, Major Leagie Baseball's Jewish umpire.

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The Inside Back

ספרותנו

מאת: יעל זליגר

ספרים פשוטים ונושאים לא פשוטים

שאמא תחזור מאת שמואל בנשלום, ספרית פתלים ושימי"ג מאת יעל בן-ברוך, סביונים - שתי יצירות נבונות בספרות העברית העכשווית שפורסמו לאחרונה בארץ. שני ספרי הילדים דנים בחוויות ויתכן אף מוות של חורה, אך הפעם לא במלחמה אלא בנסיבות של מחלה.

שאמא תחזור פותח בארתע שבו אורי, הילד, וחוריו מבלים במופע קרקס. במקרה, על-יד אורי יושבת אשה שמחזיקה כלבלב חמוד. אורי מייחל שגם לו יהיה כלבלב ואכן אמא מבטיחה שיום אחד גם לאורי יהיה גור משלו. כאן בעצם מתחיל הסיפור. כמה ימים לאחר הביקור בקרקס אמו של אורי איננה חשה כטוב. מה שהחל כשפעת מחמיר והאם נזקקת לאישפוז.

קשה לאורי הקטן. בגן הוא מתבודד בפינה וכל רצונו ליבב "שאמא תחזור". חגננת מנסה לנחמו אך הוא בדאגתו. לאחר שהרס את המגדל שבנה מחמר בגן, הוא נשבע שיהיה ילד טוב ולו רק אמא תחלים. אלא שבאשר אורי שואל את אבא, האם אמא תבריא, אבא שותק.

יום אחד, כאשר האב אוסף את אורי מהגן, הוא מבשר לילד שמחכה לו הפתעה בבית. הקוראים הצעירים בוודאי מצפים שההפתעה תהיה האם, אך הקוראים המבוגרים ידעו שלא כן. וכאן פסק הזמן הדרוש לחורה המקריאה את הספר לילדו, להכנת הילד לאי-הוודאות בנוגע להחלמתה ושובה המיוחל של האם. על כל פנים בסיפורנו ההפתעה המחכה לאורי היא נור כלבלב קטנטן שפרוותו כמו צמר-גפן רך ואפו רטוב וחמוד ככפתור. כמובן שיותר מכל חיה אורי מבקש להראות את הכלבלב לאמו אך לפי שעה יחיה עליו לחכות שאמא תחזור.

יעל בן-ברוך כתבה את שימי"ג לילדים בני שבע-שמונה. בסיפור זה הגיבורה היא ילדה ששמה שירה וההורה המעדר מפאת מחלה הוא האב. שירה, ככל ילדה במציאות אכולה ברגשות אשם ופחדים. את מראה אביה חמחובר לצנורות בבית-החולים אין היא יכולה לשאת והיא מודעה שהיא מסרבת לבקר. אצל האב. האם, בתבונה, אינה לוחצת. בשעות שהאם מבלה בצד מיטתו של האב, אביבה השכנה משגיחה על שירה. לאביבה תפקיד מאוד חשוב בסיפור אף שהיא כביכול סתם בחורה צעירה וטפשונת. אביבה, שמספרת לשירה שגם החבר שלה היה בבית-חולים וזה דווקא היה די מוצלח, שכן בשל דאגתה אליו חצליחה אביבה להוריד סוף, סוף חמישה קילוגרמים במשקל, היא זו שלגמרי באופן בלתי מודע תגרום לשירה להסיח דעתה מחומרת המצב בבית. הסחת הדעת תהיה באמצעות פעלתנות יצירתית.

יום אחד, כאשר אביבה מבקשת לחשתמש באודס של אמה של שירה, נחשפת קופסה יפה שבה הסתירו האב ובתו שירה איזה תקנון, סמלים ונוסח חשבעה להקמת חבורה... אביבה מוקסמת ומצליחה לשכנע את שירה שדווקא בזמן העדרות האב, כדאי ששירה תקים חבורה בעצמה ותשמש בתפקיד ההנהגה. וכך שירה מוצאת עצמה בפעלתנות קדחתנית לטובת החבורה שהקימה בשעות הארוכות שבהן האם מבקרת אצל האבא. נדי, שנכון שהוא רק בכיתה א' נעשה חבר וכן גם יוני ומיכאל. מיכאל מנסה "לגנוב" את הפיקוד משירה (מה פתאום שילדה תפקד עליו) אך לבסוף מקבל את מרותה. לחבורה מילת קסם, הלא היא: ישימי"ג (האות הראשונה בשמות שירה, יוני, מיכאל, דני.) ככל חבורת ילדים גם בחבורת שימי"ג יש מבצעים ומבחני אומץ לב. בסופו של ענין, ובזכות שימי"ג, שירה תמצא את אומץ הלב לבקר את האבא, לנשקו ולחבקו. יתרה מזו, שירה מגלה שיותר מכל היא תעזור לאבא אם ידע שילדתו לא ישבת כל היום בטלה ממעש וכולה מכונסת בעצמה מתוך דאגה. מה רב אושרה של שירה כאשר האב, בשעת ביקור, מקבל פניה ב:"מה שלומן, המפקדת!"

שני סיפורים פשוטים וטובים בנושאים לגמרי לא פשוטים.

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1 egg	1/2 cup pastry flour
1 cup brown sugar	1 cup all purpose flour
1/2 tsp. vanilla	1 cup chopped pistachio nuts
1/2 cup oil	1 cup white chocolate bits

Preheat oven to 350°F. Grease and line two baking trays. Combine egg, brown sugar and vanilla, mix well. Stir in oil.

Combine flours, nuts and white chocolate bits and fold into wet ingredients.

Shape into balls using 1 tblsp. of mixture; place on prepared trays. Bake 10-12 mins. or until golden. Cool slightly on trays before transferring to wire rack. Makes 30-36 cookies.

About Food

Dear Norene

Oy, the joy of soy! The media touts the benefits of soy daily. We constantly seek magical foods that will give us good health and eternal life!

The best approach is to eat more fruits, vegetables and grains. These plant foods contain phytochemicals, substances that act as antioxidants and much more. Soy foods, including tofu, are integral to plant-centred cuisine.

The Phytopia Cookbook by Barbara Gollman and Kim Pierce (1-888-750-9336) is an excellent resource to help you include more tofu in your diet. Although not a kosher cookbook, it's packed with recipes that can be easily adapted for the kosher kitchen. It focuses on flavor, sneaks nutrition onto the plate, and explains the science behind the recipes.

The authors emphasize the benefits of a plant-centred cuisine, yet still include meat, which so many of us enjoy. They do terrific things with tofu, like caesar salad, cranberry-almond muffins, leek & mushroom manicotti, even brownies! Now you can pat yourself on the back for eating chocolate. You'll never taste the tofu!

Toasted Almond Brownies

light extra-firm silken tofu (or regular block tofu), blended
cocoa (Dutch-processed or regular)
1/4 cups water
2 tbsp. canola oil
1 1/2 cups sugar
1 tsp. vanilla extract
1 egg + 2 egg whites
1 cup unbleached flour
1/4 tsp. salt
3 tbsp. chopped or sliced almonds

Preheat oven to 350 F. In processor, mix cocoa, water and oil. Add blended tofu, sugar, vanilla and eggs, mix well; blend in flour and salt. Do not overprocess.

Pour into sprayed 8-in. pan, sprinkle with almonds and bake 30 minutes. Top will be shiny, but firm. Makes 9 brownies.

265 calories per brownie, 6.1 g fat (0.8 g sat. fat), 5.39 mg sodium, 24 mg cholesterol, 2 g fibre, 40 mg calcium, 48 g carbs, 6 g protein.

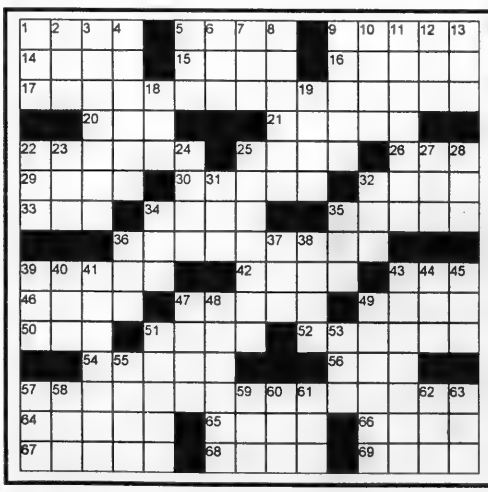
Blended tofu: Whip tofu in processor or blender until consistency of mayonnaise. Be patient, it takes several minutes. Store covered in refrigerator up to one week.

Norene's Tofu Smoothie: Use leftover tofu to make a yummy, dairy-free smoothie!

Combine 1 cup tofu, 1 cut-up banana, 2 cups cut-up frozen fruit (e.g. strawberries, melon), 1/2 cup orange juice, 1 tsp. honey, 1 tsp. vanilla. Blend until smooth.

Makes 3 cups. Note: soy or regular milk can be substituted.

Norene Gilletz, leading Canadian author of kosher cookbooks, gives lectures and cooking demonstrations throughout North America. Submit cooking questions to The CJN. *Contact Norene at www.gourmania.com.*



The Canadian Jewish news

Pool Shark

By Matt Gaffney and David Bianco (QSyndicate@aol.com)

Across

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14 Spoiled kid
15 Length times width
16 *Bar mitzvah* and *kiddush*
17 What 36-across won in 1972
20 Harvard yard sight
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47 Best Actress of '61
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55 Fireman's tool
57 Commandments word
58 Kibbutz tool
59 For
60 Connections
61 Seductively playful
62 Finale
63 Proverbial limit

(This week's answers are on page 37.)

BIG Suites

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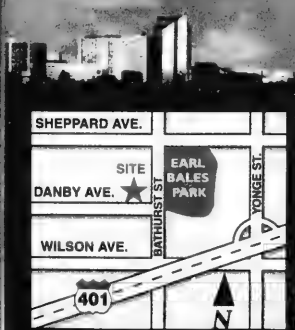

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THE TANGER CORPORATION

We Can't Do It Without

A Salute To Our Community's Volunteers

UJA FEDERATION

No one gift changes more lives.

"Do not separate yourself from the community"
Pirke Avot 2:5

"אַל תִּפְרוֹשׁ מִן הַצִּבּוּר"
פרקי אבות ב:ה

WE CAN'T DO IT WITHOUT YOU!

UJA FEDERATION
UNITED JEWISH APPEAL • JEWISH FEDERATION OF GREATER TORONTO

I have always believed that voluntarism is an essential expression of "tzedakah."

As my term as President of UJA Federation draws to a close, I am now more fully able to appreciate how generous our community truly is.

Over the past two years, I have witnessed members of our Jewish community from all walks of life step up to take responsibility, to lend a hand, offering their time, wisdom and compassion in order to support individuals in need and to help continue building our community services.

Your commitment to our agencies, schools, synagogues and organizations, manifested through your outstanding volunteer service, stands as a legacy that we are continually challenged to emulate.

I am grateful to each and every one of you for what you have accomplished – and for what, together, we will accomplish in the future.

JOSEPH M. STEINER
President

We Can't Do It Without You!

by Helen Finder-Guttman
Vice-Chair, Human Resources
UJA Federation

UJA Federation of Greater Toronto is delighted once again to recognize volunteers from the many diverse organizations and agencies within our community.

The not-for-profit sector has been undergoing a radical change for the past several years. The impact of shrinking financial resources continues to be felt in all areas of service delivery. As programs and services are pared down, the lives of a significant number of people are seriously affected. More than ever, we need to recognize and support the work of volunteers who, at all levels, struggle to sustain and redefine our services as we move into the next century.

The men and women pictured in these pages represent only a small number of the dedicated individuals who give so freely of their time and talents to help keep our community strong and viable.

And so – to these dedicated volunteers, we say "Thank You."
Thank you for your leadership and your compassion.
Thank you for your unwavering commitment. As a community, we take pride in your accomplishments and your sense of tzedakah.

"We Can't Do It Without You!"

UJA FEDERATION
No one gift changes more lives.

VOLUNTEERS– PILLARS OF THE COMMUNITY

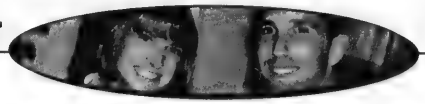
by Rob Sandler

In thinking about voluntarism and the true spirit of "giving," it is interesting how the most wonderful role models can be found along the entire spectrum of human need – from the organizers of the UJA Federation Walk for Israel, to the delivery person for Meals on Wheels, to those who flew to Trenton to help welcome the refugees from Kosovo. It is written in the Mishnah Sanhedrin 4:5, "Whoever saves a single life, it is as if he saved an entire world." It is in these many "saved worlds" that one can find examples of the core of voluntarism.

A human life is not only saved from death. It is also saved from loneliness. From oppression. From hunger. From loss of direction and uprootedness. These "saved worlds" can be seen on the directory at the Lipa Green Building, showing the work that is being done on an organizational level to ensure continuity, education, funding and the highest caliber of programming for the Toronto Jewish community and in Israel. They can be seen in the eyes of the recipients of the plethora of programs that assist those who are unable to help themselves – the Jewish elderly living in poverty, the special children of Reena, the new immigrants who are looking to build roots in a new country and in a new Jewish community. It is the unsaid calling of the volunteers to assist causes and persons in need that make their contributions so much more meaningful. Maimonides considers the highest form of tzedakah "where a person assists his fellow so as to allow them to help themselves." It is often in this mindset that volunteers give tirelessly of their time, energy, enthusiasm and inspiration.

The sense of communal responsibility and connectivity penetrates every aspect of Jewish life, from tzedakah to voluntarism to the way we pray as Jews. Rabbi Joseph Telushkin points out that almost all Jewish prayers are offered not in the singular but in the plural. "Only when people address G-d in the plural," says Telushkin, "are they likely to pray for that which is universally beneficial." It is this universal responsibility – to the needy, to the new immigrants, to the communities of tomorrow, and to those like the persecuted of Kosovo that need help to see tomorrow – that makes the volunteer a pillar of the community.

Rob Sandler is a participant of the Wexner Heritage Foundation Leadership Program, and a graduate of UJA Federation's Leadership Development Program.

WE CAN'T DO IT  WITHOUT YOU!

Volunteer Excellence: The Community Honours Its Own

The women and men pictured here have made tzedakah and community involvement constant priorities in their lives. Their unrelenting commitment to Jewish values and to preserving human dignity help enrich the lives of so many and instill enormous community pride in us all. They will receive their volunteer recognition awards on behalf of the entire community at UJA Federation's Annual Meeting on Wednesday, June 2nd.

Shem Tov Award Recipients

The Shem Tov Awards are presented to leadership representing the highest levels of excellence in volunteer service to Toronto's Jewish community.

DR. RICHARD CUMMINGS
Jewish Family & Child Service
"Contributing to the important work of JF&CS has been immensely gratifying. The vitality of Toronto's Jewish community is greatly bolstered by JF&CS's efforts to serve the best interests of those in need, at all stages of life."

IGOR KORENZVIT
JVS of Greater Toronto
"It has been a privilege working with other dedicated volunteers and staff to develop the agency's growth, represent its mission and most importantly learn more about the needs of and services for JVS clients."

SYDNEY LOFTUS
Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care
"I consider myself extremely fortunate because whatever I give, I get that much back, usually more. I urge more of our community, especially our young people to actively volunteer – if they're like me, they'll never regret it."

MARILYN RAPHAEL
Reena
"To be of help to someone who needs you is a joy. To be acknowledged for doing something that you do with love is overwhelming."

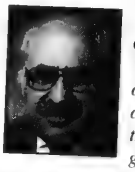
LAWRENCE SMITH
Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living
"Seeing the quality of life improve for Jewish seniors at the Bernard Betel Centre enriches my life while allowing me to contribute to society. Volunteering in the Jewish community has enormous rewards for all."

EDITH SOBEL
Jewish Camp Council
"As a volunteer, I've never stopped feeling fulfilled, whether working with ESL classes, reading for the visually impaired, or as President of Jewish Camp Council. The service you do for others comes back to you tenfold."

SANDRA ATLIN
Jewish Immigrant Aid Services of Canada
"I believe it is crucial to help newcomers overcome the traumas of immigration and feel the concern of a welcoming Jewish society. Volunteering with JIAS is the best way for me to take responsibility for integrating immigrants, so eventually they, or their children, will identify as members of this vibrant community."

Gorman Named Sadowski Award Winner

The Ben Sadowski Award of Merit is this community's most prestigious volunteer recognition award.



HARRY GORMAN is this year's most outstanding community leader.
"Volunteering to help others less fortunate than ourselves, we acquire a greater appreciation for our own circumstances and community. Having been given this opportunity, my life and that of my family have been greatly enriched."

Peter Ekstein Receives Granovsky Award

The Phil Granovsky Award for Campaign Excellence honours individuals who exemplify the best in UJA Federation campaigning.

PETER EKSTEIN
"I have always been taught by my parents that I am privileged to be part of the larger Jewish family. This privilege comes with responsibility. Unfortunately, there is and always will be a huge need in our community for those who are less fortunate than ourselves, and if we don't help look after 'our family' who will?"

Leadership Development Award Winners

Leadership Development Awards were established to encourage young men and women to assume community leadership roles. They are presented to individuals who demonstrate extraordinary community commitment and service.

TAMMY ANKLEWICZ
"Volunteering in our community has given me the opportunity to align myself with people who share a common goal, who believe that working together will truly make a difference, and who understand one of the basic principles of our people – that 'Kol Yisrael Arevim Zeh B'zeh, we are all responsible for one another.' "

BRUCE LEBOFF
"Volunteering in the community gives me the opportunity to help, in some small way, to build a stronger, more vital and more welcoming community. I am honoured by the responsibilities that have been entrusted to me."

WE CAN'T DO IT WITHOUT YOU!

CONGRATULATIONS

We are delighted once again to pay tribute to all our community's volunteers. By giving unselfishly of their time and skills, they play an integral part in making the functioning of our agencies, congregations, schools and organizations available to us.

The theme of this year's Volunteer Recognition Supplement **"We Can't Do It Without You!"** encompasses the true spirit of voluntarism. Within these next pages, meet the dedicated men and women who were recognized by their organizations to represent all volunteers across the broad spectrum of our Jewish community.

Paula Mittleman, *Chair Volunteer Recognition Project*

Paula is the new President of Jewish Women International of Canada.

Adath Israel Congregation

Encourages the religious life of the Jewish community while perpetuating and promoting Conservative Judaism.

MARSHA H. COHEN

"Voluntarism is the lifeblood of the Jewish community. Working to build and provide for others is a most gratifying experience. As a synagogue President, I gained a true appreciation for the invaluable service of dedicated, caring volunteers."

Associated Hebrew Schools of Toronto*

Provides students with an excellent Jewish and General Studies education based on Torah values in a safe and supportive learning environment. www.toronto.com/associated

DAVID WM. BROWN

"As a graduate of Associated and a parent with two children at the school, my involvement is very meaningful. It is incumbent on us all to volunteer and to give a portion of our time back to our roots and our community."

Associated Hebrew Schools of Toronto – Parents' Association*

AURELIA OSTRO

"Working with so many individuals of varied talents and expertise has enhanced my opportunity to develop and share personal goals and a vision for the advancement of the school, and most importantly, all our children."

BBYO*

A youth-led, worldwide organization, that provides opportunities for Jewish youth to develop their leadership potential, a positive Jewish identity and commitment to their personal development.

LESLEY GREENBERG

"As a BBYO Toronto alumnus, my experiences gave me the motivation and desire to volunteer my time to Jewish youth. I receive much pleasure watching them grow into young adults through everyday challenges. I have gained great satisfaction and personal growth from my volunteer work over the past two years."

Bathurst Jewish Centre*

A community organization providing quality programs and services that meet social, educational, cultural, recreational and citizenship needs of our constituents. [bjc@interlog.com]

ELIZABETH FRIEDMAN

"The highlight of my day is seeing the learning progress the children make in the school and daycare. I especially enjoy reading with the children."

Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care

Enriches the quality of life of the elderly. www.baycrest.org

FLORENCE MINZ GENEEN

"I have had the privilege of being involved with Baycrest for almost a decade and have seen the organization evolve rapidly and balance its commitment to the community with the demands of a changing health care system. The experience has been both gratifying and exciting."

Beit Halochem Canada

Raises funds to help support the disabled veterans in Israel, and establishes meaningful relationships between the veterans and the Jewish community in Canada. www.interlog.com/bhcan

TOBY FELDBERG

"To meet and work for the disabled heroes of Israel and show them that they are not alone in their struggle for life allows us to carry at least part of their burden."

Beit Rayim Synagogue and School

Serving York Region, this Egalitarian Conservative Synagogue enriches the Jewish life of their members and Hebrew School students through a celebration of Jewish tradition and love of learning. www.beitrayim.org

BOB & HELEN SMOLKIN

"Being part of the vibrant Jewish community in York Region is very exciting for us. To observe our own children's involvement and commitment to Jewish life makes our efforts rewarding and worthwhile."

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living*

A non-profit multi-cultural centre committed to maximizing the quality of life for seniors through programs designed to achieve independence, self-worth, physical well-being, intellectual and creative stimulation and Jewish values.

IDA SIGNER

"After my husband and son passed away, I began volunteering at the Gift Shop. This position has offered me a sense of purpose, a chance to meet new friends, and an opportunity to feel useful and needed. I enjoy getting out of bed every morning knowing 'I have a job.' "

Beth David B'Nai Israel Beth Am Congregation

A traditional Conservative Congregation that is dedicated to cultivating, developing and sustaining Judaism and Jewish living in accordance with the ideas and standards of the Conservative Movement. www.bethdavid.com

JEAN BERNHOLTZ

"Involvement is the link that ties us to our heritage. That is why participation in Synagogue activities, Sisterhood programs and fundraising efforts has been so important. Commitment enriches our Jewish family values."

Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue

MARTY KESHEN

"Every opportunity to volunteer in my shul has brought me much joy, fulfillment and happiness. Being able to do for others leaves me with a wonderful feeling. Pitching in to help, whether visiting the sick, helping the Synagogue accomplish its many programs, or welcoming Israeli soldiers – all brings me a warm glow."

Beth Tikvah Synagogue

A vibrant forward-looking Conservative Synagogue dedicated to fostering spiritual and Judaic growth.

ROBERT COHEN

"The involvement of our entire family has supplemented the home environment. The rich menu of activities has something for everyone and dynamic volunteer leadership abounds."

Beth Tzedec Congregation

www.beth-tzedec.org

SHERRY KAUFMAN & LANI ALEXANDROFF

"It's a privilege to work with dedicated individuals who gather together to embrace a vision and magically create a reality. The Shabbat experience provided by the Beth Tzedec Shabbat Fair will reverberate through generations."

Bloor Jewish Community Centre*

Dedicated to serving the downtown Toronto community's cultural, educational and recreational needs through programs and services guided by Jewish values. Open to all members, regardless of race, ethnic origin, or religious affiliation. www.bloorjcc.on.ca

CHARLES NOVOGRODSKY

"Watching and participating on the Board of Directors, experiencing higher and higher levels of involvement and process, undertakes strategic discussion and practical action to advance our mission as the centre of the downtown Jewish community."

*Denotes beneficiary agencies and departments of UJA Federation

WE CAN'T DO IT WITHOUT YOU!

Canadian Associates of Ben-Gurion University of the Negev

The University acts as a driving force in the development of the Negev and seeks to excel as a major centre for education and research in Israel.

MICHAEL SPIGELMAN

"Through my activities, I realize that David Ben-Gurion's dream to develop Israel's southern region is becoming a reality. The faculty is renowned for many industrial and agricultural breakthroughs. BGU also participates in the health, social and cultural aspects of its community."

Canadian Friends of Bikur Cholim Hospital in Jerusalem

The Hospital meets contemporary medical challenges with the latest research and technology in all areas of treatment and prevention.

ETHEL BERGMAN

"To know that one is helping others in whatever way we can makes life more meaningful. Especially for me, it is supporting Israel's oldest hospital in the heart of downtown Jerusalem, that treats people regardless of race, religion or politics."

Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University (Toronto Chapter)

Develops and promotes awareness, leadership and financial support for the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. www.cfhu.org

RONNIE APPLEBY

"The Hebrew University of Jerusalem is critical to our growth and evolution as Jews, both in Toronto and in Israel. I am proud to be a part of the CFHU team and to continue the legacy of meaningful connections to Israel."

Canadian Friends of Tel Aviv University

Provides support for the educational goals of Tel Aviv University, facilitated by enhanced public awareness of the University's achievements, fundraising and the development of a strong local membership base of support. (cftau@interlog.com)

DR. IRA SCHECTER

"It is a privilege to be able to champion the academic excellence of TAU and enhance the community's awareness of the achievements of this institution, as recognized throughout the world."

Canadian Shaare Zedek Hospital Foundation

To promote awareness of the Shaare Zedek Medical Centre in Jerusalem and provide financial support, so it may continue to care and treat all people, regardless of race, religion or national origin. www.szmc.org.il

BRADLEY FOX

"The Canadian Shaare Zedek Hospital Foundation has given me the opportunity to work with many interesting and learned people. Together, working towards a common goal, I have formed many lifelong friendships."

Canadian Society for the Weizmann Institute of Science

Expresses the commitment of the Canadian Jewish community to help the Weizmann Institute maintain its standards of excellence and its significant contributions to world science and Israel. www.weizmann.ac.il

STEPHEN N. BIANCO

"I derive great personal satisfaction in working to support a world-renowned research centre that benefits mankind in so many ways - coupled with the added enjoyment of working with an energetic group of people who are so committed to the continued success of the Institute."

Chaplaincy Services of Jewish Family & Child Service*

Supports and promotes the healthy development of individuals, families and communities in the GTA through prevention, protection, counseling, education and advocacy services within the context of Jewish values. www.toronto.com/jfcs

PEARL GOLDBERG

"My involvement gives me the opportunity to provide for and link to people in the Jewish community who often feel cut off and abandoned."

Circle of Care*

Facilitates and supports independent living in the community and promotes individual health, well-being and quality of life for seniors.

MIKE ROGOW

"There are three things that are most gratifying to me when I deliver kosher Meals on Wheels: the 'thank you' I get; the satisfaction I get from doing a mitzvah; and, the smile on the faces of the people when I come to the door."

Committee for Yiddish of UJA Federation*

Dedicated to preserving the Yiddish language and culture as an essential part of Canadian Jewish life.

EDA ZIMLER-SCHIFF

"It has been particularly gratifying to me to know the part that the Committee has played in the revival of Yiddish in the Toronto Jewish community, and to see the awakening of the community to this vital part of our heritage."

Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto (CHAT)*

Provides each student with a Judaic and General Studies education in a co-educational setting. Striving for excellence in all aspects of education, CHAT is open to the community-at-large.

STEPHEN FREEDHOFF

"To have seen the results of personal input as reflected in the development and growth of the organization and its volunteers is very meaningful to me."

Congregation Darchei Noam

HAROLD BRIEF

"In Leviticus 1.2 we are told that people must sacrifice mikem, *which literally means 'from you.' We must give ourselves, our time, our effort and our unique abilities to our community. I am proud to be a member of Darchei Noam where voluntarism is central to the life of the Congregation."*

Downtown Jewish Community School

Provides Jewish students with a basis for Jewish identity in a pluralistic community. Students are taught the concepts and skills necessary to live a Jewish life and to feel comfortable within a Jewish setting. www.jewishtoronto.net

DR. CLIFFORD ORWIN

"Working with dedicated parents, an outstanding principal, and first-rate teachers at a pluralistic school with a diverse student body, I have learned, first hand, of both the challenges and the opportunities confronting Jewish education today."

Dr. Abraham Shore Academy/ She'arim Hebrew Day School*

Canada's first and only Jewish school for children with learning disabilities and attention deficit disorders. Programs are designed to help students reach their personal and academic potential.

FERN ORZECH

"Being a part of the She'arim Family is a very special and rewarding experience. I've learned a lot about children with learning disabilities, met some new friends, and hope I've made a difference in the school."

Emunah Women of Toronto

Represents women who identify with Orthodox Judaism and works for the welfare of the citizens of Israel. (emunah@.com.ca)

SHAWNA MAGENCE

"Emunah has given me the opportunity to collaborate with women with different personalities. Together we have grown to respect one another's strengths, overcome obstacles and ultimately achieve a common goal."

Habayit Shelanu Seniors Residences Corp.

A unique living environment based on the recognition of the changing needs of older adults. Committed to providing an environment fostering a positive Jewish identity.

ANGELA ELIOSOFF

"My involvement with Habayit Shelanu gives me great satisfaction by ensuring seniors maintain their quality of life with dignity and grace. I have been involved with the project since its conception."

A Salute To Our Community's Volunteers

WE CAN'T DO IT WITHOUT YOU!

Hadassah-WIZO, Toronto

Enhances lives in Israel's communities and promotes women's issues in Canada.

MIRIAL SMALL

"Hadassah-WIZO enriches my life immeasurably. It provides me with the finest medium through which to work most effectively for Israel and its people. I developed warm and meaningful friendships throughout Canada and Israel with women who share my concerns for the future of the Jewish people."

Holocaust Education & Memorial Centre of UJA Federation*

Committed to remembering the victims of the Holocaust and to educating the community-at-large about the dangers of anti-Semitism and other discrimination.

JUDITH HEUMAN

"I work on creating and maintaining files of historical resources about the Holocaust. My contact with the survivors, our living resources, inspires me. Together, we are documenting the past for future generations."

Holy Blossom Temple

A Congregation of Jewish men and women who are committed to the principles of Reform Judaism.

FREDA MUSCOVITCH & BOB SMOLKIN

"As founding and current coordinators of Holy Blossom Temple's 'Out of the Cold,' we have been conscious that our program provides a Jewish framework for hundreds of volunteers to perform community service."

Jewish Camp Council of Toronto*

Committed to providing residential, recreational camping services to the community, geared to the social needs of the recipient, regardless of the individual's ability to pay. Serves both adults and children.

ALLAN BORINS

"A meaningful experience for me was to help organize the fundraising campaign to upgrade camp facilities. I also helped put together the first Friends of Camp Northland appreciation weekend for families, as well as help with camper arrivals and departures every season."

Jewish Campus Services*

Provides programs and opportunities to strengthen Jewish identity and build Jewish pride on college and university campuses throughout Toronto. www.jewishcampusservices.com

JUDY LIBMAN

"Volunteering with JCS is a joyful extension of my university teaching career. I schep naches *from students, whether they're developing academically into scientists or growing into committed, empowered Jewish community leaders. It's a privilege – and it's great fun – to be part of the team that supports them."*

Jewish Family & Child Service*

Supports and promotes the healthy development of individuals, families and communities in the GTA through prevention, counseling, education and advocacy services within the context of Jewish values. www.toronto.com.jfcs

RICKI GALLEN & NONNI AKLER

"We had just packed a donor bag of beautiful newborn clothing when a young couple came into the Just A Second shop looking for a layette. Our reward as volunteers was seeing their happiness in finding these treasures."

Jewish Immigrant Aid Services of Canada (Toronto)*

Provides settlement services to Jewish refugees and immigrants arriving in Canada and facilitates their integration into the community. (mail@jiastor.org)

VLADIMIR KOGAN

"When my family immigrated to Canada, JIAS provided us with support, helped us through the first difficult months of our adjustment to a new life. JIAS plays a very important role in integrating immigrants into Canadian society. That is why I decided to contribute my time, effort and computer knowledge. I hope that it has been helpful for both staff and clients."

Jewish Music Toronto

Promotes and encourages the performance of Jewish music through commissions from Jewish composers, a concert series featuring Jewish musicians and composers, and an annual festival of Jewish choirs.

MONA BROWN

"I have enjoyed the opportunity to continue our great musical tradition – to connect with the past, visit the present, and welcome the future with great joy and satisfaction!"

Jewish National Fund of Toronto

Part of the international family known as Keren Kayemeth Le'Israel, an agency given primary responsibility with regard to afforestation and reforestation in Israel.

RON HOFFMAN

"The nature of voluntarism is doing good while feeling good. Helping improve the quality of life in Israel by working with other volunteers and professionals in the JNF to turn brown desert oasis green satisfies both criteria."

JVS of Greater Toronto*

Provides educational and vocational services to assist its clients to identify education and vocational goals; to develop the skills and knowledge necessary to achieve those goals; and, to deal effectively with educational or vocational disabilities. (info@jvs.org)

The staff of JVS would like to express its appreciation and thanks to their board, committee and service volunteers for their dedication and commitment.

Jewish Women's Federation of UJA Federation*

Takes a leadership role in the enhancement of the lives of Jewish women in the Toronto Jewish community.

RENEE SCHACHTER

"Community involvement has always played an integral part in my life. It has provided me a voice in issues of importance and the opportunity to make a contribution, in some small way. In addition, I have always had the privilege of working with extremely dedicated and talented individuals."

Jewish Women International of Toronto

Strengthens the lives of women, children and families and perpetuates Jewish values through education, advocacy and action.

NORMA NOBLEMAN

"Voluntarism has been one of the most rewarding influences in my life. Helping at the Canadian Blood Service clinics, phoning people, making and serving refreshments is JWI's commitment to helping people give the gift of life."

Jews for Judaism

An international organization dedicated to counteracting the multi-million dollar efforts of numerous cults and missionary groups who target Jews for conversion. www.jewforjudaism.org

JERRY & SANDY GENESOVE

"We are great believers in the vital work being done by Jews for Judaism in promoting Jewish continuity. Our greatest satisfaction has come from mobilizing hundreds of others to support their important counter-missionary work in Canada."

Kehilla Residential Programme

Identifies and champions affordable housing initiatives responsive to the needs of the Jewish community. www.kehilla-rp.org

KEITH RAY

"Working with a range of people in the community is a highlight! I am proud of Kehilla's accomplishments in creating affordable housing and as a housing advocate. I look forward to the continuing challenge of developing a range of creative housing initiatives."

Leo Baeck Day School*

A Reform Jewish day school where families, professionals and board members together create a learning environment in which each student experiences a multi-faceted Hebrew/Judaic and General Studies program in a warm, family atmosphere.

SHELLY FELDMAN

Shelly Feldman completed her term as President of the Leo Baeck Parents' Association in June '98 and is a most active and involved Past President and a member of the Board of Trustees. Currently she is the Chair of the Parent Council of Hebrew Day Schools.

*Denotes beneficiary agencies and departments of UJA Federation

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BERYL SHAPIRO

"Volunteering is wonderful for me – the hospital benefits but the biggest gain is mine. I have gained confidence, sensitivity and awareness of the needs of people. The whole experience must be successful – I've been doing it for over 30 years."

Na'amat Canada – Toronto

Goals include enhancing and safeguarding the status of women, children and families; responding to humanitarian concerns in a diverse society; and, promoting Jewish identity to ensure Jewish continuity. [naamatca@aol.com]

VIVIAN SILVERBERG

"I have been an active member of Na'amat for the past 28 years. During a recent visit to Israel, I was very impressed by the multitude of vital support services provided for women and children. They were an inspiration for me to strive even harder to help provide Na'amat's services for those in such desperate need."

National Council of Jewish Women of Canada, Toronto Section

A non-profit volunteer service organization dedicated to enhancing the lives of individuals through education, service and social action in the community.

ROZ FINE

"Membership is the backbone of our organization. I proudly formed a group of young intelligent women and helped them evolve into future community leaders who embrace Council's mandate of Service, Education and Social Action."

Netivot HaTorah Day School*

An Orthodox Jewish day school striving for excellence in a full program of Judaic and General Studies incorporating the Zioni Dati philosophy and Halacha and Halachic principles.

ELAINE FINK

"I am honoured to have the opportunity to be one of many dedicated volunteers who have guided the growth and development of Netivot HaTorah. Our graduates help us feel more confident of our continued Jewish identity."

Netivot HaTorah Day School – Parents' Association*

The Parents' Association is dedicated to enhancing the school experience of our students through fundraising and special programming.

GRETA REISS

"Netivot HaTorah is a small, close knit school. Volunteering keeps me in touch with my children throughout their school day and affords me an opportunity to support their learning environment. You really 'see' the results of your efforts and all efforts are appreciated."

ORT Canada

Raises funds in support of education and training programs worldwide; serves Jewish and non-Jewish ORT students, providing them with the skills necessary for today and tomorrow. www.ort.org/ortnet.atm

GORDON BERGER

"The ORT Canada launch of 'Navigating the Bible' was an outstanding event. I am both proud and honoured to have participated in such a state-of-the-art project that can provide education worldwide."

Pomegranate Guild of Judaic Textiles

Brings together people interested in studying and creating textile art and needlework based on Jewish themes.

JANET PAGE

"Although some of our major works are on display at Baycrest Hospital, many more can be found in members' homes, helping to enrich the holiday festivals. I find this very satisfying."

Reena*

Enables people with developmental handicaps to realize their full potential by forming life-long partnerships with individuals and their families within a framework of Jewish culture and values. [Skeshen@reena.org]

IKE LAPIDUS

"Recently retired, I felt compelled to give my time to a worthy organization. My enjoyment in working with Reena clients and their caregivers is a fulfilling experience and is personally satisfying, assisting those who truly need support."

Shaar Shalom Synagogue

TESSA WASSYNG

"To me, Shaar Shalom Synagogue represents a strong link to my roots. As an immigrant, I am grateful for the bond I feel to my grandparents and parents through my shul. Helping in various ways is very meaningful to me."

State of Israel Bonds

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"My involvement allows me to support, in a very real way, the State of Israel and all of its people, irrespective of religious and ethnic affiliations. It is my very strong feeling that the Bond program assists all Israeli organizations by providing funds through loans that would otherwise not be raised through donations."

Temple Har Zion

Fosters commitment to Judaism through the mitzvot of worship, study and good deeds, in a warm, inclusive environment. [templeharzion@globalserve.net]

SANDRA BENJAMIN

"Our children, their spouses and their children consider this their home because of the warmth and caring of our Temple community, many of whom have become like extended family. Why wouldn't I be involved!"

Toronto Jewish Association of the Deaf

Operates as a charitable organization for the advancement of the Jewish religion and heritage among deaf and hard of hearing Canadian Jews.

BARRIE CHEIFETZ

"Volunteering is what makes life more interesting and meaningful. Without being a worthy volunteer, my life would be empty."

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"Meeting with borrowers face to face to assess their needs, and having the ability to make a tangible positive impact on their situation, and re-circulating loan dollars to provide perpetual benefits to our community, is very meaningful to me."

UJA Federation*

Serves as the central Jewish communal organization, dedicated to the preservation and enrichment of Jewish life in the GTA and to the perpetuation of the community's identification with Israel. www.feduja.org

NORMAN KAMAN

"Volunteering at UJA Federation is a wonderful pastime, and knowing that others benefit from it, is so very gratifying. In one way or another, the gift of time is affordable by all of us and that's the message I get from UJA Federation's slogan 'No one gift changes more lives.' "

UJA Federation Campaign*

www.feduja.org

BRENDA KAMAN

" 'All of Israel is responsible one for the other.' When I volunteer for the UJA Federation campaign, I am fulfilling my responsibility and obligation to help my fellow Jews here, in Israel, and around the world."

A Salute To Our Community's Volunteers

WE CAN'T DO IT WITHOUT YOU!

United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism – Canadian Region

Serves as a resource to its 800 congregations and works to formulate a Conservative Jewish response to pressing social and religious issues. Also maintains an active presence in the State of Israel. [gossack@uscj.org]

ALYSSA (MASKOWITZ) ZOBARY

"It was a truly fulfilling experience putting together the ECRUSY alumni reunion. USY gave us all a sense of pride in being Jewish and working in Jewish fields. It taught us to take care of other people, to see beyond ourselves, and to do for our community."

United Synagogue Day School*

A dynamic Conservative Jewish day school that is dedicated to the sacred task of educating students to become committed Jews and responsible citizens. [swalsh@usds.on.ca]

BRIAN GOLDBERG

"The opportunity to work with other committed volunteers and professionals to assist in fulfilling the compelling objectives of USDS has been both challenging and enriching. I look forward to many more years of involvement with USDS."

Ve'ahavta: The Canadian Jewish Humanitarian & Relief Committee

Raises the consciousness of its members to the world's ills, and actively engages in efforts to repair those inequities and imperfections, as part of the Jewish value of tikun olam – "repairing the world." www.veahavta.org

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"The sacred obligation of tikun olam *has never been so needed and Ve'ahavta exemplifies this mitzvah in the most meaningful and inclusive ways. Its values and practices encourage all of us to be more than we thought we could ever be."*

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CHAT Ahead of Its Time in Volunteer Service

Long before the Ontario Ministry of Education institutes a community involvement program for high schools this fall, the students at the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto (CHAT) were already making their mark.

Over three years ago, CHAT introduced its Community Service Program, which currently requires grades 9, 10 and 11 students to perform 18 hours of community service per year. The school's Community Service Board posts volunteer opportunities that include over 175 Jewish and non-Jewish charities and organizations. The only stipulation is that they perform the work without monetary gain on any day except Shabbat or Jewish holidays. The community service component is assessed on student report cards.

This year over 700 kids will perform 13,000 community service hours, increasing to 1100 kids by next school year, and 20,000 hours.

"The students by and large are very responsible about it," says Coordinator of Student Activities, Gary Levine. "They are wonderful representatives of the school and the community has been very appreciative."

"The project gives us responsibility and encourages us to volunteer more," says grade 9 student, Zoe Bercovici. "Once we do it, we realize how rewarding it is."

The concept of student volunteerism helps educators tie in the core Jewish value of helping others *gemilut hasadim*. "I'm proud that I have this opportunity to give something back," adds Bercovici.

CHAT is a member of the UJA Federation family of Jewish schools.

Jewish Community Welcomes Corporate Volunteers

Non-profit organizations, such as UJA Federation, are enthusiastic about a new approach to voluntarism involving corporate representatives serving as volunteers at community agencies. Plans are now being drawn up to create a mechanism that will match corporate volunteers with appropriate volunteer opportunities throughout the organized Jewish community. Through its Corporate Partners program, UJA Federation will be exploring group and individual volunteer opportunities – perhaps on a project-by-project basis. The initiative is being spearheaded by JAVA, the Jewish Association of Volunteer Administration.

"The establishment of a Corporate Volunteer Program is one of many positive examples of resource and idea sharing among agency volunteer administrators, brought together by UJA Federation," says JAVA member Arlene Margolese, manager of Volunteer Services & Judaic programming at Reena.

In Toronto, corporate voluntarism remains an untapped source of volunteer support, although it has been on the agenda of American non-profits for several years, with rewarding results.

According to the Canadian Centre for Philanthropy, corporate volunteer programs can "help alleviate job stress and low morale, contribute to employee physical and mental well being, reduce sick days and encourage networking for career transition purposes."

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This Week

National

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Orthodox rabbi calls for mutual respect among Jews. *Page 18*

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Come Celebrate

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Shabbat: Behaalotcha
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www.cjnews.com

School health services

Parties express support for public funding

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — In a series of letters to leaders in the Jewish community, the Ontario Progressive Conservative party has promised to discuss providing non-educational services, such as health support, to children attending independent religious schools.

The promise by the Conservatives is very similar to that expressed in the election by both the Liberals and the New Democratic Party.

Ontario Premier Mike Harris expressed this willingness in a May 20 letter to Keith Landy, Ontario chair of Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC), while Finance Minister Ernie Eves made a similar statement in a letter addressed to community volunteer Larry Tanenbaum and to B'nai Brith executive vice-president Frank Dimant. Harris signed the letter, "leader, P.C. party of Ontario."

The Harris letter came two days after a televised leaders' debate in which the premier rejected suggestions the province would fund independent Jewish schools – but in which he did not mention funding non-educational health services.

At the time, Landy said Congress was concerned that Harris did not reaffirm his earlier position on health support services for children with special needs.

But by last week, Landy was viewing the premier's letter as "encouraging. We see this as a commitment to follow through on what he said verbally to us, that non-educational funds are available to all students."

In his letter, Harris said, "I am willing to discuss providing non-education services currently provided to the public education system, to independent schools. Health services are one such example. I believe we should be working toward providing all children in Ontario independent schools with the non-education services that we currently provide in the public system.

"I am prepared to have my ministers sit down with the CJC and other concerned parties on ways to make this happen."

Eves' letter was written in similar language and came shortly after a meeting involving himself, St. Paul's Tory candidate Isabel Bassett, outgoing Attorney-General

Continued on page 5

ISRAEL FUNWALK '99: A BIG SUCCESS

Some 15,000 people of all ages participated in UJA Federation's Israel Funwalk which began at Nathan Philips Square and culminated with a kosher barbecue at Ontario Place. En route, walkers passed through the old Jewish neighborhood in the College and Spadina area. Activities included jumping on inflatables and frolicking in the water. *[B. Silverstein photos]*

INSIDE

The Ransomed God: The Remarkable Story of One Woman's Role in the Rescue of Syrian Jewry, written by Harold Troper. *Please see the Kirshner File on page 11.*

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The lost Dakar submarine finally found — please see page 29

The News in Brief

CANADA

CJC Endows Course

TORONTO — Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) last week announced the endowment of a course in Holocaust studies at York University. A donation of $60,000 to York was made possible by a fund set up by CJC following the 1985 gathering in Ottawa of thousands of Holocaust survivors and their children. As part of the agreement, York will allocate funds to support a course in Holocaust studies that will examine the Jewish experience before, during and after World War II. The course will be open to all qualified York students and will be offered through the university's Centre for Jewish Studies.

Intervention Sought

OTTAWA — The president of the Association of Romanian Jewish Survivors of the Holocaust (ARJSH), together with CJC, has appealed to two international bodies for assistance on outstanding war-era issues. Issie Veisfeld has written the UN's High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe. Last year, Veisfeld presented a four-point plan of action to the visiting president of Romania, Emil Constantinescu. The plans called for memorials at common graves, implementing education programs, acknowledging the role played by Romanian fascists, and instituting restitution. The joint ARJSH-CJC brief has also been submitted to Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy.

ISRAEL

Haredim Detained

JERUSALEM — Israeli police last week detained four haredim who tried to disrupt a mixed prayer service that some 200 members of the Conservative movement held at the Western Wall.

Fires Rage On

JERUSALEM — Firefighters are combating blazes across Israel that are being blamed on a heat wave. More than 60 fires have erupted there this week, including two in the Arab village of Sakhnin that destroyed some 25 acres of woodlands.

WORLD

Finnish Jews Concerned

HELSINKI — Finnish Jews are concerned about government-subsidized plans to commemorate Finns who fought alongside the Nazi SS during World War II. The government money would help build a monument at a site in Ukraine, where some 150 Finnish SS members were killed. A government official recently defended the plans, saying there is no evidence that Finish SS members were involved in wartime atrocities.

Evidence Uncovered

BUENOS AIRES — A government panel in Argentina recently uncovered evidence that the nation's central bank served as a repository for Nazi gold after Adolf Hitler's fall. In recent weeks, Argentine researchers found three letters from the 1950s, including one implicating the Swiss central bank. Researchers say the letters prove Argentina served as a hub for laundering Nazi-looted gold.

Convicted of Mass Murder

BERLIN — A 79-year-old former Gestapo agent was convicted last month in a German court on charges of helping murder 17,000 people, most of them Jews, at the Majdanek concentration camp in Poland. The court sentenced Alfons Goetzfrid to 10 years in prison, bringing to a close what could be the last major war crimes trial in Germany. Goetzfrid will not serve time in a German jail because of the 13 years he had already spent in Soviet prison camps.

100 More Kosovars Arrive from Macedonia

JERUSALEM — A second group of 100 Kosovar refugees arrived here last week from Macedonia.

The group, which arrived May 26 on a plane chartered by the Jewish Agency for Israel, includes members of some 19 families, as well as relatives of refugees who arrived in Israel in April.

Among the arrivals was Arta Cucci, a 23-year-old medical student who was reunited with her parents and two siblings at the airport.

"This is the happiest moment of my life, I will never forget this moment," she told reporters.

In his first public appearance since his election defeat, defeated Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu was among the Israeli officials at Ben-Gurion Airport receiving the newcomers.

The Jewish Agency brought the refugees to Israel on the return leg of a flight that had delivered eight tons of food, medical supplies and clothes to Macedonia.

Apart from the latest flight, the Jewish Agency has sent 10 flights to refugee camps in Macedonia and Albania with more than 120 tons of aid.

Most of the refugees are to be housed at Kibbutz Ma'agan Michael, in northern Israel, where April's group is housed. Others will be taken to Kibbutz Kramim, near Beersheba in southern Israel.

The refugees are being given the status of tourists, and their stay will be coordinated by the agency and the Ministry of Absorption.

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CRTC rules out regulating the Internet

Decision draws mixed reviews from Jewish organizations

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The Internet may not be sacrosanct when it comes to complying with Canadian law on hate promotion, but neither will the Canadian Radio-Television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) regulate the rapidly growing communications medium.

In a widely anticipated announcement recently, the CRTC rejected suggestions it regulate the Internet, the world-wide computer network.

"Our message is clear. We are not regulating any portion of the Internet," said CRTC chair François Bertrand. "The CRTC is concerned that any attempt to regulate Canadian new media might put the industry at a competitive disadvantage in the global marketplace.

"We believe...that appropriate tools already exist to deal with offensive and illegal content. Tools such as Canadian laws of general application, industry self-regulation, content filtering software as well as increased media awareness," Bertrand stated.

The CRTC announcement drew mixed reviews in the Jewish community. The Simon Wiesenthal Centre (SWC) and B'nai Brith Canada stated they believed the Internet should be regulated while Canadian Jewish Congress was satisfied that law enforcement agencies could employ other tools to control the promotion of hate in the new medium.

"We're not in disagreement per se with the CRTC decision," said Mark Weintraub, national chair of community relations for Congress. "We had articulated our concerns in a brief to the [Commission] and our primary concern was that the regulation of hate not fall through the jurisdictional cracks.

"Our focus is not on which body is ultimately responsible, but to ensure that confusion did not reign...We are of the view there is an arsenal that could be used," including the Criminal Code provision against the promotion of hate and the Canadian Human Rights Act (CHRA), which prohibits use of telephone and other media to disseminate hate.

(A Canadian Human Rights Commission tribunal is currently hearing a case involving a Web site purportedly operated by Holocaust-denier Ernst Zundel. The Commission alleges the site – known as "Zundelsite" – promotes hatred of Jews. Congress, B'nai Brith and the Simon Wiesenthal Centre (SWC) are interveners in the case. Zundel has challenged the jurisdiction of the tribunal, arguing the Internet was not a telephonic form of communication that came within the CHRA's jurisdiction. Although the tribunal ruled against him, Zundel can be expected to appeal that decision.)

B'nai Brith spokesman Frank Dimant said "the CRTC has it half right...The Internet should be regulated, but not by them. The Canadian Human Rights Commission is the body with the mandate and the expertise to deal with hate propaganda transmitted over telephone wires. They should have the clear mandate to deal with hate on the Internet."

Sol Littman, Canadian representative of the SWC, took a tougher line. "I think the CRTC lost a golden opportunity to bring some sanity and order to the Internet," he said.

"The Internet at the present time has become the haven for hatemongers, pornographers, swindlers and nags. For the past three years, the centre has been closely monitoring hate groups."

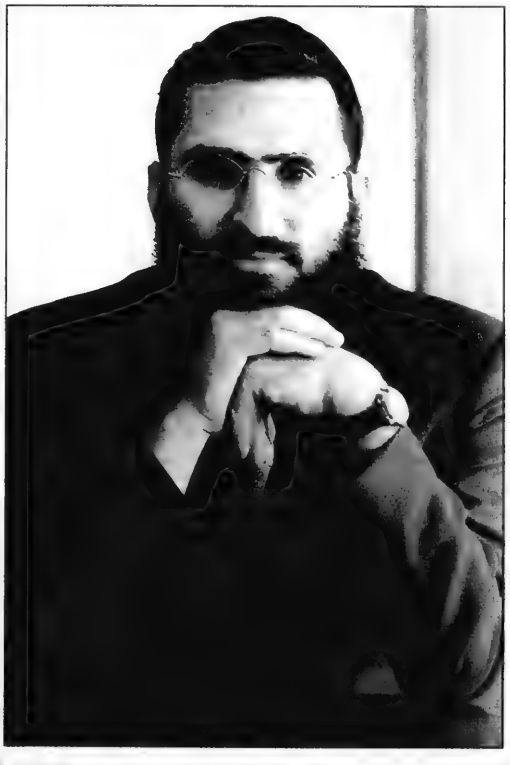
A few years ago, there were "no more than 50 sites worldwide worthy of our attention. At the present time, there are 1,833 such sites."

Littman acknowledged that Canada is largely free of hate sites but he argued the CRTC should have addressed several issues, including the liability of foreign Internet Service Providers (ISPs) that host hate messages that are acted upon in Canada. Gun manufacturers and cigarette companies are facing lawsuits in the United States resulting from their products, he pointed out.

The CRTC also should have examined the feasibility of cross-border protests to U.S. authorities concerning hate sites as well as legal remedies against ISPs that refuse to remove racist Web sites.

Littman said Canadian ISPs generally co-operate to remove offensive sites once they are brought to

Continued on page 5



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From the editor's desk

Unpleasant resonance

Two weeks ago in this column, I expressed the opinion that all society is damaged by the use of "attack ads" in television and radio advertisements run by political parties during their campaigns to win re-election. I lamented that the cynicism such campaigning evokes among the electorate, and in particular among the young electorate, eventually "impoverishes us all."

"[The cynicism] robs us and our society of the notion that public service is a noble service," I wrote.

But it is not the attack ads alone that contribute to voter cynicism. The attack ads are but one example of the behavior spawned by an electioneering ethos of "mean and nasty."

The Ontario leaders debate two weeks ago, as indeed are most leaders debates in most elections, was another example of the triumphalism of "mean and nasty."

The rudest behavior is considered the most reliable evidence of assertiveness, confidence and strength of character. In fact, however, it should only be considered reliable evidence of a bullying character and thus precisely the very opposite of the qualities we seek in a leader - irrespective of political stripe – whose public example we would be proud to have our children emulate.

Much like the "attack ads," the contumelious bickering exhibited by the leaders during their so-called debate, also contributes to the high level of voter cynicism.

But quite apart from voter dissonance created by the generally querulous comportment of the three candidates during the debate, there was one moment in the debate that was particularly bothersome.

It occurred when Premier Mike Harris was asked by one of the reporters to comment on the privatization of the education system, on charter schools and on the use of vouchers.

The premier responded: "I've been asked if I would support private schools. I went to the Jewish Congress. I said, 'No. I'm sorry. My priority is public education.' "

He then immediately challenged Dalton McGuinty on the record, as it were, before the cameras, to also tell the "Jewish Congress" that he does not support private schools.

Wayne Levin, an organizer with Parents for Educational Choice, a grassroots lobby group trying to achieve public funding for the general education portion of the private school curriculum, aptly characterized the sting in the premier's remarks: "The fact that the premier made it a Jewish issue and aimed the spotlight at us is disturbing."

To its credit, the Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) reacted immediately to the premier's inappropriate debating parry.

Keith Landy, chair of the CJC Ontario region told *The CJN* "We're uncomfortable with leaders of political parties in the heat of a political debate using throwaway lines to score points on an issue that's so important to our community."

The premier's decision to use his essentially private conversations during a February visit with the "Jewish Congress" as a "debating" tactic was shocking.

It was a cheap, theatrical ploy intended, as Landy observed, "to score points."

Unfortunately however, the impact of the premier's incontinent remark went far beyond the enclosed, harmless realm of theatre.

His remark, presumably telecast into many thousands of Ontario households, singled out the Jewish community for public derision, if not scorn.

In doing so, the premier suggested that the matter of public funding was a "Jewish" issue. But of course this is wholly false and incorrect.

The question of public funding is one of fundamental fairness. It affects a number of different groups – Muslims, Sikhs, and Protestants – who have been denied the preference that the law now bestows on Catholics.

Moreover, there are a number of narrower areas within the broader issue of public funding on which the premier has indicated a positive inclination. For example, at that February meeting with Congress, he strongly implied that the province would look favorably on funding non-educational aspects of non-Catholic, private education, such as health and dental services.

But the premier chose merely to simplify the issue without any regard to its wider implications or his own past pronouncements.

More ominously though, by talking only about "the Jewish Congress," the premier left the impression that he was defending the integrity of the public treasury against the unreasonable demands of and possible encroachments by the Jews.

His language conjured up an imagery that evoked in me the unpleasant resonance of cold memories.

Is it any wonder, voters become cynical? *MBD*

***

CORRECTION

The final Israeli election results that were published in last week's *CJN* incorrectly listed the final number of Knesset seats for the One Israel Bloc to be 27 and for Meretz to be 9. The correct figures are 26 and 10, respectively.

***

OMISSION

The article that appeared last week on the Israeli election day community gathering omitted to mention that the Canadian Zionist Federation was one of the seven community organizations that co-sponsored the event. We apologize for the omission.

SEE JN

A CELEBRATION NEEDS DECORATIONS

Elizabeth Kohl and a group of enthusiastic students, display some of the artwork created to celebrate the official opening last week of the Louis and Leah Posluns Education Centre, the Neptune branch of the Associated Hebrew Schools in Toronto. [Randy Spiegel photo]

Greater Toronto Area

Harris will consider funding school support services

Continued from page 1

Charles Harnick, Tanenbaum and Dimant.

The meeting, he wrote, "was a good opportunity to confirm our government's desire to work toward providing non-education services provided in the public education system, to independent schools. Health services support for special needs children is one such example. We believe it is important for us to work toward providing all children in Ontario independent schools with the non-education services that we currently provide in the public system."

Harris' letter also confirmed his televised rejection of government funding for educational instruction in independent religious schools.

"Our priority...is to raise standards in public education. While we recognize there are alternatives to our public education system, we have decided to focus our efforts and resources at improving the quality of our public schools," he wrote.

Landy chose not to accept Harris' statement on school funding as the last word.

"I'm ever hopeful that something that is so clearly discrimination has to be addressed. I see this as a temporary setback on the overall funding issue, but a positive step on special needs funding."

B'nai Brith Canada waded into the issue with a news release that called for "equitable funding for all students in Ontario."

"This is clearly an issue of discrimination that does not affect the Jewish community alone," said Lawrence Hart, president of B'nai Brith Canada. "The Christian, Muslim, Hindu and Sikh communities are among the other groups affected by an educational funding policy that is completely out of tune with the multicultural diversity of the province."

Landy suggested the premier left open the provision of other support services, such as textbooks and transportation.

"We take small steps and we see it as a positive," he said.

"We can't forget we're in the middle of an election campaign and in an effort to win the hearts and minds of Jewish parents, the Conservatives are defining the parameters where they're prepared to assist...The proof is in the pudding after an election," Landy said.

Liberal party president Tim Murphy took a more partisan view. "Mr. Eves and Mr. Harris are doing this as damage control from the debate," he asserted. "Our platform has included this right from the beginning."

He pointed to a written statement by McGuinty that confirmed "we feel strongly that every Ontarian deserves universal access to quality health-care services. Every child, regardless of whether he/she attends a private or publicly funded school deserves access to publicly funded health supports such as speech pathologists, occupational therapists and nursing care...A Liberal government would be in favor of extending those services to children in private schools."

New Democratic Party leader Howard Hampton has also gone on record supporting health services, saying "the NDP is committed to funding health support services for all children with special needs and those in independent, religious schools."

Tanenbaum, who co-chaired last year's UJA Federation fundraising campaign, said he considered Eves' letter "a breakthrough. There is no question about it."

He also spoke personally to the Tory finance minister and "the words on the phone and in the meeting are much stronger than those in the letter...This will be done. It's the only right thing to do and the government realizes it," he said.

Tanenbaum, whose financial interests include part ownership of the Toronto Maple Leafs and the Toronto Raptors, said "I would like to see full funding for the secular portion in religious independent schools. I've had a very close association with the ministers through any number of businesses I'm in and the hats that I wear, and I've taken the opportunity to lobby on those issues.

"I don't think they're dead set against it. I think it's a question of timing and priority. The first priority is to fix the public school system and then look at independent schools. I'm convinced of that. They will eventually address funding for independent schools."

Tanenbaum said he could see "no ideological opposition among Tories to funding for independent schools."

Those comments echoed a statement made by Murphy, who said the Liberals "are not ideologically opposed to school funding but our first priority is to get public education fixed."

CRTC won't regulate Internet

Continued from page 3

management's attention. He commended the Canadian Association of Internet Providers (CAIP), a group that meets to discuss the Internet service industry, in that regard.

"We are very pleased with the [CRTC] decision," said CAIP president Ron Kawchuk. "I think it makes a lot of sense it terms of what the Commission can and cannot do."

CAIP relies on three "pillars" for self-regulation, he continued: providing end-users with a software filter to prevent the browsing of unwanted Web sites; creating public awareness of the issue; and developing a code of conduct for CAIP members.

Kawchuk said the SWC played an important role in the self-regulation process by informing ISPs when they were hosting racist Web sites.

"ISPs do not look at the content, so you have to have someone say, 'we have problems with these sites, and here's why'," Kawchuk said.

Littman acknowledged that Canadian ISPs generally co-operate in removing racist Web content. He pointed to a recent situation involving CadVision, a Calgary-based ISP that quietly removed a "white nationalist" Web site after the SWC had brought it to management's attention last January.

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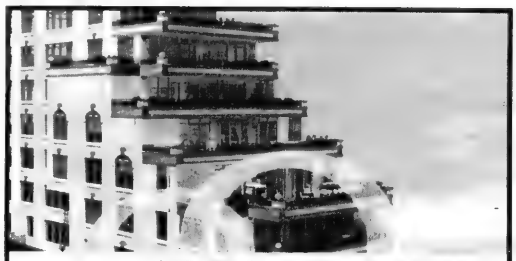
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Canada accepting fewer 'refugee' claims from Israel

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Canada is still accepting refugees from Israel, although in much lower numbers than in previous years.

Last year, Ottawa accepted just 24 refugee claimants from Israel, and rejected 625, based on 995 cases finalized. The rest were either abandoned or withdrawn. A further 387 cases are pending.

The acceptance rate was down dramatically for the fourth consecutive year and is the lowest since 1990.

The continuing drop seems to show that Jerusalem's repeated pleas to Ottawa that there's no such thing as an Israeli refugee is finally getting through.

Israel has always denied it produces refugees, and says claimants' stories of persecution there are spurious.

In 1998, Canada's national acceptance rate of Israeli refugees fell to just two percent, compared to four percent in 1997 and 7.5 percent in 1996.

By contrast, the acceptance rate from Israel peaked in 1994 at 50 percent of all claims.

Again last year, almost all the asylum-seekers from Israel argued their cases in Montreal, where in the past, IRB panels have been more likely to believe allegations that Israel persecutes its immigrants.

This year though, even the numbers from Montreal are way down.

Of 888 cases finalized there, just 12 were accepted. In Toronto, 91 cases were finalized, and eight were accepted, while in Ottawa, four cases were accepted based on six claims.

The tumbling acceptance rates may go some way toward patching up an old dispute between Canada and Israel.

Since 1989, when the first wave of Jews were allowed to leave the Soviet Union, Israel has been trying to persuade Canada that ex-Soviets are taking advantage of the Law of Return to springboard to this country.

Typically, former Soviet Jews, who come here as Israeli citizens, claim that while in the Jewish state, they were harassed, denied jobs and housing, and even beaten because of mixed marriages or questionable Jewish status.

To qualify as refugees here, they must prove they have a well-founded fear of persecution should they be returned to Israel.

In a statement, Israel's embassy in Ottawa said the drop in the accept rate is "a positive development, but it is still two percent too many.

"In a democratic and law-based society such as Israel, there can be no justification for refugees, as there are sufficient judicial avenues for persons suffering grievances."

Story told of Syria's ransomed Jews

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

TORONTO – She played "a terrible game" and won.

Working with smugglers and bribing officials, Judy Feld Carr smuggled scores of Jews out of Syria, in a cloak-and-dagger operation worthy of a John Le Carre thriller.

"This exodus," she said last week at Beth Tzedec Synagogue, "didn't lend itself to public disclosure. Any publicity would have immediately endangered lives. This enterprise was carried out in the utmost secrecy."

As if to underline the point, she declared, "We were buying Jews, one by one, from a hostile government. It was the best-kept secret in the Jewish world."

Feld Carr acknowledged that the Israeli government, the Jewish Agency and Israel's intelligence service knew what she was up to. But even they had no idea how she did it.

For 25 years, she championed the cause of Syrian Jewry, providing financial assistance and medical aid to Jews in need, but above all, spiriting men, women and children across mined borders out of Syria.

In all, she facilitated the escape of some 3,000 Jews.

Feld Carr recalled her "dream-like escapades" and life of "international intrigue" at a book launching of *The Ransomed of God: The Remarkable Story Of One Woman's Role in the Rescue of Syrian Jews*, written by Toronto academic Harold Troper and published by Malcolm Lester Books. (See review on page 11).

During these years, she said, she lived two separate lives, firstly as a mother and a music teacher, and secondly as an activist in the service of Syrian Jews, who were harassed and persecuted by their government.

She thanked her second husband Donald Carr for his support. "He was my rock, my strength," she gushed.

She also thanked Beth Tzedec for taking the Dr. Ronald (Rubin) Feld Fund for Jews in Arab Lands under its wing.

The fund, established in 1973 and nurtured by private donors, made it possible to rescue Syrian Jews.

Feld Carr expressed pride in not having taken "one cent" from the organized Jewish community to run the campaign.

Praising Troper's book as an "inspired piece of writing," she said he had not only captured the essence of the story, but had learned of events she had not even known about.

By her estimation, only 48 Jews still live in Syria. The vast majority are in Damascus, and they are left alone by the government.

In 1994, Syria officially permitted its Jewish citizens to emigrate, but not directly to Israel.

She said that U.S. President George Bush and Secretary of State James Baker had promised Syrian President Hafez al-Assad that Syrian Jews would not settle in Israel. But some of them, including Syria's chief rabbi, Ibrahim Hamra, have made aliyah by way of third countries.

Suggesting that the Feld Fund is winding down now that its work is done, Feld Carr said its latest mission is buying household furniture for needy Syrian Jews in Israel.

Troper, a professor of history and philosophy at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, said that he could not have written the book without Feld Carr's cooperation. She granted him free access to her private papers. Meanwhile, former Syrian Jews consented to be interviewed.

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The parties must 'right a glaring injustice'

The voters of Ontario elect a new provincial government this week. People will vote, as we always do, according to ideological preferences, firmly held beliefs, family traditions, general impressions, or even last minute whims. In the end, the people will receive, as we always do, the "government we deserve." And the Legislature will be an inexact reflection of Ontario's political face on June 3, 1999, a freeze-frame snapshot of the ebb and flow of evanescent political tides.

Over the course of the relatively short election campaign, the three contending parties have staked out their respective political territories and the three contending leaders have attempted to imprint their respective leadership traits onto the already stained blotter of the voters' psyche.

Whichever party is elected to form the next government of Ontario, it will have formidable substantive issues to confront and formidable voter concerns to calm.

One of those issues is the lingering unfairness in the school funding process for parents who send their children to non-Catholic, independent schools. The issue has vexed religious communities, including, of course, the Jewish community, ever since the government of Ontario extended full public funding for the education of all children in all grades of Catholic schools almost 15 years ago.

The benefit bestowed by the government of Ontario upon Catholic households in which the parents seek for their children a denominationally based education, but denied to non-Catholic households in which the parents seek the same benefit, is blatant, and by this time also callous discrimination.

With the election of a new government, we hope the discrimination will end, once and for all.

At a rally last month on the steps of the Ontario Legislature, Prof. Irwin Cotler of McGill University, the internationally renowned human rights advocate, forcefully and persuasively condemned the Ontario funding process for the discrimination it suffers upon Ontarians who are not Catholic.

The exclusionary funding process of the Ontario government effectively denies equal treatment to non-Catholic Ontarians, who, along with Catholic Ontarians, pay equal educational taxes. The exclusionary funding process was "an assault," he suggested, "both on the inherent dignity of the human person and the equal dignity of all persons. In effect, [the exclusionary funding process] says that some individuals and groups are more equal than others."

The cause of fair educational funding, Cotler pointed out, is at the same time, the cause of equal justice for all.

The non-Catholic groups, it must be emphasized, are not seeking public funds for the denominational portion of their education costs. They seek funds only for the general studies component of the curriculum. This includes funds for non-educational health services such as speech therapy, audiology and counselling, provided free to all other students in the province. Keith Landy, chair of the Ontario region of the Canadian Jewish Congress, referred to the Ontario government's denial of equal funding for health support services as a "glaring injustice."

Ontario's educational funding process was upheld by the Supreme Court of Canada, somewhat grudgingly it is fair to add, as constitutional and therefore legal. But it is clearly not fair.

It is our fervent hope that whichever party forms the next government, it will restore equal educational justice to all Ontarians.

But it is our unwavering expectation, that regardless of party ideology, the next government will at least right the "glaring injustice" of the denial of equal access for all Ontario students to the health support services in the educational system.

Dry Bones

BIBI IS OUT! BARAK IS IN! DERI IS GONE! SHAS IS BIGGER! LIKUD IS SMALLER!
YUP.
THE PARALYZING LEFT-RIGHT TIE IS BROKEN!
YUP.
ALMOST EVERYTHING HAS CHANGED
"ALMOST" EVERYTHING?
WELL, WE ARE STILL FACING THE SAME OLD PROBLEMS.

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Anti-Semitism still alive and well in Hungary

In reference to the interview with Peter Munk (*CJN*, May 6), I wish to express my own opinion regarding the presence of anti-Semitism in Hungary.

It is very generous of Peter Munk to forgive the Hungarian people for the atrocities committed against Jews on the grounds that "today's generation had nothing to do with what happened there in 1944 and before." But I cannot bring myself to be so generous!

I was born and bred in Budapest. Ninety percent of my family was rounded up and handed over to the Nazis. My father and my uncles were killed while serving in a forced labor camp. My mother survived by hiding with an exceptional Christian family. My brother and I were scheduled to be shipped to Auschwitz with the rest of the children and the elderly remaining in Budapest. Fortunately, the Russians surrounded the city before our train was assembled. Unable to send us to the camp, the Hungarian authorities confined us to the ghetto. Most Hungarians, responding to a long tradition of anti-Semitism, enthusiastically supported the Nazis and the puppet Hungarian government.

Liberated on Jan. 18, 1945, I continued to live in Budapest until the Hungarian Revolution in 1956. What has been little noted, is that the Hungarian Revolution was directed not only at the Russians but also at the Jews. In many of the smaller communities, Jews were attacked and beaten to death. In Budapest, on the second day of the revolution, large billboards proclaimed, "Itzik, Itzik. Beware. We don't need to send our Jews to Auschwitz."

While the Russians and the Hungarians were fighting in the streets, my family and all the tenants of our apartment house took shelter in the building's bomb shelter. Before long, a 16-year-old Hungarian boy, armed with a submachine-gun, entered the shelter and demanded to know if there were any Jews. Our landlord, who was in the shelter with his tenants, shouted, "There are no Jews here." If he had not done so, the boy was prepared to shoot us on the spot.

We left Hungary in November 1956, but I have returned to Hungary to visit relatives almost every year since 1982. I wish I could say that anti-Semitism is dead in Hungary, but unfortunately, strong signs of its survival are everywhere. On Buda's heights, the wall of the castle was adorned with a huge swastika accompanied by references to "Dirty Jews."

I would be happy to share with Mr. Munk my video of this stressful scene at the Halasz Bastya.

The sad fact, is that anti-Semitism has not died out in Hungary. It remains embedded in the present generation just as strongly as in their grandparents' generation. Nazi-style salutes and huge flags resembling the Nazi swastika are widely displayed. Traditions long held die hard, Mr. Munk.

Hedy Tropp
Toronto

Five Jews have attained rank of general

Re the article (*CJN*, May 20) in which mention is made of the forthcoming promotion of Col. Ed Fitch to the rank of general, and that he will become "Canada's first Jewish General."

We have had a number of Jews, in Canada's Armed Forces, who have served as generals. Here is a list of four that I am very familiar with, namely: Maj. General R.P. Rothchilde, Air-Vice Marshall Cornblatt, Air-Vice Marshall Wiser, Air Commodore Lipton.

The latter three R.C.A.F. officers' ranks are equivalent to major general (2) and brigadier general. Brigadier General, I assume, will be Col. Fitch's new rank. And I wish him a sincere mazel tov and a yasher koach.

Squadron Leader (Ret) Jack Cahan, CD
Adjutant, National Command,
Jewish War Veterans of Canada

Kosher meals on planes should cost more

I know that pressure can be applied to any airlines contemplating charging more to Jewish passengers who want to follow the dietary laws. The result will be that kosher food will not rise in price. For it would be idiotic for any airline to try to recoup a few bucks and possibly run into a public relations nightmare. But I for one, think that kosher meals, because they cost more to produce, should cost more for those who insist on eating kosher.

I may not be traditional in the orthodox sense, but I suggest that Jews over the centuries have had a sharp sense of justice and fairness. In this way, I am quite traditional.

Nathan Pila
Toronto

Seeks news of Abraham Brenner or family

Recently, a letter was brought into the Montreal Holocaust Memorial Centre (MHMC) archives by David Berger. He found it among the possessions of his brother who had been the editor of the "Y" *Beacon* in past years.

We are anxious to trace the family of the writer, Abraham Brenner, or, even more wonderful, Abraham Brenner himself, if he is alive.

Anyone who has information could call the MHMC at (514) 345-2605.

Carole Burke, Chair
Archives Committee, MHMC
Montreal

WISDOM OF THE AGES

And when the ark was being carried, Moshe said: "Rise up, God, scatter your enemies." *(Parshat Beha'alotecha)*

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures. Letters sent by e-mail must also include the sender's municipal address.

Barak wants IDF out of Lebanon

By ZE'EV SCHIFF
Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

If Ehud Barak, the prime minister-elect, who will apparently also be the next defence minister, is as serious as he seems to be about his intent to get the Israel Defence Forces out of Lebanon within a year, we must be prepared for a chain reaction that is sure to include some drawbacks.

One result, will be an increase in the number of South Lebanon Army (SLA) people seeking to protect themselves, in ways ranging from seeking to move with their families to Israel or somewhere outside the region, or even forming some kind of cooperation with the Hezbollah.

The dispute within the IDF, between those who support withdrawing from South Lebanon and those who oppose it, is sure to heat up.

Disagreements within the IDF are nothing new. There were disagreements over the Bar-Lev Line and over Ariel Sharon's preparations for the Lebanon War. As long as the argument is over operational matters, it should even be encouraged. But when disagreement turns into a military-political debate, and one that makes headlines, it hurts the army. In addition, some officers, for opportunistic reasons, are sure to shape their opinions to fit that of their new boss.

There is another serious phenomenon that could develop among combat soldiers and junior officers, as a result of a protracted waiting period before a final decision is taken.

If it is decided that the north and its communities can be defended more effectively from the international border in one year's time, then what is the point of continuing to endanger their lives in the security zone and beyond? This is a well-known syndrome among soldiers, when everyone does their best to avoid injury on the eve of the ceasefire.

Many soldiers and junior officers, and of course their families, are likely to think that no person has the moral right to demand that they endanger their lives in operations north of the border when the intention is to withdraw from the area in the near future.

Barak's declaration of his intent to withdraw troops from south Lebanon is also sure to affect the negotiating tactics of the Syrians. The prime minister-elect must be prepared for the Syrians to demand a high price or to delay the negotiations. Will Barak carry out a unilateral withdrawal, just so that he can say he stood by his election promise to get the IDF out of Lebanon? And if so, then why wait a year, or up to a year, until the withdrawal? Why not speed it up?

The new, post-election reality demands a few practical conclusions.

First, if Barak does intend to keep his promise to withdraw from south Lebanon, then he must begin negotiations with the Syrians without delay. Second, Israel's first condition in these negotiations must be to maintain its unequivocal demand for quiet in south Lebanon for the duration of the talks. Yitzhak Rabin and Shimon Peres were not firm about this demand, and the results were Operation Accountability, which Barak was in charge of as chief of staff, and Grapes of Wrath, with all their ramifications.

That's not all: It might run counter to operational logic, but moral logic and responsibility for the IDF's combat troops dictate that from the moment the countdown begins on withdrawing from Lebanon, the IDF ought to hold back, avoid significant offensive activities in Lebanon and concentrate on only those necessary operations of a clearly defensive nature.

If a Lebanon withdrawal is carried out with Syrian and Lebanese agreement, the IDF will have to vacate and destroy a few positions beyond the border. It is better to instruct the IDF to prepare for the new line rather than to face last-minute pressures. We must also not wait until the negotiations are completed before finding solutions for SLA soldiers who will want Israeli help. Whatever happens in this sensitive area could create a precedent for anyone wishing to co-operate with Israel in the future

Prime Minister-elect Ehud Barak consoles a woman from Kiryat Shmona whose home was damaged by Katyusha rockets last week. [RNS/Reuters photo]

There were secret talks with Syria

JERUSALEM — In ongoing secret talks with Damascus through various mediators, outgoing Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu agreed in principle to a significant withdrawal from the Golan Heights as part of a peace agreement and security arrangements.

Then-defence minister Yitzhak Mordechai was in on the plans, and agreed to them. A variety of drafts were drawn up, but none were ultimately implemented because Netanyahu repeatedly recoiled from committing himself at the last minute.

Involved in the mediating efforts were, among others, Oman's Foreign Minister Yusuf Ben Alawi, the European Union (EU) special envoy to the Middle East Miguel Moratinas, and American tycoon Ronald Lauder.

The United States received only general updates on the talks, usually late and incomplete, said U.S. sources. According to the sources, the Syrians kept Washington informed of the mediation efforts when Israel did not.

Maj.-Gen. (Res.) Danny Yatom represented Israel in the initial "rapprochement talks" with Syrian Ambassador to the U.S. Walid Mualem, which were held in the summer of 1997 and mediated by U.S. special Middle East envoy Dennis Ross. Mualem had headed the Syrian delegation for talks with Israel in the days of prime ministers Yitzhak Rabin and Shimon Peres. Yatom went to Washington three or four times in an effort to reach a new "non-paper" that would allow the Netanyahu government to improve its positions in the security arrangements.

The new document presented by Yatom was written by then-head of the planning division Maj.-Gen. Shaul Mofaz, with Yatom and the prime minister's political adviser Uzi Arad. The details were approved by the general staff. One of the meetings was held in Mordechai's Tel Aviv office and was attended, by, among others, then-chief of staff Amnon Lipkin-Shahak.

Yatom's mission came to an end after the Mossad's failed assassination attempt against senior Hamas official Khaled Meshal in Jordan.

Arad was then appointed to handle the Syrian file, and efforts focused on finding a connection to Damascus without U.S. help. About then, Mordechai asked France to intervene in South Lebanon. At this stage, Israel had contacts with Damascus on two tracks, the Omani track and the EU track, according to Israeli and U.S. sources. While the Omani track soon fizzled, Morinatas's efforts are continuing until this day.

The Omani mediation efforts apparently began toward the end of 1997, with Syrian President Hafez Assad's blessing. Netanyahu sent Arad to the meetings, which were held in various venues outside the Middle East, including India and Switzerland. The aim was to formulate a document that would bring the Syrians and the Israelis to direct talks in Oman. The parties agreed on a 15-article document drawn up by the Omanis. The Syrians say Israel refused to supply written commitments, so the talks came to a halt.

Moratinas's initiative continued. Moritanas's document of principles is known to have dealt with disarmament zones and diminishing the forces on the Golan Heights and eastward after an Israeli withdrawal. Moratinas's efforts were stopped when elections were announced in Israel, and he is expected to try to resume them now that Prime Minister-elect Ehud Barak has been elected.

Lauder ran the third track to bypass Washington. Foreign Minister Ariel Sharon was also let in on the secret at this stage. Lauder flew to the area in his private plane seven or eight times to hold high-level meetings, including a meeting with Assad in Damascus. The efforts continued until the Wye conference, and stopped because of the elections.

Responding to a question about the seriousness of the mediation efforts, U.S. sources said Lauder's efforts were considered very advanced.

–Z. S.

Prime Minister-elect Ehud Barak last week surveyed the damage to a home in Kiryat Shmona hit by rocket fire. [Israel Sun photo]

Opinions

A true savior revealed

Several months ago, Mr. R.B. Shields of Toronto called me with a question: Was I acquainted with Frank Foley? The name rang no bells. "Have you ever heard of the man who is said to have saved 10,000 Jews from being killed?" I had not. Frank Foley was not a name I could recall.

Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

A little later, Shields was good enough to drop off a book at my office: a biography of Foley written by Michael Smith, a well-known British journalist with a number of highly acclaimed intelligence reports to his credit. The book has just come out, and at the first opportunity I began to read it. Its title is, *Foley – The Spy Who Saved Ten Thousand Jews.* Anyone who can lay claim to that kind of achievement is worth reading about, I said to myself, and I was not disappointed. On the contrary.

Foley, a short unassuming man had been assigned as a passport officer at the British Consulate in Berlin, and in that position he managed, during the Hitler years, to issue the coveted papers of admission to England that would enable the bearer to flee Germany and seek refuge abroad.I well remember the location of the office on Tiergartenstrasse, for I often saw the long line of Jews and other "undesirables" who tried to leave the country.

Foley was in fact a spy for the British who, at danger to his own life, managed to obtain vital information about the Nazi war machine, and at the same time made it possible for uncounted numbers of Jews to escape the Nazi monsters.

As I was reading the fascinating details of this book, which often resembles a masterful cops-and-robbers story, it occurred to me that Foley may have been the very man who made it possible for my parents to flee to Britain in early 1939, a few months before the war broke out.

Foley was remarkable in that he had no diplomatic immunity and was liable to be arrested at any time. He not only went into the concentration camps to get Jews out, he hid them in his very own home, helped them to get forged passports, and ignored the rules that restricted visas for Palestine. One Jewish aide worker estimated that he had saved upward of 10,000 people from the Holocaust.

At the 1961 trial of Adolf Eichmann, Foley was described as a "Scarlet Pimpernel" who risked his own life to save Jews. But he remains virtually unknown, largely because, as a passport control officer in Berlin, his job was a cover for his real role: the head of the British intelligence operations in Germany's capital.

At the outskirts of Kibbutz Harel, near Jerusalem, stands a memorial stone that recalls, in Hebrew and in English: "Major Francis Edward Foley, England." It stands in the midst of a grove of thousands of pine trees, each one donated by someone that Foley had saved. The dedication took place jn 1989. He had died in his early 70s.

Why has Yad Vashem not acknowledged him as one of the Righteous Gentiles? Its officials have said that not enough proof had been introduced to award him that posthumous distinction. I hope that with the publication of Smith's detailed record, these doubts will melt away and Frank Foley will be publicly recognized as one of the Tzaddikei Ha-olam.

The Shas factor

As prime minister-elect, Ehud Barak undertakes the arduous process of forming a coalition government. The question on everyone's mind is, "What about Shas?" Shas has grown in numbers to 17 seats, making it a formidable political force, and one that is ignored by any prime minister at his peril.

Shira Herzog in Toronto

Shas' phenomenal growth over a short 15-year period can be attributed to several factors. First, there is the unique brew of ethnic pride, religious tradition and social services that it offers its voters who are Sephardi in origin, and who occupy the traditional centre in the Israeli political map.

For the most part, they are not as observant as the party leadership, but they respond warmly to the link to tradition and values it represents. For those in development towns and poor urban areas, the long school day and hot lunches offered by Shas are a precious commodity, which is worth a Knesset vote.

Second, since 1996, when electoral reform introduced a two-ballot system, Shas has grown stronger, like many other small and mid-sized parties. By splitting their vote, Israelis can elect a Prime Minister to lead the country, and a Knesset party that best represents them either on ideological or bread-and-butter issues. As a result, both Labor and Likud have lost parliamentary strength.

Third, since Prime Minister Netanyahu moved to implement Oslo – however grudgingly – the Israeli right has been in decline. Shas' new seats are due to the votes of disaffected Likud voters, for whom the party's historic raison d'être is less relevant.

Finally, there is the charisma and political genius of party leader Aryeh Deri. Deri has had few rivals in Israel's political history.

His particular blend of pragmatism and dogmatism, personal charm and manipulative skills catapulted him to the senior position of minister of interior, where he and the party controlled vast budgets for municipalities across the country. Earlier this year, Deri was convicted of bribery at the conclusion of a dramatic nine-year investigation and trial.

The intense debate following the conviction exposed a serious split within Israel on the issues of democracy and the rule of law, versus the power of religious law and ethnic solidarity. Deri's rallying cry throughout the election campaign was his innocence – he is appealing the conviction – and his voters responded. The lukewarm reaction of other politicians – with the exclusion of Yossi Sarid and Barak – provided proof positive of the political power wielded by Shas.

Barak's campaign promise not to negotiate with Deri, brought him votes. So did his promise to create a broad coalition that would represent a strong majority in the Knesset and the public. Now that he is elected, and Deri has resigned from the Knesset (but not as chairman of the party), Barak's dilemma is whether to go with Shas after all. If he leaves Shas out, he will be accused of ignoring the traditional Sephardi voters, and Shas will play on its victimization and its exclusion by the elite again.

If Barak includes Shas, he will be accused of caving in to the party's demands for senior government posts, access to government funds, and occasional religious legislation that deters even traditional Israelis. In fact, another potential coalition partner, Shinui, won six seats strictly on a platform opposing religious coercion, targeted at the haredi parties.

Since the election, the call for inclusion of Shas has come from surprising quarters. Several liberal commentators have argued that leaving Shas out will perpetuate the alienation of the Labor party from the Israeli centre and development towns. They challenge Barak to bring Shas into the government because of its basic moderation on the peace issue, and because it is an authentic voice for its constituency.

At the same time, they urge him to undermine Shas' niche as a provider of social services by reintroducing elements of the Israeli welfare state. To use a Canadian analogy, Shas has become an alternative service provider – albeit with government funds promised in coalition negotiations. Shlomo Ben Ami, a senior Labor politician, has argued for years that Shas moved into the vacuum created by the withdrawal of government from the education and social services arena. Only government-sponsored services provided on an equitable basis can challenge Shas' power in this area.

The challenge posed by Shas, therefore, goes beyond its identity as a religious party. It brings into sharp focus several of the fissures dividing Israelis today – the attitude towards democracy and the judiciary, the ethnic split, the gap between rich and poor, and the debate on the nature of civil society and community. How Barak handles this challenge will be a harbinger of the direction he will take as prime minister.

Israel-Diaspora ties in Barak era

What effect, if any, will Ehud Barak's election victory have on the ties between Israel and North American Jewry? A *New York Times* op-ed article of May 16, focused on the relative disinterest among American Jews in the campaign. New York State politician Dov Hikind found greater disinterest now than three years earlier, even in the Orthodox community. Journalist J.J. Goldberg and sociologist Steven M. Cohen argued that there was a general decline in interest in Israel among American Jews, based on their interviews and scientific surveys.

Morton Weinfeld in Montreal

Forget for a moment about the small band of communal machers, devoted Zionists, or ex-Israelis, who take these things ultra-seriously, and follow every nuance of the convoluted Israeli political map. It is not clear whether Barak's election, while probably welcomed by most North American Jews, will smooth over some of the demographic and socio-cultural differences.

There are still strong ties to Israel, though they are much stronger in Canada than in the United States. According to 1990 surveys, – American percentages are in brackets – 66 percent of Canadian Jews have visited Israel (35 percent), 37 percent have spoken by telephone with an Israeli (10 percent), and fully 87 said Israel is very important to their being a Jew (73 percent). Yet only 42 percent said they felt "very close" to Israel (22 percent) and 35 percent said they could live a fuller Jewish life there (10 percent).

Two processes are going on. First, the twin motivations underpinning Diaspora involvement with Israel – worry and pride – have been eroded since their peak in 1967. Rightly or wrongly, Israel is no longer seen as militarily endangered or as poor. And a combination of blunders and scandals may have overshadowed her stupendous – and they are stupendous – achievements. For some, they may have confirmed the early Zionist expectation that Israel would become a normal country after all.

Second, there is a growing gap between North American Judaic culture and that found in Israel. Religion in Israel remains polarized between those who are Orthodox, or haredi, and those who are secular. Here I disagree with some analysts who claim that there is a growing embrace of Jewish tradition by the non-Orthodox.

It is still the case that in Israel the Conservative, Reform and Reconstructionist movements are small – may they grow – and draw support largely from former North Americans. Innovations and experiments like chavurot, egalitarian Orthodox minyanim, Jewish renewal groups, women's minyanim, real bat mitzvahs, or gay shuls, are rare or non-existent.

Despite their valiant efforts, people like David Hartman and Avram Burg remain marginal to the Orthodox community. Few Israeli synagogues include the rich menu of guest speakers, lecturers, symposia, study groups and other activities found in North American congregations of all denominations.

On the other hand, there are still many secular Israelis for whom the High Holy Days remain days devoted to going to the beach or on bicycle outings. This estrangement from all forms of religion was symbolized when Yitzhak Rabin's son recited Kaddish at his father's funeral; it seemed by his delivery that he was thoroughly unfamiliar with the text. There may be more, not less, religious polarization in the new Knesset.

There is no reason why Israelis should transform their national culture to suit the tastes of North American Jews. Israelis contribute to Jewish survival in many very real, heroic ways. And Israeli culture, schools, art and daily life reinforce Judaism, in the Israeli form, directly and indirectly. Among the many "tribes" of Israel – haredi, dati, Sephardi, Russian, left-wing secular, right-wing settlers, and of course the Arabs – there is little room for western liberal/traditional Jews.

It is not clear how Barak's victory can change any of that. Those of us who love Israel may have to continue to love her as she is, not as we would like her to be. As I have argued before, it may be that in two or three generations, the tie to Israel among most non-Orthodox will be like Italian Canadians and Americans to Italy. Should, alas, that be the case, I still feel both Israel and North American Jewry will survive.

The Kirshner File

'Mrs. Judy' and the Jews of Syria

She was known as "Mrs. Judy," the Torontonian whose unflagging crusade on behalf of Syrian Jewry earned Judy Feld Carr this moniker. Over a 25-year period, Feld Carr devoted herself selflessly to a Jewish community burdened by a web of onerous restrictions. She not only funnelled funds and religious articles to Syrian Jews, but helped about 3,000 of them to emigrate.

Sheldon Kirshner in Toronto

She worked with smugglers, bribed officials and shared information with the Israeli secret service, all in single-minded devotion to Syrian Jewry.

Five years after the Syrian government permitted the remaining Jews of Syria to depart, Harold (Hesh) Troper has written a thoughtful, fast-paced book about Feld Carr and the international campaign she personified. *The Ransomed of God: The Remarkable Story of One Woman's Role in the Rescue of Syrian Jews* will be published by Malcolm Lester Books on June 4.

In an interview, Troper, a professor of history and philosophy at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, described his book as "unauthorized, uncommissioned and scrupulously honest."

To get the story right, which he called "absolutely fascinating and compelling," Troper pored over primary historical materials, such as Feld Carr's personal papers and Canadian Jewish Congress archives, and spoke to individuals who had a direct knowledge of the events.

He interviewed Feld Carr 25 times, first in August 1993 and finally in July 1997, and then allowed her to read the completed manuscript so as to avoid factual errors. "I think she's very happy with the book, though she questioned the tone here and there."

Troper, co-author of the acclaimed *None Is Too Many: Canada and the Jews of Europe, 1933-1948*, originally intended to write a comparative study of rescue efforts of Syrian and Soviet Jews. But as he delved into the subject, he was increasingly drawn to Syria and its Jewish community. Many of its members could trace their roots to the returnees from the Babylonian captivity.

In this century, Syrian Jews became a target of hostility with the passage of the 1947 United Nations Palestine partition plan. The scheme aroused widespread anger in Syria, a bastion of Arab nationalism, and touched off an orgy of anti-Jewish riots in Aleppo. As a result of the disturbances, many of Syria's 40,000 Jews fled, leaving a residue of some 5,000 Jews in Damascus, Aleppo and Qamishli, and prompting the authorities to prohibit further emigration. Syria, Israel's sworn enemy, feared that Jewish emigrants would settle in Israel. In fact, the majority went to the United States.

In 1954 and in 1958, Syria temporarily lifted the ban. With the reimposition of the prohibition, Syria cracked down on the Jewish community, stamping Jews' identity cards in red with the Arabic word Mussawi (follower of Moses), constraining their business and social activities, limiting their right to buy and sell property and censoring their mail and telephone calls.

Israel's victory in the 1967 Six Day War ushered in a rash of arbitrary arrests and tortures, looting and confiscation of property and a series of new discriminatory edicts in commerce and education.

Feld Carr, a music teacher and Zionist who identified strongly with the plight of Soviet Jewry, was converted to the cause of Syrian Jewry by Meir Kahane, the leader of the militant Jewish Defence League. He claimed that mainstream Jewish leaders were neglecting this oppressed community. Jewish organizations, namely the World Jewish Congress, began working for Syrian Jewry in the early 1970s.

Harold (Hesh) Troper
[Ron Silvers photo]

Feld Carr and her first husband, Rubin Feld, who died in 1973, were deeply involved with Syrian Jews. Working out of their home, they publicized the predicament of Syrian Jews and fought for their right to emigrate.

According to Troper, the Canadian Jewish Congress initially favored quiet diplomacy to ease their conditions. But in May 1972, Congress declared Syrian Jewish Solidarity Month and agreed to establish a committee of concern to which Jews and non-Jews were invited to join.

Congress regarded Feld Carr as an energetic but naive outsider, and merely tolerated her. Troper contends that her "headstrong style," her penchant for secrecy and her disinclination to court potential supporters proved costly. She received little financial and staff help from Congress.

"Judy was not a team player," observes Troper. "She remained something of a loner."

But with her marriage to Donald Carr, a Congress activist, Feld Carr's profile in the community rose immeasurably. Syd Harris, Congress' national president, created a committee on Jews in Arab Lands, and appointed her chair. By Troper's estimation, this development went a long way toward ensuring that Syrian Jewry was given due prominence on Congress' agenda.

As she sought to upgrade the importance of Syrian Jewry in Congress' priorities, Feld Carr lobbied the Canadian government. Occasionally, she clashed with federal cabinet ministers. Feld Carr believed that Ottawa could do more for Syrian Jews, particularly with respect to their admission into Canada. Further, the dark picture she painted of their status was not shared by the Department of External Affairs. Canada concurred that their situation was precarious, but maintained that there was no evidence of persecution.

"Canada did not see a clear and present danger to Syrian Jews, but acknowledged that Jews were suffering," said Troper in an interview. "There were times when Canada could have done more, and times when it did more than could have been expected."

But from the 1980s onward, he argued, Canada exerted a positive influence in helping shape conditions for Jews in Syria. Troper conceded that Feld Carr would probably disagree with this assessment.

Tracing the trajectory of her contributions to Syrian Jewry, Troper mentioned the parcels of religious articles and money she sent, the medical care she provided for Aleppo's ailing rabbi in Toronto, the fictional Canadian marriages she concocted for Syrian Jewish women, the bribes she paid for exit visas, the crusade she launched for the imprisoned Swed brothers, and the Torahs and holy books she arranged to be smuggled out of Syria.

Feld Carr, we're told, had "a long and fractious" relationship with Israeli intelligence, conveying vital information to Israel. Troper says that Israel worked behind the scenes to ensure that Syria's treatment of its Jews would not go unreported or unpublicized. By the same token, the World Jewish Congress and the American Joint Distribution Committee were infinitely helpful in earmarking the cause of Syrian Jewry for political action and in channelling funds into the community.

Syrian officials were not unaware of Feld Carr's activities, but tolerated them for their own good reasons. Certainly, they were cognizant of her meetings with Rabbi Ibrahim Hamra of Damascus. In April 1992, he convinced President Hafez al-Assad to release the Sweds. But it took more than polite cajoling to persuade Assad that Jews should be permitted to leave Syria legally.

Syria's participation in the Gulf War, the collapse of the Soviet Union and the advent of bilateral peace talks between Syria and Israel were all developments which induced Assad to promise Syrian Jews equal rights as citizens and emigration privileges.

By the mid-1990s, virtually every Jew who wanted to leave had left Syria. Mrs. Judy had triumphed.

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Is settlement in Israel obligatory or voluntary?

By ZVI SLOTKI

"And you shall live in [the land of Israel]"

There is a dispute between contemporary scholars on whether aliyah is a positive commandment or not.

Guest Voices

Rabbi Moshe Feinstein, who lived in the United States, and Rabbi Ovadia Yosef, former chief rabbi of Israel, are at odds over whether settlement in Israel is an obligatory or voluntary act.

Rabbi Yosef maintains that the commandment to settle in the land is an unconditional positive precept.

Rabbi Feinstein dissents. In his magnum opus, *Iggrot Moshe*, even ha'ezer 1 No. 102, he distinguishes between two distinct categories of positive commandments.

There are precepts which are mandatory -- for example, circumcision and tfillin and others which are not mandated as obligatory responsibilities, but nevertheless when performed, constitute fulfilment of a commandment.

Rabbi Feinstein maintains that even according to Nachmanides (who included the above precept as one of the positive mitzvot of the Torah), residence in Eretz Yisrael is not obligatory.

Because this precept is not a mandatory one, according to this interpretation, Nachmanides' position is that the act of dwelling in Israel constitutes the *voluntary* fulfilment of a commandment.

Rabbi Yosef, on the other hand, asserts that this commandment *does* constitute a mandatory obligation, even in our day, and that it is a mitzvah "to ascend to the land of Israel."

The nature and scope of the problem is brought into sharper focus by the following practical illustration: Are children, for instance, permitted to immigrate to Israel despite their parents' objections? Or does the fulfilment of the commandment to honor one's parents take precedence? Again, the sources present conflicting views.

Rav Ami, with the sanction of Rabbi Vochanan, left the Holy Land for the purpose of meeting his mother (Kiddushim 3.6). This implies that the mitzvah of honoring one's parents takes precedence over staying in the land.

On the other hand, Naomi's sons were punished with an early death *because* they left the land of Israel in deference to the wishes of their father.

The general principle in Jewish tradition is, that honor due to parents should not conflict with the performance of religious precepts.

Both parents and children are obliged to honor the Almighty, a message that finds its expression in the observance of mitzvot.

Honoring parents remains, as always, important, and undertaking aliyah, despite parental objections, must be done with consideration and sensitivity – and deep respect.

Zvi Slotki lives in Toronto.

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Anne Frank on the Web

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

One of the most famous victims of the Holocaust would have turned 70 this month. Annelies Marie Frank was born on June 12, 1929 in Frankfurt, Germany and died of typhus at the age of 16 in Bergen-Belsen. Two years later, *The Diary Of A Young Girl* was published and became one of the best selling books of all time. Through her diary, the memory of Anne Frank has lived on as a passionate, eloquent voice of the Shoah.

Today, a look at Anne Frank on the World Wide Web.

Anne Frank Online is a very good introduction to her life and work **[http://www. annefrank.com/]**. In addition to a biography, there are selected entries from the diary and a photo scrapbook of Anne's life and family. The centre operates a travelling exhibit and also presents the annual Spirit of Anne Frank Awards which honors people who exemplify the ideals of Anne Frank. And for straightforward information, don't miss the Anne Frank FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions) **[http://www.mango.ds.to/annefrank/faq.txt]**.

Nothing can compare to walking the narrow staircase and peering through the windows of The Anne Frank House in Amsterdam. However, the house's Web site does a good job of recreating some of the most dramatic sights of Anne's "Secret Annexe" **[http://www.annefrank.nl/]**. Through photos of the stark walls and excerpts of Anne's diary in her own handwriting, this Web site does a good job of telling the story through archival and contemporary photos. Because of tremendous interest in Anne Frank, the house is expanding this year to include additional exhibits **[http://www.annefrank.nl/htmleng/news/toekomst.cfm?id=1]**.

Of course, there are many other museums devoted to the story of Anne Frank . You can follow her story while visiting New York, Philadelphia **[http: //www.mango.ds.to/annefrank/museums.html]** and in Anne Frank's birthplace **[http://www.anne-frank.org/ewelcome.htm]**.

Anne and her family were not alone in their fate. In a lecture presented to the University of South California, Anthony Anderson looks at the systematic persecution of Jews in wartime Holland which led to the destruction of 70 percent of that community **[http://www-lib.usc.edu/~anthonya/holo.htm]**.

There are dozens of Anne Frank sites, and one of the best indexes of those sites can be found at **[http://www-th. phys.rug.nl/~ma/annefrank.html]**.

I was fascinated to learn that this excellent page was compiled by Dr. Whee Ky Ma of the Institute for Theoretical Physics at the University of Groningen, Netherlands.

What accounts for the power of the diary? Michael Berenbaum's eloquent answer to that question can be found at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum **[http://www.mango.ds.to/annefrank/world.html]**.

"Anne captivates us with her wit and her sensibility. It is easy to identify with the teenager whose life, even in hiding, epitomizes the struggle of adolescents everywhere as they grow to adulthood. One moment Anne is in despair, the next she is filled with hope... Her dreams, her fears, and her doubts are universal... But because we know that Anne did not survive, that this life of enormous potential was snuffed out in the Holocaust, the diary has a poignancy that is at once unbearable and transfiguring. Through this attractive young woman the Holocaust is made real: Anne Frank has become for our time the emblem of lost possibility."

Next week, Anne Frank's diary — in print, on the stage and in movies.

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Mark Mietkiewicz is a Toronto-based television producer who writes, lectures and teaches about the Jewish Internet. He can be contacted at mdm@inforamp.net.

Midrashic Moments

Abstaining from gossip

By RACHAEL TURKIENICZ

In the upcoming Torah readings, Miriam acquires leprosy for gossiping with Aaron about Moses. According to the text, they are discussing Moses' relationship with his wife, or lack thereof.

The midrash and commentaries suggest that the discussion centres on how Moses is no longer sexually intimate with his wife and has moved out. From there, the gossip takes on the flavor of jealousy as they compare their closeness with God to Moses' closeness. They believe that God has also spoken with them, and therefore Moses is not a greater leader. The incident raises several questions.

Why is Miriam the only one punished for the sin? Clearly they have both sinned by engaging in the conversation.

The midrash and Talmud emphasize the seriousness of gossiping. It is likened to murder. The analogy is to killing someone with a bow and arrow. Once the arrow is shot, it cannot be controlled. It may find its victim, as well as several other victims along the way. There is no ability to stop at the last moment and call back the arrow – the damage is random and extensive. Yet, both Aaron and Miriam were speaking but only Miriam is punished.

A close reading of the text reveals a grammatical anomaly. Although both are speaking, the verb "to speak" appears in the singular feminine form. The commentaries unanimously agree that Miriam initiated the conversation and therefore the verb appears as speaking only of her. Because she begins the gossip and draws Aaron in, she is first to be punished. When Aaron sees what has happened to her, he immediately apologizes and is spared.

Why is leprosy the punishment? In fact, leprosy is traditionally the punishment for gossiping. It is actually quite appropriate, since leprosy is a fatal illness that begins on the skin and works its way to the internal organs. It physically mirrors the harm that gossiping causes. It attacks from the outside and moves inward. Just like gossiping, it is highly contagious.

Lastly, where does Miriam get the information about Moses' private life? According to the midrash, Miriam and Moses' wife were watching the appointments of the elders. Moses' wife mentions to Miriam that she feels badly for the elders' wives as now their husbands' ties to them will be disrupted by their leadership roles.

Miriam assumed she was listening to the voice of experience and concluded that Moses was no longer intimate with his wife. Since men are commanded to be fruitful and multiply, Miriam is not only commenting on Moses' personal life but is also implicitly accusing Moses of committing a sin.

The text and the rabbis are sending a clear message about drawing lines. Leaders become easy targets for gossip. One may legitimately discuss their decisions as leaders but is one allowed to discuss their private affairs, even if a sin has been committed?

The answer we learn from Miriam is that no gossiping is allowed. The one exception is when there is the intent of helping someone in trouble. Aside from this, whether a person is a leader or a member of the community, one must never gossip. As Israel changes its leadership and Ontario enters the electoral process, it is indeed a timely message.

Exploring pious Jews

Books
Bernard Baskin

***For the Relief of Unbearable Urges*, by Nathan Englander (Knopf, $31).**

Nathan Englander, 29, grew up in Long Island N.Y., attended a yeshiva through the twelfth grade and has lived in Jerusalem for the past several years. There he became, he reports, "a cultural Jew," shedding the rigid orthodoxy of his youth.

He is now a celebrity. *The Relief of Unbearable Urges* which contains nine short stories has aroused unusual interest. It became the object of a spirited publishers' auction, and the fledgling author (this is his first book) was endowed with a hefty $200,000 advance for the book and for a contemplated novel.

What is the literary furor all about? Englander uses his considerable knowledge of traditional Jewish life and observance to place pious Jews in tragicomic situations. His characters search for halachic or rabbinic solutions to problems that are largely bizarre and highly contrived. And these taut, edgy, strange stories, usually with murky and unresolved conclusions are obsessively readable.

In the title story, a devout Chassid, whose wife inexplicably spurns his amorous advances, is given a dispensation by his Rebbe — in order to save his marriage — to visit a prostitute. The Chassid nervously makes his way to Tel Aviv and inexpertly "takes his medicine." When his wife is ready to respond to him he is rendered impotent through a combination of shame, guilt and fear of disease. "This couldn't possibly be the solution the Rebbe intended. Dov was supposed to be in his wife's embrace, enjoying her caresses, and instead he would get an examination table and a doctor's probing hands."

In *Reb Kringle*, an elderly bearded Rabbi who ekes out a meagre livelihood is induced by his wife to play the part of a department store Santa Claus. When a small boy asks for a Chanukah menorah, in addition to other holiday gifts, something denied to him by his mother's new non-Jewish husband, the rabbi is outraged. He publicly and loudly reveals his identity to an astonished group of Christian shoppers.

The Wig concerns Ruchama, an expert wigmaker for middle class orthodox women who exchange their hair after marriage for handsome wigs. Her wigs are elegant, singular and highly desirable.

One day, eager to improve her own appearance, she cajoles a delivery boy into selling his abundant and beautiful hair. The wig she fashions from his curls is a masterpiece. But, unhappily, she is actively pursued by the boy who feels that he has been cheated.

In the street "Ruchama puts a hand to her head and pulls off the wig. She stuffs it into her bag and clutches the bag to her chest. A mess of curls snakes out over the sides. Ruchama can feel people looking, the whole of the city watching. Worth every penny and every shame, she thinks, for one slow spin, hair on her head and mirror in her hand, leaning back, beautiful."

Perhaps the most memorable of the stories, *The Twenty Seventh Man* deals with an order from the former Soviet Union ruler, Joseph Stalin, for the arrest and murder of 26 eminent Jewish writers. But there is a 27th man arrested by mistake – a young, inexperienced and unpublished would-be writer.

While awaiting execution he polishes in his mind a few paragraphs of a story that he recites to the others – to their approval – just before death comes to them all. His perfect creation is forever lost to humanity.

These stories, with unlikely situations and even more unlikely characters, have a kind of fascination akin to those of Colombian writer, Gabriel Garcia Marquez. They will not appeal to all readers, but Englander has discovered a rich vein – hitherto largely unmined – for his fertile creative imagination.

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Greater Toronto Area

Rabbi Schorsch set to give Rosenberg lecture

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Rabbi Ismar Schorsch originally set out to become a Jewish historian.

"I have changed careers," he said from his New York office, "but my method of thinking about issues continues to be deeply colored by my training as a historian."

As chancellor of the Conservative movement's Jewish Theological Seminary (JTS) since 1986, Rabbi Schorsch plays a key role in modern Jewish history, dealing with issues that didn't exist when he was ordained – the Masorti movement in Israel and the question of whether to admit openly gay students to rabbinical school, to name two of the most contentious.

On June 9 the chancellor will speak at Beth Tzedec Congregation for the annual Rabbi Stuart & Hadassa Rosenberg memorial lecture. He will discuss his concept of Conservative Judaism in an address entitled Sacredness and Sanity in an Age of Uncertainty.

Despite changes he has seen in the movement – such as the admission of women rabbinical students 15 years ago – he would argue Conservative Judaism has been "quite consistent" throughout much of its history.

The chancellor, now in his early 60s, has observed the movement's development from a close vantage point.

His father, Rabbi Emil Schorsch, was ordained at the Breslau Rabbinical Seminary, a centre for the forerunner of the Conservative movement. He himself is an alumnus of JTS, as well as Columbia University, where he received his PhD.

Today, Conservative Judaism has reached the point where the seminary offers both egalitarian and non-egalitarian minyans, but no student would eschew an egalitarian minyan, according to Rabbi Schorsch.

"We make it clear, if they're totally opposed, they don't belong at the seminary."

The chancellor believes the two minyans reflect "pluralism in action.

"There are diverse communities. That is not something to be feared. It's something to be embraced...We continue to study together, to socialize together, to eat together and on occasion even to pray together."

The question of gay and lesbian students is of far greater halachic gravity than that of women students, said Rabbi Schorsch.

Rabbi Ismar Schorsch

"The current policy is not to admit openly gay and lesbian students to rabbinical or cantorial school...The seminary, on the other hand, is a Jewish university [with] five schools, and in the other three schools, gay and lesbian students are admitted and welcomed."

Is the policy written in stone? "Institutionally, it's always open for re-examination," Rabbi Schorsch admitted. "Personally, I do not see the admission of gay and lesbian students as a possibility. I think it would profoundly change the character of Conservative Judaism."

On the Israel front, Rabbi Schorsch has tackled other weighty issues, becoming a dedicated proponent of the Masorti (Conservative) movement, and addressing the religious needs of the non-Orthodox, particularly in the areas of conversion and marriage.

"If Israel wishes to remain the centre of the Jewish world, it needs to be sensitive to the religious values and expressions of Jews in the Diaspora," said Rabbi Schorsch. "Israel cannot be identified with one denomination of contemporary Jewry as opposed to the others.

"Israel needs, like a parent, to treat its offspring with equality, fairness and respect."

"We have never been all of one stripe," Rabbi Schorsch pointed out. "There were two kingdoms in ancient Israel. Diversity is part of our lifeblood. An ideal world is not one where there is no diversity, but one where diversity can culminate in unity."

For non-Orthodox Jews to be excluded from the State of Israel, Rabbi Schorsch believes, is to weaken the ability of American Jews to resist assimilation.

In fact, the biggest issue facing the Conservative movement in North America, he said, is "the intensification of Jewish education as the most effective response to assimilation." The relationship to Israel is part of that strengthening of Jewish identity, he noted.

He cited an "explosion" in Solomon Schechter day schools, the seminary's establishment in 1996 of the first American graduate school of Jewish education, and the amount of work being done to foster "distance learning" via computer.

The chancellor, who has taken a strong public stand against Israel's chief rabbinate, believes the recent election of Ehud Barak as Israel's prime minister has "lifted the pall." He hopes it will "inaugurate a period in which religion will progressively be eliminated from politics."

As chancellor, Rabbi Schorsch believes his most important responsibility is to set the priorities of the seminary and, by extension, the Conservative movement.

About 60 percent of his time is devoted to fundraising, because 70 percent of the seminary's budget has to be raised within the Jewish community, he said.

Although he juggles multiple responsibilities, Rabbi Schorsch has never really left the field of Jewish history, teaching in the classroom every other year. "That's an exhilarating experience."

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Beth Avraham Yoseph (O)	613 Clark Ave. W. (905) 886-3810	7:00 PM	8:45 AM	7:00, 8:00 & 8:45 AM	6:45 & 7:30 AM	8:45 PM
Beth Emeth (C)	100 Elder St. (416) 633-3838	7:00 PM	8:45 AM	7:30 & 8:30 AM	7:30 & 8:15 AM	8:50 PM
Beth Tikvah (C)	3080 Bayview Ave. (416) 221-3433	6:00 PM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	7:15 AM	7:30 PM
Holy Blossom (R)	1950 Bathurst St. (416) 789-3291	6:00 PM	10:30 AM	9:00 AM	----------	6:00 PM
Ohr Somayach / JEP (south) (O)	2939 Bathurst St. (416) 785-5899	7:00 PM	8:30 AM	7:45 AM	Mon. Thurs. 6:35 Tues. Wed. Fri. 6:45	8:45 PM
Shaar Shalom (C)	2 Simonston Blvd. (905) 889-4975	7:00 PM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	7:00 AM	7:00 PM
Shaarei Shomayim (O)	470 Glencairn Ave. (416) 789-3213	7:00 PM	9:00 AM	7:30 AM	7:30 AM	8:45 PM
Shaarei Tefillah (O)	3600 Bathurst St. (416) 787-1631	7:00 PM	8:45 AM	8:30 AM	6:30 & 7:30 AM	8:45 PM

This is not a comprehensive listing of the synagogues in the Greater Toronto area. The information is provided by the Vaad Harabonim of Toronto and the Toronto Board of Rabbis. The Vaad and the Board will periodically revise the listings. For statutory holidays, please call the Synagogue for any changes in times.

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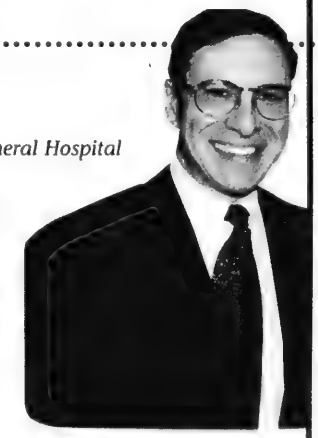
Our PEOPLE

An interview with

Dr. Mark Wainberg

President, International AIDS Society
Director, McGill AIDS Center, Jewish General Hospital



What led you to become involved in medicine? Why AIDS research in particular?
Medical research is a noble calling and, at the same time, one that poses a significant intellectual challenge. When the AIDS epidemic first surfaced, our group had been working in a related area and we were well positioned to become Canada's first lab in the field.

What advice would you give to medical students about to embark on their careers as doctors?
Think hard about pursuing a career in academic medicine. Participating in a successful drug discovery or advancing knowledge toward the conquest of disease are among the most wonderful of human experiences.

AIDS research is a very stressful environment. What do you do to relax?
I always find classical music and light opera relaxing.

What personality traits do you admire most in others?
Perseverance, hard work and a sense of humour about themselves.

Who are your heroes or role models?
My personal heroes are outstanding moral leaders and scientists. I am not one to admire overpaid athletes or movie stars.

What do you foresee as the biggest medical breakthroughs in the 21st century?
I see immense breakthroughs in the treatment of cancer and AIDS. The promise of genetic therapies will finally be realized.

What book are you currently reading?
American Pastoral by Philip Roth.

What are the most important Jewish values we can pass on to our children?
Love of G-d and Jewish unity.

What is your favourite Israeli vacation memory?
Visiting our sons in Israel when they were pursuing their post-secondary education.

What role does Israel play in your life?
I try to visit Israel several times a year for both work as well as religious reasons. I spent two years in Israel as a post-doctoral fellow and established many long-lasting friendships at that time. Our eldest son was born in Israel. Israel plays a central role in the life of our family, which is why we consider it so important to support Israel Bonds.

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jewish toronto

Community Hosts Israeli Educators

Top Ministry of Education officials from Israel recently visited Toronto for the first time to learn more about the local Jewish education system.

The delegation, which included the ministry's Deputy Director General of Development, Simcha Shnoer, met with teachers, students and representatives of UJA Federation's Board of Jewish Education, to explore ways of strengthening ties between the two countries.

The visit helped to boost UJA Federation's Partnership 2000 (P2K) project, which twins North American Jewish communities with their counterparts in Israel. Coordinated by the Jewish Agency and UJA Federation, P2K links Toronto with Eilat, Israel's most southern city, and the surrounding Eilot.

Recent P2K initiatives include a new community centre, a program to upgrade teachers' skills, a Toronto/Eilat teachers' exchange and volunteer internships for Toronto teens in Eilat.

"We came to gain a better understanding of the Jewish education system because we believe there is great potential to learn from each other and work together," says Shnoer. "We realize that for Jews living outside Israel, the classroom is a very important part of being Jewish."

"It's important for us, as Israelis, to develop an appreciation of the challenges facing Diaspora Jewry such as maintaining Jewish identity," adds Yitzik Tomer, who is responsible for more than 200,000 students living between Ashdod and Eilat. "Our mission is to explore ways of connecting Jewish youth as well as adults through the education process."

Shnoer was impressed with the high level of Hebrew spoken by grade 12 CHAT students.

The growing partnership also involves ongoing programs between Eilat and Toronto students. One such project pairs the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto with Tichon Alon in Eilat. "It's all about building living bridges," explains Gary Levine, CHAT's Director of student activities. "We want to encourage as much personal interaction as possible because that's what meaningful, long lasting relationships are based upon."

left: Gary Levine (right) presents Drori Ganiel, Head of Eilat's Department of Education, with a poster designed by CHAT students to educate their Israeli counterparts about their school and Toronto's Jewish Community. The poster is now displayed in Eilat's Tichon Alon High School.

Around jewish toronto

uja annual meeting

Community members are invited to attend the **UJA Federation Annual Meeting**, Wednesday, **June 2, 7:30 pm** at **Associated Hebrew Schools, 300 Atkinson Avenue**. The evening will feature the **Associated Hebrew Schools Choir, Volunteer Recognition Award** presentations and a special tribute to **Israel Consul General Jehudi and Ruti Kinar**. To RSVP call Glenda Gomperts at **(416) 631-5707**.

learn-a-thon

More than 500 students recently participated in the annual **Eitz Chaim Day Schools** learn-a-thon to raise funds for **UJA Federation**. For nearly 25 years the school has held the one day study marathon prior to the **UJA Federation Israel FunWalk**.

Campaign 2000 Vice-Chair Abe Glowinsky received a few lessons from students at Eitz Chaim's Patricia Street Branch.

Photos: Stephen Epstein

israeli in space

UJA Federation's Young Leadership in conjunction with **State of Israel Bonds New Leadership** invite you to an intimate evening with **Colonel Ilan Ramon**, Israel's First Astronaut, Sunday, **June 13, 7:30 pm**, at the home of **Haim and Mardi Hirshberg, 12 Alexandra Wood**. To RSVP for the event, which costs **$18 per person**, and includes a dessert reception, please call Olga at **(416) 635-2883 ext. 107**.

Campaign For Fifty - Year II

Chairs Promise Phoning Fun

UJA Federation telethons will never be the same again according to Judy Engel, Rosanne Ain and Dov Altman, this year's energetic Telethon Co-Chairs.

"We're going to be putting the 'fun' back into fundraising," explains Altman, who is helping to spearhead the initiative to recruit more volunteers and encourage greater community participation in UJA Federation telethons.

To increase community awareness and response to telethons, which raise millions of dollars annually for Jews in need, UJA Federation is introducing a special contest beginning in September. "Anyone who picks up the phone and says 'Hi UJA, I'm answering the call," and makes an increased contribution, will be eligible, along with the volunteer who contacted the contributor, to win great prizes," explains Engel. "It's an excellent way to put UJA Federation on the lips and minds of as many community members as possible and cultivate an atmosphere of giving," adds Ain.

Rosanne Ain

This year's campaign strategy also includes assembling the largest telethon team in UJA Federation history; special programming for volunteers; prizes; and, recruiting groups of volunteers from UJA Federation beneficiary agencies, schools, synagogues and other community organizations.

Dov Altman

New telethon venues include the CN Tower. "We'll be making calls from the top of Toronto," notes Altman. "It's all part of creating a warm and welcoming environment for our hardworking volunteers."

Judy Engel

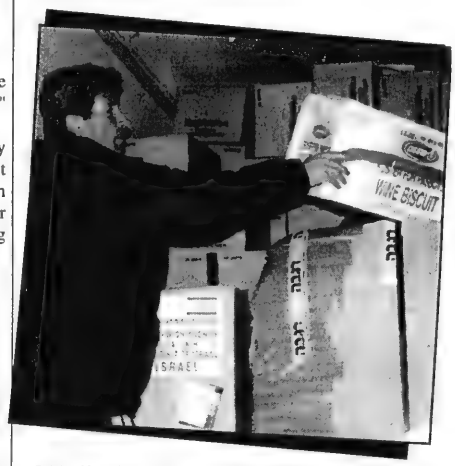
"Close to 40% of all our donations are made during telethons," says Engel, "We want the people who make the calls time after time, on behalf of the community, to know how important they are to the campaign."

jewish toronto

Spirit of Israel Inspires Success

Since being launched just over one year ago, Israel's first national grass roots fundraising campaign is gaining ground and adding a new dimension to Israeli philanthropy.

"The campaign is doing far better than we ever imagined," reports Joe Dushansky, Director of "Ruach Israel" – the Spirit of Israel. Linked with worldwide UJA Federation campaigns, the Spirit of Israel raises funds in Israel to help Jews in need around the world.



Spirit of Israel contributions to Jewish Agency Kosovo relief efforts helped purchase several tons of much-needed supplies.

Dushansky credits the campaign's early success – a dramatic increase from 7,200 donors in January 1998 to over 40,000 – to a nationwide television and radio advertising blitz, as well as a massive direct marketing strategy. "We sent letters to over 700,000 Israeli households and received a 3.1% response to date with replies still pouring in."

Even with reports of charitable giving in Israel as high as $400 million annually, Dushansky remained cautious about what to expect from the start. "Israelis have not traditionally been strong supporters of broadly defined Jewish causes the same way North American Jewry has," he explains. "We were starting from scratch with a whole new concept in charitable giving."

The most significant growth occurred in March and April when 19,000 donors contributed $1million (US) to the campaign to fund the Jewish Agency's relief efforts in Albania. "The response was unprecedented, yet not suprising," notes Dushansky, emphasizing the tendency among Israelis to engage in what he calls "extremely focused" giving. "Israelis seem to respond better when they are geared toward a specific crisis or project, such as building facilities for our elderly or providing adequate education for our children and new immigrants."

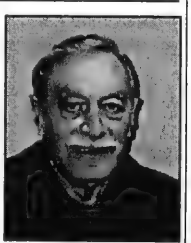
volunteer views

When it comes to volunteer work, Myer Shaw likes to be in the driver's seat.

As a Jewish Family and Child Service volunteer driver, Shaw spends six to seven hours a week behind the wheel giving rides to those in need.

Most of his passengers are children in the care of JF&CS who rely on him to get to and from weekly meetings with social workers as well as the occasional medical appointment.

"Many of the drives I do are for children living in foster homes," explains Shaw, who has six grandchildren of his own. "These kids have a lot to deal with and sometimes life isn't easy for them. The least I can do is give them a lift."



"Volunteer driving is a great way for me to keep busy and contribute to the community," says Shaw, who coincidentally drove taxis before moving into the heating business where he worked until his retirement. "It's not always easy, but I'm happy to help out."

For more information about volunteer opportunities in the Jewish community, call Shelly Rotman at UJA Federation (416) 635-2883 ext. 137.

Orthodox rabbi calls for mutual respect among Jews

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Rabbi Haskel Lookstein, a prominent advocate for centrist Orthodoxy, calls himself a pragmatic pluralist.

While affirming his total personal commitment to Orthodox practice, nevertheless, he told *The CJN*, all Jews must learn how to get along with each other.

"In the real world, we won't agree. But we have to live together and respect each other and everyone's right to practice Judaism as he or she feels."

Rabbi Lookstein, spiritual leader of Congregation Kehilat Jeshuran and principal of Ramaz school, both in New York City, was in Toronto for the formal opening of the Louis and Leah Posluns Education Centre, the Neptune branch of Associated Hebrew Schools.

The results of the elections reflect the deeper divisions in Israeli society, he said – religious versus non-religious, Ashkenazi and Sephardi, left and right, and differences within the left and the right.

Each of these factions has withdrawn into itself, concerned with its own welfare, Rabbi Lookstein charged.

"It is very sad that in Israel today, many people and many groups think first and foremost of their own interests, and not of the state, or of klal."

If this continues, he warned, there will really be something to worry about. "The well-being of the state is more important than any political party or agenda," Rabbi Lookstein said.

While there have been very strong divisions in the past, he said, such as the arch-rivalry between David Ben-Gurion and Menachem Begin, still, "their commitment to the state transcended their individual interests."

Rabbi Haskel Lookstein

Peace within Israel is more important than that between Israel and its neighbors, he said. "If we have the latter without the former, not only won't it last, but Israel will be very vulnerable."

Similarly, he said, it is "unfortunate when a non-Orthodox leader threatens to withdraw from UJA and Israel Bonds because Israel does not recognize some rabbis' ability to perform certain functions."

Rabbi Lookstein is a strong supporter of Edah, a new organization based in New York, whose goal is to bring together those in the Orthodox centre.

"It is a great source of encouragement and inspiration to many modern Orthodox Jews to find out there are so many others who believe that you can lead a fully halachic life without withdrawing from the the community, without losing the religious significance of Israel, and without avoiding coming to terms with the changed status of women in the world, among other things," the rabbi said.

He said that as a result of the Bill Clinton-Monica Lewinsky scandal, he sees at least a partial backlash to the lack of standards in sexual behavior that exists in the western world.

In his school, Ramaz, he said, "I see that many more kids are practicing more modest behavior than my generation did.

"The trend in the whole modern Orthodox world is to become more reserved in behavior, dress, and show a more positive attachment towards mikvah, and sexual behavior in marriage determined by Halachah.

"It is a reaction to a world where there are few limits."

11TH ANNUAL JEWISH BOOK AWARDS

Wednesday June 9 1999 at 7:30 pm

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Koffler Centre of the Arts

Lillian Nattel

The River Midnight

Warwick Knopf Canada

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Among the Winners:

Nora Gold
Marrow and Other Stories, *Warwick Publishing*

Rabbi Elyse Goldstein
Revisions: Seeing Torah Through a Feminist Lens, *Key Porter books*

Allan Levine
Fugitives of the Forest, *Stoddart*

Robin McGrath
Escaped Domestics, *Killick Press*

Elizabeth M. Raab
And Peace Never Came, *Wilfred Laurier University Press*

Ken Sherman
Void and Voice: Essays on Literary Nad Historical Currents, *Mosaic Press*

Noah N. Shneidman
Jerusalem of Lithuania: the Rise and Fall of Jewish Vllnius, a Pesonal Perspective, *Mosaic Press*

Gerald Tulchinsky
Branching Out: The Transformation of the Canadian Jewish Community, *Stoddart*

Irene N. Watts
Goodbye Marianne, *Tundra Books*

Meet the Authors

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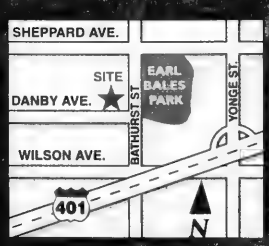

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Greater Toronto Area

Candidates spar over health, environment in Oak Ridges

By DAVID SILVERBERG
Student Intern

TORONTO — Health care, education and environmental issues are at the heart of the Oak Ridges riding.

Ontario Election '99

The brand new riding has Bathurst Street as the western border until Bloomington Road, where Highway 404 extends north until Davis Drive, bordered in the east by the Pickering Town Line down to 16th Avenue. Oak Ridges includes the towns of Richmond Hill, Whitchurch-Stouffville and Markham north of 16th Avenue.

Frank Klees, 48, attempts to return for a second term in office representing the Tories. Vito Spatafora, 49, is supporting the Liberals and 27-year-old Chris Moise holds the NDP banner.

Frank Klees

Vito Spatafora

Chris Moise

Klees, a full-time politician, wishes to maintain the momentum of growth of economy that the Tories established.

He stresses that residents in Oak Ridges, with a population of just over 102,000, show overwhelming support for a track record of credibility.

"A sense of optimism and hope for the future comes with strong leadership," Klees told *The CJN*.

Citing housing and rent control programs, Klees believes the Tenant Protection Act of two years ago keeps rent control programs in place and creates tenant and landlord protection. If re-elected, Klees says, the private sector will have confidence to invest in rental units.

"Lower income families need assistance," he adds, "but the answer is not in mortar and bricks. We should help them through rental subsidies."

Liberal candidate Spatafora is upset at the two-tier system of health and education. He believes that education is the basis of future development of the Canadian economy.

"Knowledge is a valued commodity," he says.

Spatafora even got involved in saving one school on Squire Drive from closure.

Moise, employed as relief staff at St. Michael's Hospital, saw health care problems up close. He witnessed patients waiting three hours for attention, and nurses suffering from nervous breakdowns. He found that the only way to make a change is to get involved.

"I'm a humanist," says Moise, "and the NDP platform reflects the people in this province."

On the issue of environment, Moise speaks on the Oak Ridges natural habitat, which he believes is being over-developed. The moraines may be degrading, and pollution is on the rise, he says.

"People are upset," he says. "The average person is getting affected more and more."

Klees blames environmental problems on local municipal councils. He wants environmental and resource guidelines to be followed.

"The problem with this province," says Spatafora, "is that not enough people are dealing with environmental problems." He refers to Oak Ridges as a water recharge area, where many rivers and waters originate. Ontarians should preserve the forests and kettle lakes, bring back environmental inspectors and stop the shipping of toxic waste from the United States to Canada, he says.

With a Jewish population of 7,500, an overwhelming proportion reside in Richmond Hill, according to Jay Brodbar, director of research for UJA Federation.

Spatafora and Klees stress the importance of fairness in private school funding. Klees warns that government-controlled institutions may face giving up their independence with long-term affects such as controlled agendas.

"I found that the Jewish community wants quality of life," Klees says, "which is directly related to the stability of our economy."

Moise believes his youth will be an asset. "I'm young, I'm out there. I see the changes and the affects that relate to the average person."

Steven Haylestrom is the candidate for the Green Party.

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MPPs face off

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

Ontario Election '99

TORONTO — The rejigging of provincial ridings means that in Eglinton-Lawrence, two high-profile MPPs are facing each other in this week's election.

John Parker, first elected as a Tory in 1995 in York East, squares off against Liberal Mike Colle, the MPP for Oakwood. The NDP candidate is Jay Waterman.

Eglinton-Lawrence has been carved out of several ridings. About one-third of it will consist of Oakwood, with the rest incorporating parts of Wilson Heights, Lawrence and St. Andrew-St. Patrick – meaning it has a sizeable Jewish population among the riding's 103,000 residents.

John Parker

The riding is bounded roughly by Yonge Street, Highway 401, the CN rail lines to the west and Eglinton Avenue. It includes the heavily Jewish Bathurst Street corridor between Chaplin Crescent and the 401, a large Orthodox population in the Bathurst/Lawrence area and many chassidic families in the Bathurst/Wilson neighborhood.

For Parker, 44, the election amounts to "a referendum on [Premier] Mike Harris."

A lawyer, Parker deviates somewhat from his leader by saying he completely supports the idea of public funding for private, religious-based schools.

"The province should be in the business of setting standards, to make the system accountable," Parker told *The CJN*. "Once standards are set, the door [to funding] should be open to any provider who meets them."

Jay Waterman

He adds that Harris has not closed the door to funding entirely. "I see an openness there. He hasn't rejected it, but the issue in this election is to produce the best [public] system possible."

When it comes to elder care, "the Jewish community is miles ahead of anyone else, including the government. We have a lot to learn from the Jewish community." The Harris government, he notes, has undertaken a "massive" restructuring of the health-care system, and has "invested" in long-term, home- and community-based care – all priorities in the Jewish community.

Mike Colle

The Tories have pledged to increase health care funding by 20 percent, "and we are committed to restructuring no matter how much resistance we encounter."

He points out that it was a Tory MPP, Ted Chudleigh, who introduced a bill last year that will mark Holocaust Memorial Day, Yom Hashoah every year in Ontario.

As a university student, Waterman, now 59, was active in the NDP's forerunner, the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation, and was at the party's founding convention.

He has served on several NDP policy committees and in 1990, he ran in the old Eglinton riding. Although he lost to Liberal Diane Poole, he polled 7,700 votes.

A former member of Holy Blossom Temple, he believes that the NDP's social democratic values "are most consistent with Jewish values."

Waterman, a lawyer with Legal Aid Ontario, agrees with leader Howard Hampton that public funding should not be extended to private schools.

"The need should be devoted to the public system," he says. "[Funding private schools] would leave the public system even more seriously underfunded than it is."

Waterman and his party believe that large-scale reinvestment in health care, education and housing can be accomplished with a plan to raise $1.5 billion by reversing the Tories' tax cut for the six percent of Ontarians who earn more than $80,000 a year.

He says provincial downloading of social housing onto municipalities should not be tolerated if cities cannot absorb costs.

If elected, the NDP plans to build 16,000 affordable housing units and 14,000 assisted units, he says.

Colle, 54, a former chair of the TTC who was elected to Queen's Park in 1995, says voters in the riding are nervous about health care and hospital closures. "I've never seen people so unsettled," he says, especially when it comes to Branson Hospital, where emergency hours have been scaled back and the number of doctors reduced.

Colle says Liberal leader Dalton McGuinty is the "most open" of the three leaders to funding for independent schools.

"I can't say I personally support full funding [for Jewish day schools], but I am willing to listen." He called Harris' rejection of funding during the leaders' debate "a cheap shot."

Many tenants in the riding are elderly, Colle notes, and cannot afford to move or see their units turned into condominiums. The Liberals, he says, believe provincial lands should be handed over to non-profit groups, at no charge, for long-term care facilities, low-rent housing or other facilities that would benefit those on fixed incomes.

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

CANADIAN SOCIETY FOR YAD VASHEM
News Flash
ISRAEL MISSION
October 7 - 21
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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Monday, May 31, is deadline for June 10 issue, and Monday, June 7, is deadline for June 17. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Thursday, June 3

CHANGING FAMILIES

Prof. Ben Schlesinger speaks on Changing Canadian Families As We Move Toward the Millennium. 2 p.m., Forest Hill Place, 645 Castlefield Ave. Reserve. **Marlene** or **Susan** 785-1511.

Sunday, June 6

BIBLICAL ZOO TOUR

Biblical Zoo Tour at Toronto Zoo led by **Rabbi Mordechai Becher** of Ohr Somayach Jerusalem, 10 a.m. Call Ohr Somayach 905-886-5730.

FROM JUDGES TO KINGS

Kehillat Shaarei Torah series, The Man Who Would Be King, with lecturer **Rachel Turkienicz**, continues with Saul: The Disappointment, 8 p.m., 2640 Bayview Ave. 229-2600.

BOOK REVIEW

Beth Sholom Sisterhood book review of *Turbulent Souls*, author **Stephen Dubner**, the story of a Catholic son's return to his Jewish roots, reviewed by **Rabbi Aaron Flanzraich,** Monday, June 14, 11:30 a.m. Reserve by June 9. **Eva Rothblott** 782-0471.

HABONIM BREAKFAST

Congregation Habonim features **Scott Brown** of the Memory Lab of Canada and professor, department of psychology, University of Toronto, talking about What to Remember About Aging and Memory. 10 a.m., Beth Habonim, 5 Glen Park Ave. Breakfast and lecture $6.

CABARET NIGHT

Entertainment and Cultural Connection and Shaarei Shomayim Brotherhood presents singer/guitarist **Laurence Kosoy,** comedian **Maxwell Kates** and singer/guitarist **Rabbi Gedalia Zweig**, 8 p.m. at Shaarei Shomayim. Special tables for singles 21-39 and 39+. All proceeds to Zareinu. **Jerry** and **Sandra Genesove**, co-ordinators.

BOOK DISCUSSION

The Feminist Book Discussion Group, Older Women's Network, discusses *The Selected Stories of Mavis Gallant* 2 p.m., North York Community Centre, 505 Lawrence Ave. W. **Ruth Goldsmith** 782-6414

GIANT GARAGE SALE

Giant garage sale – furniture, baby items, electronics, jewelry, toys, clothes and more, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., rain or shine, at Beit Rayim Synagogue and Hebrew School, 9711 Bayview Ave. All monies raised go to support the Beit Rayim Building Fund. 905-770-7639.

DANCE FESTIVAL

Free Family Day for the Toronto Lion Dance Festival features cross-cultural performances from Toronto's Jewish, Chinese and Black communities, a fun-filled children's area, visits from China's legendary Shaolin Monks and the National Lion and Dragon Dance Teams of China. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Nathan Phillips Square. Festival hotline 338-LION

BABYSITTING COURSE

St. John's babysitting course 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue. $36 includes kosher pizza lunch. Register. **Rhonda** 905-731-9441.

Monday, June 7

POET, AUTHOR, LYRICIST

The child survivor/hidden children committee, Holocaust Education and Memorial Centre, presents **Donia Blumenfeld Clenman**, poet, author, lyricist, 7:30 p.m., Lipa Green Building, 4600 Bathurst St.

Tuesday, June 8

THE NEXT MILLENNIUM

Leading authorities on politics, news reporting, psychology and rabbinical scholarship lead a discussion on Jews and Judaism in the Next Millennium at Aish HaTorah's gala event.Panelists are **Malcom Hoenlein**, Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations; **Rabbi Abraham Twerski**, Gateway Rehabilitation Centre; **Mark Lavie**, Associated Press correspondent; moderator is **Allan Silber**, American Home Patient Inc. 8:15 p.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. Dessert reception follows. 905-764-1818 for details, tickets.

SONGS UNDER THE STARS

Songs Under the Stars, hosted by Ve'ahavta – The Canadian Jewish Humanitarian and Relief

Continued on page 23

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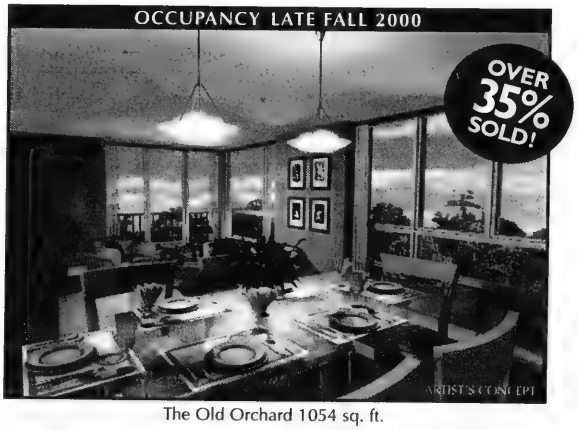

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What's New

Continued from page 22

Committee, is a tribute to five courageous individuals. Evening includes dinner and musical performances by **Michael Burgess, Amy Sky, Liberty Silver, Billy Newton-Davis** and **Karen Weirzba**. Held at Southbrook Farms and Winery, 1061 Major Mackenzie Dr. (west of Bathurst). $100 (charitable tax receipt provided). 487-5472.

JEWS IN SHANGHAI

A Place to Save Your Life, director **Karen Shopsowitz's** moving story of the Jews in Shanghai. Presented by Bloor Jewish Community Centre as part of Toronto Lion Dance Festival's cross-cultural film festival. Evening also includes *Under the Willow Tree* and *Home to Buxton*. 7 p.m., Royal Ontario Museum. $5. For tickets, Bloor JCC 924-6211.

MONTESSORI DAY SCHOOL

Meeting of the organizing committee of the Montessori Jewish Day School being established in Toronto. 929-4830.

Wednesday, June 9

SACREDNESS & SANITY

Beth Tzedec Congregation Rabbi Stuart & Hadassa Rosenberg Memorial Lecture features **Ismar Schorsch**, chancellor, Jewish Theological Seminary of America, speaking on Sacredness and Sanity in an Age of Uncertainty. 7:45 p.m.

MAGEN DAVID ADOM

Toronto Chapter, Canadian Magen David Adom for Israel (supporting Israel's National Emergency Medical Service) meeting 7 p.m., 788 Marlee Ave. **Cheryl** 780-0034.

BUSINESS AWARDS

Canada-Israel Business Excellence Awards recognizes the success of five Canadian companies involved in business in and with Israel- Revelle Home Fashions Inc., President's Choice International, Canpro Investments, Canadian Highways International Corporation, International Neural Machines Inc., 5-7:30 p.m., Inn on the Park Hotel. Corporate sponsors Price-Waterhouse Coopers and Cebra Ltd., together with Canada-Israel Chamber of Commerce and Industry. Chamber members $60, non-members $75. 590-0645

Thursday, June 10

BIBLICAL FATHERS

Selma Sage speaks on Biblical Fathers, 2 p.m., Forest Hill Place, 645 Castlefield Ave. Reserve. Marlene or Susan 785-1511.

And What Else Is New

CANTOR HONORED

Holy Blossom Temple marks **Benjamin Maissner's** 20 years as cantor and music director with a special tribute Wednesday, June 16. at 8 p.m., a musical program featuring noted musicians, composers and colleagues, and Holy Blossom's Temple Singers. In honor of Cantor Maissner, a fund is being established to finance a series of CDs encompassing the entire musical legacy of Holy Blossom.

SHABBAT WITH FRIENDS

The Young Leadership Cabinet of UJA Federation presents Shabbat Amongst Friends with Rabbi **Baruch Frydman-Kohl of** Beth Tzedec Congregation, Friday, June 11, at Beth Tzedec. Services 6 p.m., dinner 7 p.m. Couvert $25. RSVP to **Clare Adam** 635-2883, ext. 184.

CHORALAIRS CONCERT

The Choralairs of North York 37th annual closing concert, Sunday, June 13, 2-4 p.m., Earl Bales Park Community Centre, features a program of Broadway, pop and folk songs. No charge for concert. Raffle ($1) for great prizes. New members always welcome. **Fay Cohen,** membership chair 633-7233 or **Judy Gordon**, president, 221-3161.

ARTHRITIS MANAGEMENT

Arthritis Management Clinic, conducted by **Bev Tobe,** physiotherapist of the Arthritis Society, to assess, educate and recommend management strategies for diagnosed arthritis patients. Clinics held second Tuesday of the month 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at North York Seniors Centre, 21 Hendon Ave. Service funded by the Ministry of Health. Make appointment. 733-4111.

LUNCH AND LEARN

Holy Blossom Temple Lunch and Learn in Retirement day on Lake Ontario, Wednesday, June 16. Meet at the temple at 11:30 a.m. for bus to Captain John's Harbor Boat Restaurant for full-course fish and salad lunch. Guided boat tour of the inner channel 2 p.m., then explore shops and galleries at Harbourfront. Return to temple 4:30 p.m. Temple members, $18, non-members $20. Paid reservations by June 10. **Shelley** 789-3291, ext. 233.

BOUTIQUE FAIR

Magen David Sisterhood fun Boutique Fair, Sunday, June 13, at 10 McAllister Rd. (2 blocks south of Sheppard, west of Bathurst). Interested merchants contact **Helen** 635-6343 or synagogue 636-0845. Food and drinks available. Community invited to attend 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. No admission charge.

KENTON SUMMER CAMP

Kenton Summer Camp indoor/outdoor recreational program for ages 3-5, runs 5 days a week, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Edithvale Community Centre (Finch between Bathurst and Yonge). $425 for 6 weeks, June 28-Aug. 6. Sponsored by City of Toronto Parks and Recreation Department. **Rose** 663-1830.

SINGLES SCENE

Monthly meetings held at Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue Monday, June 7 for 35-55 group and Wednesday, June 9 for 25-35 group. All welcome.

Comedywood Nite, Boris the Hypnotist, Thursday, June 3, 7 p.m., $7. RSVP **Rhonda** 905-731-9441.

FOR SENIORS

Canadian Association of Retired Persons (CARP) free seminar, Just say No to Scams and Frauds, Tuesday, June 8, 1:30-3:30 p.m., North York Civic Centre, 5100 Yonge St. Reserve. 363-8748.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). June 3, bingo; June 6, trip to 30,000 Islands; June 10, video; June 17, Chinese restaurant, 6 p.m.; June 24, lecture by **Prof. Sara Ginaite** on her experience in the Resistance in Lithuania. All activities in Hebrew, English and Yiddish. **Jerry Bengall** president, 905-707-7334.

LZA Seniors Club in the Borochov Cultural Centre, 272 Codsell Ave. is open for socializing Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Ladies Folkdancing Thursdays 1:30 p.m. Cultural Discussion group Tuesdays 10 a.m. Register for Famous People Players Sensational Lunch and Performance, *Leave the Porch Light On*, Sept. 29. 630-9444.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: July 27, trip to Kingston, cruise, entertainment; Aug. 25, morning cruise, matinee *Move Over Mrs. Markham* at Gryphon Theatre; Oct. 12, *West Side Story* at Stratford, **Lena** 785-5773. Golden Book donation go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Casino Rama June 16, 30; Sunday dances June 6, 13, 27; July 4, community garage sale and flea market, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.; July 5-11 Catskills. 395-7881.

Young at Heart Seniors Catskills trip to kosher Raleigh Hotel, 10 days including 2 weekends July 23-Aug. 1. German restitution payment accepted. Double occupancy $1,399.95, single $1, 675 (including medical) **Helen** 635-6343.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living. 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Health Fair, Navigating the Community, Thursday. June 10, 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Guest speaker **Susan Kadis**, ward councillor, York Region; the Comedy Guys, special healthy lunch.

New course, A World Turned Upside Down with **Hugh Innis**, compares life in the 1960s with lives in the 1990s, Tuesdays, June 8-July 27 (8 lectures) 10 a.m. **Bookie Kwart** ext. 116.

Parkinson's Support Group, clinical social worker **Janice Stober** facilitates session on Anger Management-When Feelings Get in the Way. Tuesday, June 8, 1:15-2:15 p.m. **Ruth**.

Hearing Aid Checkup, **Barry Katz**, Thursday, June 10, 12:15 p.m.

Israeli Club Etrog: Do you speak Hebrew? Join club members Tuesdays at 7 p.m. for movies, lectures, dances, sing-alongs. bingo, picnics. June 8, lecture. Programs conducted in Hebrew. **Anna** ext. 110.

Movie, *Ever After* , Sunday, June 6, 2:30 p.m.

WAGMAN CENTRE

Wagman Centre, 55 Ameer Ave. 785-2500.

Monday, June 14- Balcony Oasis Program trip to Sheridan Nurseries, bus leaving 1 p.m., returning 2:30 p.m. Members $3, non-members $6. Reserve at service desk. For information **Mara Swartz** ext. 2275.

Wednesday, June 23 – Wellness Education Group presents Laughter! The Best Medicine Not Covered by OHIP, **Lawrence Morgenstern,** comedian, comedy writer, 1:30-2:30 p.m. Register. ext. 2267.

Tuesday, June 29 – Lunch and Learn, Challenges of Successful Aging, 11:30 a.m. to1 p.m. Reserve at service desk. Members $3, non-members $6. Information, **Mara Swartz** ext. 2275

Monday weekly games 1:30-3 p.m., Kalookie, Bridge, Scrabble. **Ruth Goodman** ext. 2272.

Bingo-June 1, 15, 1:30-2:45 p.m.

Wagman Bereavement Group, support group for older adults who have recently lost a spouse, meets alternate Friday mornings. **Paula David** ext. 2271.

2nd Generation Group: Aging Parents, Aging Children, mutual aid group for adult children of Holocaust survivors. **Paula David** ext. 2271.

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.

Volunteers needed for the Festival on Bloor, Sunday, July 4, noon to 7 p.m. Help is needed with children's games, dunking tank, security, set-up (from 9 a.m.) and take-down (after 6 p.m.), promotion and sales and more! **Maureen McIlveen**, volunteer coordinator.

As part of Toronto Lion Dance Festival's cross-cultural film festival. Bloor JCC presents *A Place to Save Your Life* , story of the Jews in Shanghai directed by **Karen Shopsowitz**. Check details under Tuesday, June 8.

SINGLES EVENTS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 26

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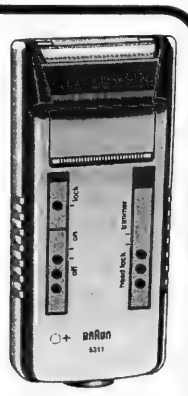

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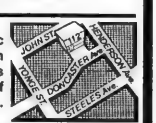

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איך ראַטנפֿאַרבאַנד קומט אין אַ פּאַבריק אַ מענטש אַן זוכט אַרבעט.

— אייער פּאַמיליע?

— ראַבינאָוויטש.

— יאָ. . . אָן די נאַציאָנאַליטעט?

— אַ רוס.

— גוט, וויסט איר וואָס, מיט אַזאַ פּאַמיליע וועלן מיר בעסער נעמען אַ יידן.

* * *

— הערט נאָר, חיים, ס'איז אמת, אַז איר האָט געבראַכט אַהיים אַ ציג?

— יאָ, וואָס איז?

— אָבער בײַ אייך איז דאָך אַזוי ווינציק אָרט, אָן דער ריכט. . .

— עס, ס'איז גאָרניט, זי וועט זיך צוגעוואוינען.

* * *

אין אַ מילכיקבאַציקל ווערן צוגעשטעלט צווי מענטשן פּאַר שלאָגן אַ יד אין טראַמווי. איינער פון זיי איז אַן אפּיציר, ער האָט דער ערשטער דערלאַנגט אַ קלאַפּ.

— פּאַר וואָס האָט איר געשלאָגן ראַבינאָוויטשן? — פרעגט אים דער דיסטריקטנריכטער מיליציאָנער.

— ער האָט מיר אָנגעטראָטן אויף מיין פוס און שטייט. איך קוק אויפן זיגער אָן קלער: אויב אין דרײַ מינוט אָרום קריכט ער ניט אַראָפּ פֿון מיין פוס, גיב איך אים אַ טראָסק אין זײַן צורה. . .

— אָן אייך, בידגער איוואַנאָוו, האָט ראַבינאָוויטש אויך אָנ-געטראָטן אויפן פוס?

— ניין, איך קוק נאָר, אַז דער אפּיציר קוקט אָן קוקט אויפן זיגער אָן גיט מיט אַ מאָל אַ זעץ דעם יידן. נו, מיין איך, סזאָל, הייסט עס, זיך שוין אָנגעהויבן אין גאַנצן לאַנד. . .

* * *

ייִדישע קללות

פּויזען פון ווייטיק זאָל ער איבער דער ערד, שרייען זאָל ער אויף די ציין, עס זאָל מיט אים מאַרדעווען, ווי אין אַ קדחות, ריידן זאָל ער פֿון הינט, מאַכן זאָל ער מיט די זײַטן, טרינקען זאָל אים פֿיאַווקעס, געשוואָלן אָן געדראָלן זאָל ער ווערן, ווי אַ פּויק, אויס-געדאַרט אָן אויסגעטריקנט זאָל ער ווערן, ווי אַ מת, שטום אָן בלינד זאָל ער ווערן אויף אייביק, אַ הילצערנע שטים זאָל ער באַ-קומען, גאָטענויו!

אַ וויססע פּנידה אויף אים.

ווערעם זאָלן אים עסן לעבעדיקערהייט.

עס זאָל בײַ אים אָפּגענומען ווערן דאָס לשון.

דאָס מויל זאָל זיך בײַ אים שטעלן אויף אַ זייט.

גיין זאָל ער אויף קוליעס.

אַזעלכע, ווי ער, זאָל מען געדיכט זייען, אָן זיי זאָלן שיטער אויפגיין.

צען שיפן מיט גאָלד זאָל ער פֿאַרמאָגן, אָן דאָס גאַנצע גוטס זאָל ער פֿאַרקרענקען.

זאָלן בײַ אים אַרויספאַלן אַלע ציין, אָן איין צאָן זאָל פֿאַר-בליבן אויף צייטוויטיק.

זאָל ער האָבן, וואָס זיין האַרץ גלוסט, נאָר זאָל ער זיין נעליימט אויף אַלע אברים, ער זאָל ניט קענען רירן מיט דער צונג, שפּאַס נעמען אין די הענט.

ער זאָל פֿאַרוואַנדלט ווערן אין אַ הענג־ליכטער: בייטאָג זאָל ער הענגען אָן ביינאכט זאָל ער ברענען.

אַרויסשלעפּן זאָל מען בײַ אים די קישקעס פון בויך, אָן אַרומוויקלען זאָל מען זיי אַרום זיין האַלדז.

ער וואָלט געמעגט זיין אויף אַ קאַפּ קירצער.

בעסער זאָל איך זיין אַן אלמנה נאָך אים, איידער ער זאָל מאַכן מיינע קינדער פֿאַר יתומים.

גאָט זאָל אים העלפן, ווי אַ טויטן באַנקעס.

עס זאָל אים דונערן אין די ציין, ער זאָל מיינען, אַז ער קנאַקט ניס.

דאָס וואָס האָט געזאָלט זיין מיר, זאָל אויסגיין אויף זיין קאָפּ, אויף זיינע הענט אָן פיס, אויף זיין לייב אָן לעבן.

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Coast to Coast

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Toronto girl wins Bible contest

MONTREAL — How many days and nights did the Great Flood last? Who was Abraham's wife? Why were Adam and Eve banished from the Garden of Eden?

Those are some of the easier questions that Jewish schoolchildren from several cities across Canada answered during the recent 1999 National Bible Contest.

Close to 140 elementary and high school students, all winners of regional contests held in Quebec, Ontario and western Canada, took part in the annual competition held over two days at Bialik High School and Congregation Beth Zion.

Participants often spend months preparing for the competition under the guidance of Bible coaches. To expect to finish well, students must master a tremendous amount of material and have an encyclopedic recall of biblical facts.

Many Jewish day and supplementary schools are officially associated with the contest, entering students in all levels. However, the national contest is open to any Jewish student, whether they go to a Jewish school or not. They may enter as independents.

That was the case for this year's top finisher, Batya Breslow, a Grade 9 student at Beth Jacob School in Toronto, an Orthodox girls' school. She earned the title of Kallat Chidon Hatanach of Canada and will represent this country at the International Bible Contest in Jerusalem next spring.

She competed in a category open to those in grades 9 to 13 in day schools.

Merav Fima, of Herzliah High School (Snowdon) in Montreal, earned the same title for Quebec and will also go to the world competion.

Coming second and third in the senior category were, respectively, Eliav Danzinger of Community Hebrew Academy and Joseph Aiken of Yeshivat Or Chaim, both of Toronto.

Winners in the grades 7-8 category were all from Toronto: first, Michael Kurin of United Synagogue Day School; second, Shalom Naumann of Eitz Chaim School (Patricia branch); and third, Leah Breslow of Eitz Chaim (Spring Farm branch).

In the grade 5-6 division, first place went to Ian Brasq of Associated Junior High, second to Hillel Nadler of Netivot Hatorah and third to Malki Feldman of Eitz Chaim (Viewmont branch), all of Toronto.

Daniel Bierstone, another independent entrant, a Grade 5 student at Toronto's Institute of Child Study, took top honors in the supplementary schools division. Others finishing best were: Adam Silver of Beth Tikvah School of Toronto, second; and, tied in third place, were Jacob Fox of the Downtown Jewish Community School in Toronto, Emily Moon and Ilana Hanes of Temple Israel School in Ottawa, and Jeffrey Heifetz, also of Beth Tikvah.

The supplementary students were in grades 5 to 7.

"The goal of the competition is to promote the study of Bible as an attractive and fun activity," said Lois Lieff, of the Jewish Education Council which organized the event, with the financial support of FEDERATION CJA.

"It also sparks cross-Canada friendships between like-minded Jewish students." This was the contest's 25th year.

In addition to the actual competition, students participated in a variety of activities. The younger grades visited the Biodome for a "biblical safari," and all students took in the Oasis in Space show at the Dow Planetarium.

The 90 out-of-towners, from Ottawa, Toronto, Winnipeg, Edmonton, Calgary, Vancouver and Victoria, were billeted with local families.

Last year's top Canadian qualifier, Carolyn Gehr, a Grade 11 student at the Snowdon Herzliah, recently came in seventh in this year's International Bible Competion in Israel in the world category which includes Israel.

She placed fourth in the Diaspora category, which included 50 countries.

To prepare, she studied 387 chapters of the Bible, devoting two hours a day to the task.

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Scene in Ottawa

By G.K. SIMCOE

To casual observers, it is sometimes difficult to imagine how constituency work can get done when MPs (and senators) are busy jetting around the world.

Usually, such activity is restricted to times when the House is in recess. It seems that this year, "recess" is coming early and parliamentarians are off to all sorts of exotic climes.

To assess the value of these trips, we should first navigate between the various categories of travel. Many trips taken by federal politicians are a function of Canada's international obligations. The most active within this group would be the IPU or Inter-parliamentary Union. The Canadian delegation is currently headed by Sheila Finestone who recruits colleagues for particular IPU meetings depending on the IPU agenda at the time. Other organizations that fall into this category would be the parliamentary delegations to NATO and the Commonwealth.

These excursions are generally seen as useful – both in terms of MPs sharing and exchanging perspectives with colleagues around the world, as well as serving as an opportunity for our elected officials to broaden their horizons. A recent NATO delegation's sidebar visit to a Nazi death camp is a good case in point.

A second variety of travel is directly related to parliamentary committee work to advance the business of the committee. Typically, the foreign affairs committee might travel to a region of the world that is under consideration in connection with a piece of legislation or a committee report. These trips are almost always regarded as valuable in helping the parliamentarian better understand the issues .

A third category of travel, one which is held in much less esteem, is the Team Canada boondoggle. Ostensibly these trips are designed to blitz (tradewise, that is) specifically targeted regions and score commercial contracts for Canadian companies. Of course, everyone knows that the contracts announced during the trips were negotiated weeks in advance. An MP's participation on such ventures represents little more than a perk or "thank you" from the Prime Minister.

The trips most often criticized, however, are the "political junkets" paid for by third parties. Next week we will take a look at some of them – including ones sponsored by various Jewish communal agencies.

Coast to Coast

Immigrant skills development conference held

By MYRON LOVE
Prairies Correspondent

WINNIPEG — The first ever immigrant to immigrant skills development conference, sponsored by Jewish Immigrant Aid Services (JIAS), was a useful and interesting exercise, says the social work team supervisor in the Toronto JIAS office.

"This conference (held May 15 and 16 at Winnipeg's Asper Jewish Community Campus) was all about immigrants helping immigrants," says Mila Voihanski.

"It was different in that there were no professionals leading workshops or making presentations. It was about the initiative of other immigrants. There was a lot of positive energy coming out of the workshops. We heard some wonderful ideas. The immigrants here felt supported and cared for."

Voihanski came to Canada 25 years ago from Lvov, by way of Israel. "I was intending to go to the United States," she recalls, "but a travel agent suggested it would be easier getting into the United States from Toronto. I fell in love with Toronto, married here and made my home and career here."

She has spent her entire working career in Toronto working for JIAS, first as a translator and then a case worker before assuming her present position.

One of the panelists, Naum Shteinbah, a development manager for the Qualico Group of companies, came from Moldova to Calgary nine years ago. He and his family were helped by the Jewish Family Service when they first came to the city.

His message to fellow immigrants was to "think new" rather than concentrate on past negative experiences. "It is a major adjustment adapting to a society that is not your own," he observes. "But the better you adapt, the better your chances of success."

Boris Kerdimun came to the conference from New York. He describes it as an exciting opportunity to bring people together to discuss common issues. "Conferences like this are still rare," he says. "I was especially happy for the chance to talk with new immigrants from Argentina and Brazil."

Originally from Moscow, Kerdimun has been living in New York for 20 years. For much of that time, he has been working for the New York Association for New Americans Inc. (NYANA), the largest immigrant and refugee resettlement agency in the United States. For the past seven years, he has been program director for NYANA's advisory committee for emigres program.

"We help professionals, mainly from the former Soviet Union, in their job search by linking them with American colleagues who help them find their way," he explains.

"We also serve as a [volunteer] clearing house for the Jewish community, promote Russian speaking Jews' involvement in their Jewish communities, and foster ties between Russian-speaking grassroots organizations and the larger American Jewish community."

Adaptation to a new culture is a life-long process, he notes. "I am still working to improve my English after 20 years," he says. "I will never reach the level of fluency that I enjoy in Russian, but I love the process. One of the most important things for the wider community to realize is that integration of immigrants is a two-way street. New immigrants enhance their communities with their own talents and skills."

In total, the conference attracted 70 immigrants ranging in age from 16 to 66, from coast to coast. The panels and seminars were designed to provide new Jewish immigrants to Canada with an opportunity to network with business contacts, mentors and fellow immigrants from across the country.

Michael Briks, JIAS national executive vice-president, reports that every one of the delegates had the cost of the trip and the conference paid for by their local communities.

"It is a gift to them from caring Jewish communities," Briks says.

"The trade-off is that we expect them to make serious contributions to their communities when they return."

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On Campus

Kesher fieldworker reaches out to Reform students

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — When she was a sociology student at McMaster University, Lisa Isen became involved in Temple Anshe Sholom, Hamilton's Reform congregation, where she taught and worked as a youth group adviser.

Although she also served as co-president of the Jewish Students Association, her involvement in the temple filled a gap for her.

Since the fall, when Isen, 25, was hired jointly by Jewish Campus Services of Greater Toronto and the Canadian Council for Reform Judaism (CCRJ) as Kesher fieldworker, she has been helping to fill Reform students at Toronto campuses.

Janice Elster, who recently completed her second year in Women's Studies and Jewish Studies at the University of Toronto, says it was nice to participate in a Kesher Havdallah service with other Reform students.

"Being Reform...there are certain ways of doing services, certain songs you sing, certain camps you went to. It's very comfortable to join something when it's familiar."

Elster, who grew up as part of Vancouver's Temple Sholom, is also involved in the greater Jewish student community. She is the incoming vice-president of U of T's Jewish Students' Union (JSU) and has been involved in a number of pluralism initiatives, including this year's Unity Mission, bringing students of different denominations together.

Kesher fieldworker Lisa Isen, left, and student Janice Elster participated in a University of Toronto Purim party earlier this year. Elster is involved in both Kesher and U of T's Jewish Students' Union.

"I learned a lot, particularly about Conservative Judaism. That's what I knew the least about. I knew more about Orthodoxy from other students at the JSU. I learned there's no one way to be, even within each movement."

Kesher Toronto is the first of its kind in Canada, said Isen, whose position is part time. She is the only exclusively Kesher staff person to serve an individual campus in North America, to the best of her knowledge.

Kesher is "fairly new" in the United States. Here, the CCRJ formed its Reform on Campus committee three years ago.

Similarly, Koach and Kedma represent the campus arms of Conservative and Orthodox Judaism respectively.

Kesher activities in Toronto have included Friday night dinners and "Lunch and Learn" events. Future plans include a monthly minyan and outreach to campuses in a couple of nearby cities.

This year there was a "solid core" of about 15 Kesher students, with new people showing up at various programs, Isen said.

Despite an involvement with the Reform movement going back to her youth group days at Temple Emanu-El, Isen said that this year she's learned "a lot more what it really means to be a Reform Jew, and I'm learning a lot more about Judaism as a whole."

For Isen, it was important to bring a Reform perspective to the pluralistic programs.

"Reform students have needs as well. They feel as uncomfortable sitting segregated as Orthodox students feel sitting together."

Volunteers sought for excavation

TORONTO — Throughout the millennia, readers of the Bible have been inspired by the story of David and Goliath.

Thanks to a new co-operative venture between the faculty of arts and the Centre for Jewish Studies at York University, and the Martin (Szusz) Department of Land of Israel Studies at Bar-Ilan University, Canadian students can receive university credit while taking part in recovering the world of the famed biblical figures. Other volunteers are also welcome.

Next month, a joint team from the two universities will resume the excavation of Tell es-Safi, between Ashkelon and Beth Shemesh. The site is widely believed to be the location of the Philistine city of Gath, Goliath's hometown.

In return for their labor, volunteers receive on-site training, take field trips to other sites of interest, and play an essential role in the recovery of the Holy Land's past.

Foreign volunteers have been a mainstay of Israeli archeology ever since the late Yigael Yadin attracted people from all over the world to dig at Masada. Many are bitten by the archeology bug and return year after year to connect with their spiritual roots.

In 1966, a team of archeologists led by Dr. Aren Maeir of Bar-Ilan University initiated a long term scientific investigation at Tell es-Safi.

For further information, contact: Prof. Carl Ehrlich at York University by fax, 416-736-5460, or e-mail, ehrlich@yorku.ca

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Navy officials say chance of raising Dakar is slight

Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

JERUSALEM — Top navy officials concluded last weekend that chances are slight of retrieving the Dakar submarine from its resting place on the seabed in the Mediterranean, 2,900 meters below sea level.

The decision was made in a meeting held by the Israel Navy's commanding officer, Admiral Alex Tal. The families of the 69 men who went down with the Dakar are split over whether or not the submarine should be raised.

The submarine, which disappeared on Jan. 24, 1968, on its return journey to Israel after it was refurbished in Portsmouth, England, was positively identified last week.

Speaking to the families at a naval base in Haifa last weekend, Tal said the Israel Navy does not currently have the technological ability to recover the sunken craft.

Defence Minister Moshe Arens said that if the technology becomes available, the considerable expense involved would not stand in the way of recovery.

IDF Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Shaul Mofaz briefed the cabinet on the discovery of the Dakar. He said the IDF allocated NIS 10 million to the search over the last year, bringing the total amount spent on the search since 1968 to NIS 25 million.

Brig.-Gen. (Res.) Gideon Raz, who headed the search team, said yesterday that "anything is possible, it depends on money and time.

"The Americans are the only ones who tried to do anything like this, when they wanted to recover a Soviet nuclear submarine. But they were prepared to invest any effort and even built a special submarine for the task."

He noted that the American effort was only partly successful and only two-thirds of the Soviet submarine was recovered.

Experts believe that even if is possible to reach the submarine, it is doubtful whether any human remains are still inside. While IDF officials have not said so explicitly, it is very unlikely that the Dakar will be retrieved from the sea in the next several years.

Submarine

Navy officials pointed out yesterday that the accepted tradition among the navies of the world is to hold annual memorial ceremonies near the location where a ship has sunk, rather than to retrieve the remains of sailors.

The three senior naval reserve officers who made a positive identification of the Dakar on the bottom of the Mediterranean, between Crete and Cyprus returned to Israel last weekend.

Raz and his two colleagues, reserve colonels Michael Kesari and Doron Amir, attended the meeting called by Tal to discuss the discovery and the navy's next moves.

The submarine was broken into three large pieces, with smaller pieces scattered in a 200-meter radius around the main part. The location and shape of the pieces support the theory that the submarine sunk as a result of mechanical failure and/or human error and was not destroyed deliberately.

Some members of the search crew believe the vessel may have been hit by a freighter or another vessel, a possibility that will be investigated.

Mike Eldar, a retired navy captain who wrote a book on the Dakar, said that such a collision would probably have been reported by officers on the other vessel and, even if kept out of official logs, would have been made public over the years.

The head of the Abu Kabir Institute of Forensic Medicine, Prof. Yehuda Hiss, told *Ha'aretz* that the navy had asked him for information on ways to identify corpses in the ocean.

Hiss said he requested information on the subject from the U.S. Navy, which has the most current information on the subject. The sea might have preserved the bodies, he said.

But the head of the Institute of Naval Studies, Yuval Cohen, said that it is doubtful that the bones of the missing sailors would have survived in the deep waters.

On his way to the spot 500 kilometers from Israel's coast where the Dakar was found, Amir made a list of five items that would provide positive identification of the sunken submarine.

Any one of them would have been enough, and the relatively short filming mission of the underwater robot revealed four of the identifying characteristics that enabled the search team members to say conclusively, "This is it."

The naval command asked Raz to board a missile boat at Haifa within two hours, without indicating the nature of the mission.

Only after he boarded the ship was Raz told that the Dakar had been located southwest of Crete, but that no positive identification had been made.

Raz made the list of the five unique features at that time. The features were mainly changes made by the British to the submarine to refit it to Israel Navy specifications, and were unique to the Dakar and its sister sub, the Leviathan.

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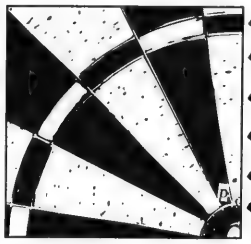
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Israel & the Jewish World

Berlin's Jewish Museum short of exhibit 'stuff'

By TOBY AXELROD
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

BERLIN — The walls of the new Jewish Museum here are bare, except for shard-like windows that let in slashes of light.

From the top floor, it seems the city's pre- and postwar buildings unfold outward like petals around this silvery, zigzag heart.

Currently, it is a museum without exhibits, but Michael Cullen hopes to change that soon.

As coordinator of research, Cullen is appealing to the public for "stuff" for the first exhibit, which is scheduled to open in October 2000.

An ad campaign is due to start in June in German Jewish publications and major newspapers here, and in Israel, the United States and Britain.

Cullen wants material pouring in from all places where there are people with German roots.

"We are looking for everything and everybody and everywhere we can," says Cullen. He was born in New York in 1939, the son of Jewish immigrants from eastern Europe. He has lived in Berlin since 1967.

Cullen wants people to search their attics and basements for documents, photos, paintings, you name it – photocopies are acceptable. If something is valuable, like a painting, the museum will consider purchasing it.

Cullen hopes to receive items related to the 1848 revolution in Germany, which was one in a wave of democratic uprisings across Europe at the time.

He also wants items on Jewish life in the countryside and cities. He's also interested in assimilation and conversion, and Jewish cultural life.

"Religious life is only one facet of Jewish life in Germany," says Cullen.

How will he convince people to part with such material?

"Everything we get can be used to help educate," Cullen says. "People should remember that there are stories behind these things that we should know."

The first exhibit will focus on German Jewish life from 1848 to 1919. But Cullen hopes to receive items from all periods of history.

Cullen said 500,000 visitors are expected each year at the museum once exhibitions open.

Already, tens of thousands have visited the celebrated building, designed by Polish Israeli architect Daniel Libeskind, since it opened in February for weekend tours.

Some have called the building a sculpture in itself. Representing a broken Star of David, the museum is covered in gray zinc panels and is pierced by jagged windows.

It took six years to build the museum, and the road to its opening has been rocky, with fighting over who should direct it and what it should contain.

The city government fired the previous director, Israeli curator Amon Barzel, reportedly because of his universal and contemporary approach to Jewish art and history.

After former U.S. Treasury Secretary Michael Blumenthal was hired as a replacement, he won administrative autonomy for the museum. He and assistant director Tom Freudenheim – both come from families who escaped Nazi Germany – are free to make decisions about exhibits, rather than work under the thumb of the Berlin city museum.

The museum's mandate has likewise changed.

Instead of focusing on the history of Jews in Berlin, it will cover German Jewish history from Roman times to the present.

Blumenthal has made it clear that although the Holocaust will be one theme, exhibitions will also focus on the vibrancy of Jewish life and culture.

Chief adviser to the museum is Shaike Weinberg, 80, an Israeli museum designer. He was responsible for the design of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, in addition to several Israeli museums.

The estimated operating costs of the Berlin museum will be about $11 million.

To contact the museum search team, write Michael Cullen, Jewish Museum Berlin, Lindenstrasse 9-14, Berlin 10969, or e-mail Recherechen@jmberlin.de.

Germany elects president

By TOBY AXELROD
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

BERLIN — Johannes Rau has been elected Germany's eighth postwar president in elections that coincided with the 50th anniversary of West Germany's constitution.

In his acceptance speech, he said he saw it as his "personal duty from this day on, to be president for all Germans and a voice for all those who live and work here without a German passport."

Rau promised to uphold the values of not only Germans, but of "humanity."

"I will never be a nationalist, but definitely a patriot," Rau said. "A patriot is someone who loves his fatherland, but a nationalist is someone who hates the homelands of others."

Rau, 68, a member of Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder's Social Democratic party, will replace the Christian Democratic Union party's incumbent, Roman Herzog, on July 1.

Herzog, 65, who in his five-year term earned the respect of Jewish organizations worldwide, this month received a humanitarian award from the Anti-Defamation League in New York for fighting bigotry, xenophobia and anti-Semitism in Germany.

Rau also has demonstrated support for Jewish causes. Though the position of president is largely ceremonial, it carries moral weight, and has been described as the voice of Germany's conscience.

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DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION: June 15, 1999.

Barak's new challenges

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

Mideast Analysis

Ehud Barak, Israel's prime minister-elect, carries a heavy burden. In last month's election, he not only won a victory over a discredited leader, but also a mandate to break the deadlock in the peace process and to diffuse ethnic and religious tensions in Israel itself. Barak, therefore, is under tremendous pressure to perform.

Before he can get down to the business at hand, he must form a coalition government. Although he handily defeated Benjamin Netanyahu, the Likud incumbent, his One Israel movement lost one-fifth of its Knesset seats.

Barak, in line with former prime minister Shimon Peres' philosophy, hopes to form a centrist national unity government with such ideologically diverse partners as the Likud, the National Religious Party and Meretz. He is convinced, rightly or wrongly, that purely left-wing and right-wing governments deepen divisions in a politically, ethnically and religiously fragmented country like Israel.

A classic consensus builder, Barak is neither a dove nor a hawk, but a pragmatist. As a minister in Yitzhak Rabin's government, he raised eyebrows by abstaining on the September 1995 Oslo 2 agreement. He argued that its security provisions were flawed, but supported its broad objectives.

Having hammered away at the election campaign theme that Israel was "stuck," Barak wants to implement the 1998 Wye memorandum and to deal with the panoply of final status issues: borders, settlements, water rights. But Barak will proceed with caution.

Like Netanyahu, Barak will insist that the Palestinians rein in terrorism and squelch incitement. And while he would prefer a confederation between the Palestinian Authority and Jordan, Barak is not opposed to a sovereign demilitarized Palestinian state, or "physical separation" from the Palestinians. Barak lives by the credo that "high fences make good neighbors."

The question, of course, is how much land Barak is willing to cede. Netanyahu, at a maximum, was probably prepared to withdraw from 60 percent of the West Bank. Barak may be ready to relinquish as much as 85 percent, on condition Israel maintains control of major settlement clusters and no Arab armies are stationed west of the Jordan River, Israel's "security" border. It sounds a lot like the Allon Plan.

As for Jerusalem, Barak is of the view that it must remain undivided under Israel's administration. However, he believes that Har Choma's development should be deferred until final status negotiations (which are far behind schedule). He thinks that the Jerusalem corridor should be widened in Israel's favor, but has made no public comments regarding the status of Orient House, the PLO's headquarters in eastern Jerusalem, or the possibility of designating Abu Dis as the capital of a future Palestinian state.

Barak has promised to pull Israeli troops out of southern Lebanon within a year, but in the context of an accord with Syria. Barak, unlike Netanyahu, will agree to resume bilateral talks with Syria at the point they broke off in 1996. But both sides have yet to determine where they stopped. In accordance with Rabin's policy, he has stated that the depth of a withdrawal from the Golan Heights will be linked to the degree of peace and normalization.

Judging by the election results, a majority of Israelis are ready to part with the Golan. Settlers on the Golan voted for Barak by a margin of 57 to 41. And significantly, the Third Way party, whose single-issue platform turned on the importance of keeping the Golan, lost all four of its Knesset seats.

Barak, a strong believer in the unity of the Jewish people, will not support legislation which will sow disunity and acrimony. In January, he voted against a bill barring non-Orthodox Jews from serving on local religious councils. And, in the interests of fairness, he still intends to go ahead with legislation to abolish haredi draft exemptions.

Clearly, Barak faces awesome challenges.

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The Week in Israel

May 24

• Prime Minister-elect Ehud Barak began presenting potential coalition partners with a 10-point plan outlining his policy goals. The plan rules out an Israeli withdrawal from all of the West Bank and declares that Israel will retain control over all of Jerusalem.

May 25

• A 30-year-old Jerusalem mother gave birth to a set of quadruplets last week without undergoing fertility treatments. The odds of such an event occurring are less than one in 512,000. Doctors had suggested that the Jewish woman, who already has six children, undergo embryonic reduction, but she refused for religious reasons.

• An earthquake measuring 5.2 on the Richter scale shook parts of Israel but caused no damage or injuries. The tremor's epicentre was located near Cyprus.

May 26

• The Supreme Court ordered the Interior Ministry to explain its policy of cancelling the citizenship of Israel Arab women who had married Palestinians and moved to the West Bank. Court president Aharon Barak called the policy "outrageous discrimination." Outgoing Interior Minister Eli Suissa said that policy had been halted six years ago.

May 27

• Outgoing Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu resigned his Knesset seat during a meeting of the Likud Party's central committee. However, he left the door open to a possible return to politics some day. "Under no circumstances am I retiring from the battle for my country," he said. The committee confirmed outgoing Foreign Minister Ariel Sharon as its acting head.

May 28

• In an attempt to create a continuous swath of Israeli territory east of Jerusalem, Defence Minister Moshe Arens approved a master plan connecting Ma'aleh Adumim with Jerusalem. The plan increases the municipal territory of Ma'aleh Adumim by 10,000 dunams (2,500 acres.)

Files from JTA and Ha'aretz.

Health

Blood test used to help detect heart trouble

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — One of the latest advances in medicine is the development of a blood test indicating whether or not an individual has a genetic predisposition to heart trouble.

Such knowledge will enable physicians to take action to reduce the risks of heart disease.

"This will be a valuable spinoff from the human genome project," said Dr. John Floras, referring to an international project on genetics. Floras, head of cardiology at Mount Sinai Hospital (MSH), was addressing an audience of 300 at the final forum in the Mount Sinai Healthy Living Series, held recently at the Leah Posluns Theatre.

Not enough attention is being paid to the socio-economic status of those suffering from heart attacks and heart failure, Floras noted. Those who are well off tend to get faster service than those with lower incomes, he said.

He also showed a slide of a map of Ontario which indicated that people in areas away from populated centres have to wait longer for medical or hospital services.

On prevention and cutting risks, Dr. Floras stressed the importance of maintaining the right weight. He noted that being 10 pounds overweight for 10 years can lead to the loss of a year of life.

During the question period, he said vitamins C and E have generated great enthusiasm on the part of those who believe they cut the risk of heart attacks, "but this has not translated into positive results. If I am asked, I do not recommend them to my patients."

He had the same view of selenium, stating there was just anecdotal evidence to support its effectiveness.

"We are very excited about the study we are doing on echo cardiography as a means of diagnosing coronary disease," said Dr. Zion Sasson, a staff cardiologist at MSH. The hospital has the largest laboratory volume of such tests in the province.

Dr. Allan Gordon, MSH staff neurologist, said that persons who believe they are suffering from a stroke, or who suspect one is in the offing, should get to a hospital as quickly as possible. Signs of a stroke include temporary numbness in a part of the body, temporary blurring of vision and severe drowsiness, Gordon noted.

Strokes are the leading cause of disability in Canada, he said.

Of t-PA (activase), a drug which helps stroke victims, Gordon said: "It is not the godsend we hoped it would be. Only one of 10 patients will benefit. But there are new drugs coming."

Activase has just been approved in Canada, he said, but one of its drawbacks is that it has to be administered in a hospital within three hours of the onset of a stroke

Heart disease is just as important to women as it is to men, said Janet Durbin, of Bathurst Jewish Centre (BJC), in thanking the speakers. "It used to be that women came to these meetings to help look after their men, but now they are coming for themselves."

Co-sponsors of the forum were the Jewish Women's Federation, the BJC and the National Council of Jewish Women.

Mazel Tov

מזל טוב

We cannot guarantee the date a picture will appear. Please limit all greetings to 25 typewritten words. We reserve the right to edit all items and condense any that are longer than that.

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Marni & Jason Appel and sister Malorie welcome Hailey Lauren, born Feb. 23. Proud grandparents are Kitty & Paul Tepperman and Bev & Stan Appel.

Happy fourth birthday Craig Fishman from sister Morgan; mom & dad, Rosanne & Elliott; grandparents and great-grandparents.

Joshua Nicholas Bayer celebrated his fourth birthday April 23. Mom, Dad, grandparents Ros & Alex Bayer wish him a happy birthday.

Bebe & Nelson De Freitas are happy to announce the arrival of their baby son Devan. Brothers are Nathan and Quinton, and proud uncle is José.

Mazel tov Goldie Yarmouth Cooper on her special birthday. Love, Linda Yarmouth; Dorothy, Bob, Bram and Jeff Aaron; and Harry Heisel.

Lilian & Bert Miller, Gert & Sigi Korn are delighted to announce the engagement of their children Shelley Miller & Brian Korn.

Congratulations Ela & Shifra Handler on your 50th anniversary from Tamara, Willie, Mary Anne, Irv, Cynthia, Joshua, Zev, Dov, Leah, Sarah and Anna.

Happy 90th birthday Eve Trapunski. Love, Edward & Ellen Trapunski, Irene & Gary Bloomstone, Charles, Richard, Brenda, Susan & Neil, David & Zahava, Jane and Valerie.

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Dr. Laura explains love

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

Everyone knows that parents love their children. It's part of their job. Many children, though, find this hard to understand.

After all, when kids get angry at someone, they are sure that they don't love that person at all. And grown-ups have so many more people to love.

Laura Schlessinger understands that. She is a marriage and family therapist, so she knows how families work. Also, she has a radio talk show, and lots of people call in and tell her about their problems.

Along with Martha Lambert, a children's book and video writer, she has written a very good book that talks about love between a mother and her child, called *Why Do You Love Me?* (HarperCollins, 1999).

Sammy's mother has just finished reading him a bedtime story. She kisses him good night and tells him that she loves him.

Sammy is worried, and asked her why she loves him. Mother asks him why he thinks she does. He thinks of all kinds of reasons. Maybe it's because he is so good at sports, or because he picked up his toys, or because he is kind to other people.

Then he worries about whether she stops loving him if he does something wrong, like being rude to her, or hitting someone, or crayoning on the wall.

What do you think your mother or father would say? Well, Sammy's mother tells him that she loves him whatever he does – or doesn't do. That is because he is "the one and only Sammy there will ever be in the whole world – and you're mine."

You will enjoy the colorful pictures Daniel McFeeley has drawn for *Why Do You Love Me?* In one, Sammy shows his mother that he has picked up all his toys, but he has stuffed them behind his door. And he certainly looks guilty when he is drawing pictures on the wall.

Schlessinger plans to write a series of books about things that children think about, and that they can discuss with their parents.

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CHUBBY & HOTDOG
by Alyssa Guttman
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CJ Kids

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The Netivot Hatorah choir performed recently at the Yom Yerushalayim celebrations at Spring Farm Plaza. [Rebecca Ansel photo]

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CHUBBY & HOTDOG

By Alyssa Guttman

OMISSION

Norene Gilletz's About Food column of May 27 had an omission in the recipe for Toasted Almond Brownies. The recipe should have read ½ cup light exra-firm silken tofu (or regular block tofu), blended; ½ cup cocoa (Dutch-processed or regular).

The reader should refer to the instructions for blended tofu.

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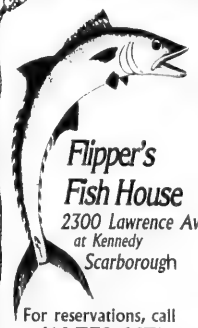
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Toronto author's children's book is entertaining and educational

By ERIC STEIN
Special to The CJN

In *The Secret of Gabi's Dresser* (Second Story Press), a new children's book, parents and educators will find an indisposable resource for the challenging task of teaching kids about the Holocaust.

In her debut book, Toronto author Kathy Kacer, balances the best of good writing with sophisticated storytelling and an acute sensitivity to her targeted audience. The result is an insightful, educational, and deeply moving work of historical fiction, guaranteed to impact readers of all ages.

The tale begins in the present, with the grandchildren of Gabi playing hide-and-seek in their "Babichka's" house. Asked by the children if she played hide-and-seek as a young girl, Gabi shifts into storytelling mode, transporting the children and the reader to Czechoslovakia, circa 1940.

Gabi sketches her happy life as an innocent young girl growing up on a farm surrounded by mountains and beautiful countryside. She lives in a small village populated by both Jews and gentiles, who for the most part, enjoy harmonious relations.

That is, until the spectre of war and Nazism creeps closer to their idyllic community. From there, a familiar story unfolds: Jews are targeted for harassment and violence, they are prohibited from practicing their professions, they are required to wear identifying yellow stars, and are made subject to an increasing number of restrictive "Jewish Laws."

Conditions continue to deteriorate over subsequent years, leading to a tension-filled climax.

In April 1943, a squad of Slovak soldiers comes to take Gabi to a work camp. Miraculously, Gabi escapes capture by hiding in the family's dresser, normally reserved for china, silverware and keepsakes. Though terrified in the small, dark confines of the dresser, Gabi is calmed and quieted when she is overtaken by the presence of her late father.

Soon after this ordeal, Gabi and her mother leave their home, and spend the duration of the war hiding in a hayloft in the mountains. When they return two years later, they find their house inhabited by a Czech family. Without a home, they emigrate to Palestine, and later, America. They take very few of their possessions with them, but the one and only piece of furniture they take is the dresser.

It is both a tragic and triumphant story, made all the more compelling because it is based on a real occurrence. Kacer is the daughter of Gabi, who true to the story, eluded capture by Slovak soldiers by hiding in the family dresser. Family lore holds that while the soldiers searched for Gabi, her mother clutched the key to the dresser so tightly that her palm bled.

Today, the very dresser that inspired the story sits in Kacer's living room, a reminder of her mother's travail and miraculous survival.

Tackling a decidedly adult subject in a story aimed at children could have proven problematic, but Kacer handles this delicate task with skill. Her prose is artfully unpretentious, but nonetheless challenging for young audiences. Her sharp sense of narrative development leads the story in a coherent arc toward its dramatic climax.

She succeeds in revealing a great deal about the nature of prejudice, and her book will help young people to not only understand the dangers of ethnic discrimination, but to sympathize with its victims.

Filled with complex, well-crafted characters and rendered with historical accuracy, the story holds unusual depth for a children's book. It should prove as compelling and accessible for older readers as for its targeted audience.

Kacer is particularly effective in delving subtly into some of the central issues of Holocaust study. A recurring theme is the false sense of security that keeps Jews from recognizing that the worst is, in fact, possible. Though Gabi and her mother survive, their story is exceptional. The vast majority of European Jews realized too late that remaining brave and obeying the restrictive Jewish Laws would not be enough to avert their horrible fate.

Kacer is also effective in portraying the acquiescence of the gentiles to the destruction of the Jews. This is poignantly illustrated by Nina, Gabi's gentile friend who deserts Gabi as anti-Semitism escalates. Once friends and neighbors of the Jews, the gentiles of Gabi's village stand idly by as the Jews are persecuted. Concerned more for their own well-being than for the great injustice occurring before their eyes, their complicity allowed the Holocaust to occur.

Today, as we witness a new holocaust in the Balkans, *The Secret of Gabi's Dresser* strikes an ominous note, reminding us of the peril we face in failing to remain vigilant on behalf of others, and by clinging to a dangerous form of complacency that deceives us into believing "it could never happen here."

Revealing the human face of the Holocaust, and delving subtly into many of the central issues in Holocaust study, *The Secret of Gabi's Dresser* is a thought-provoking, moving, and exciting tale. Kacer (who has been nominated by the National Magazine Awards Foundation for an article she wrote based on the story) will have readers, young and old alike, turning the pages eagerly, unable to put down this gripping story until its completion.

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Shylock and anti-Semitism

By JOSEPH SERGE
Arts Editor

No Shakespeare play has generated as much controversy in the post-Holocaust era as *The Merchant of Venice*.

Although he's only in five scenes – less than a third of the play – Shakespeare's Jewish villain Shylock is synonymous with the anti-Semitic stereotype prevalent in Europe for centuries.

Filmmaker Pierre Lasry uses Shylock and the various productions of *The Merchant of Venice* throughout history, to examine anti-Semitism through the ages in the National Film Board's *Shylock*, airing June 9 at 9 p.m. on Bravo.

Was Shakespeare an anti-Semite or was he merely reflecting popular xenophobic sentiment prevalent in Elizabethan England? (There were few Jews in England at the time.)

Did the character of Shylock reflect people's view of moneylenders? (Shakespeare's father John was a moneylender.) Was Shylock a victim of ostracization by the mainstream or a villain, heartlessly seeking revenge? Was he a bad Jew who wanted to kill a good Christian?

These are just a few of the questions addressed by many leading Shakespearean directors and actors in this one-hour documentary. The film also includes footage of well-known actors in the role of Shylock, among them, Laurence Olivier, Dustin Hoffman and an unfinished version by Orson Welles.

There are many fascinating insights into this play. One director compared it to a staging of the *Passion Play*, with Bassanio – his arms out in crucifixion style – waiting for Shylock to extract his pound of flesh.

The Nazis staged a version of *The Merchant of Venice* in Vienna, on the day Austria became officially *Judenrein*.

The play has gone through many directorial revisions in its production history. Shylock, originally portrayed as a villainous buffoon, was given more tragic aspects during the Romantic period.

Perhaps most interesting is seeing how contemporary directors try to deal with the controversy today.

One Jewish director, Tibor Egervari, decided to stage the play in a concentration camp with Shylock played by an SS officer who turns into the traditional stereotype Jew during the trial. The concentration camp inmates kill Shylock, thus killing both the SS officer and the anti-Semitic stereotype.

There are many other interesting theories, debates and interpretations presented in this documentary, which should appeal to both Shakespeare enthusiasts and history buffs.

Henry Irving as Shylock in 1879 production.

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Not ready to give up his day job

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Daryl Marks, 38, is an actor who says his day job, managing a shoe store, comes first.

Though his passion for acting goes back to when he was a boy in England, Marks says he would never be able to make a living for his family if he gave up a full-time job for the stage.

"I'm in shoe business in the daytime and show business at night," he said. All his day jobs have been in selling shoes.

Marks has been taking lead roles in community theatre – once he stepped in when another actor begged off with only three weeks to opening night – and doesn't get paid.

He is being paid for playing the philandering husband four times a week in the Pickering Herongate dinner theatre show *Out on a Limb*, but even this payment for a seven-week run would not keep the wolf from the door.

He won a Thea award for his role as Charlie in Larry Shue's *The Foreigner* for Markham Little Theatre, a role he reprised three months later with East Side Players.

Marks was the quadraplegic lead in *Whose Life Is It Anyway*, a role played by Richard Dreyfus in the movie, for Weston Little Theatre, and was the male lead in A.R. Gurney's *Love Letters* for Theatre Durham in Pickering.

"If I did get a role in one of the big theatres, I'd have to give up my day job, and I couldn't live on the income from four or five plays. This is a tough business, and it's not what you know but who you know."

A Willowdale resident born in Liverpool, Marks is married to Catherine, who has two children, Madison, 12 and Jessica, 10, from a previous marriage. His parents, Howard and Loretta, live in Don Mills.

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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

THEY'RE BACK!

Food critics **Marty and Avrum** are two good eggs that always turn up sunny-side up.

Although one Toronto station recently canned their weekly radio show after over three years, the duo's food talk was just too fresh to be kept on the shelf for long. Hence their recent reappearance on Toronto radio station CFRB 1010, each Saturday evening from 7 to 8 p.m.

Marty Galin and **Avrum Rosensweig** established themselves as devoted food aficionados years ago, starting with a magazine column and articles, then a telephone hotline for restaurant reviews, then lines of fresh-baked kosher pretzels, ice cream sorbet and other products.

Along with their often witty repartee, their new cooking show, called *Marty and Avrum The Food Guys*, features interviews with food experts and chefs, winery connoisseurs, restaurant owners and others.

You might also hear them on air at other times, kibitzing their way through commercials for products such as Broil King barbecues.

* * *

Duo at McMichael: The musical ensemble **Duo**, consisting of **Margot Rydall** on flute and **Ivan Zilman** on guitar, present a recital of an eclectic mix of classical and jazz selections, at the McMichael Gallery on Islington Ave. in Kleinburg. June 6, 1:30 p.m.

* * *

Lenka in Concert: Yiddish singer and songwriter **Lenka Lichtenberg** performs a concert featuring new Jewish music and traditional Yiddish treasures, many from her latest album, *Deep Inside*. Ford Centre Studio Theatre, June 16, 8 p.m. $10. 870-8000.

* * *

Ve'Ahavta Benefit: Ve'Ahavta, the Canadian Jewish Humanitarian & Relief Committee, is hosting Songs Under the Stars, a tribute to previously unsung acts of courage by numerous honorees. They include **Joseph Enyew**, who rescued some 1,500 Ethiopian Jews, and **Shyrna Gilbert**, co-founder of the Rwanda Children's Fund to aid orphans.

Performers include **Michael Burgess, Amy Sky, Liberty Silver, Billy Newton-Davis** and **Karen Wierzba**; the musical director is **Jack Lenz**.

A kosher dinner will be served under an open-air canopy on the grounds of Southbrook Farms, 1061 Major Mackenzie Drive. Tuesday, June 8, 6:30 p.m. 487-5472.

* * *

Literary Notes: The Book of Ruth, which we read each year at Shavuot, is considered a great work of literature. What famous late 19th-century novel used that ancient Hebrew megillah as a primary source?

Answer: **Thomas Hardy** apparently relied enormously on the story of Ruth when devising the plot and characterizations for his celebrated novel *Tess of the D'Urbervilles*. Ruth, a Moabite and the widow of an Israelite, remains steadfastly loyal to the God of Israel; instead of returning to the idols of Moab, she returns with her mother-in-law to Judea, where she gleans the fields in poverty.

Eventually she seeks and attains redemption from a wealthy cousin named Boaz, who recognizes her spiritual purity and marries her; their son, Oved, is the grandfather of the future King David.

In Hardy's ironic recasting of the tale, Tess's impoverished father discovers a wealthy relative, Alex D'Urberville, and Tess reluctantly appeals to him to help her family. But Alex rapes and impregnates her, and Tess gleans the fields an unwed mother; eventually the baby dies.

The idealism and optimism of the original story is transformed by Hardy so that it becomes a bitter tale of twisted fate involving the downfall of an innocent maiden.

None of the three men closest to Tess are strong enough morally to redeem her. At book's end she is a fugitive from justice. Finally, she is apprehended at the time-worn monument of Stonehenge. By utilizing Stonehenge, is Hardy making a comment on the ancient nature of the story?

Credit card fraud high in Israel

Ha'aretz Daily Newsaper Ltd.

JERUSALEM — Credit-card users have said they were charged for non-existent purchases in more than 50 percent of all Internet shopping transactions in Israel, according to Visa-Israel Credit Cards.

This compares to about seven percent in the U.S., according to data from the American Consumer Council.

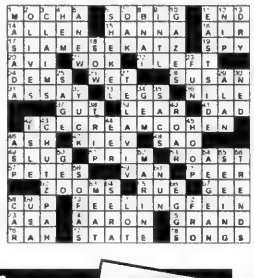
A Visa-ICC spokeswoman said there is still very little Internet commerce here. But there are several thousand fraud complaints a year - though in most cases, she said, the amount which must be refunded is small.

Frequently, she added, it is difficult to locate the business responsible, so the company must absorb the losses.

Isracard said it tries to discourage its customers from Internet transactions, and will continue to do so until decent protection programs start being used.

One that looks promising, called SET, is currently in the experimental stage, the company said.

ANSWERS TO THIS WEEK'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE.



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Business Profile

Barbara Moses

Book designed to protect us from evils of capitalism

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

As North American companies turn leaner and meaner in their bid to increase profits and compete globally, white-collar workers are feeling the effects.

Downsizing, mergers and redefinition of roles have made corporations more soulless and ruthless, values normally not associated with mainstream community norms.

"This is capitalism at its most Darwinian and unvarnished form," said Barbara Moses, a career counsellor, consultant and columnist for *The Globe and Mail* who has just written a book about this churning instability.

The Good News About Careers (Stoddart), she explained in an interview, is not a Pollyannaish tract, but a primer designed to protect Canadians from "the vagaries and nasty side of contemporary capitalism."

The book – her third in a series since 1982 – will, she hopes, help readers adapt to and thrive in the new environment.

"You are not a mere cog in the machinery. You can fight back. You have choices. You're disposable, but you have alternatives."

Moses, who holds post-graduate degrees in social psychology and applied psychology from McGill University and the London School of Economics, said that employees with marketable knowledge and skills can survive and prosper in the new corporate culture.

"You can be fired, but you can "fire" them. What I'm saying is this: Understand these changes and use them to your advantage."

Moses, the president of BBM Human Resource Consultants, based in Toronto, said that the new world of work calls for a fresh approach to careers – an approach she calls "career activism."

Career activists are thoughtful, vigilant, occasionally cocky and perhaps somewhat paranoid.

"They define themselves independently from their organization and take charge of their own career choices."

Moses, whose clients have included Levi Strauss and Four Seasons Regent Hotels, argues that the workplace has changed.

"The continuity and predictability of the workplace no longer exists. That's not good, but that's the way it is."

Workers who value autonomy, spontaneity and freedom revel in the new employer-employee relationship. But those who are accustomed to security and structure find is unsettling and wrenching. In general, workers past the age of 45 bemoan the passing of the old order.

"But the relationship was one-sided, while the price of corporate success was conformity and a permanent state of dependence."

Today, however, neither side is beholden to the other. "They both understand that the relationship is based on mutual exchange. If one word can be used to characterize the new career, it is self-reliance. You believe in your own competence, and this allows you to deal with the uncertainties associated with today's working world. Your security comes from within."

Barbara Moses

From a strictly personal point of view, Moses, an ex-Montrealer in her late 40s, is more comfortable with the new ways. "To me, it's great."

Yet, lest she be misunderstood, Moses said that she is no apostle of the survival of the fittest ethos corporations have embraced.

"I'm not a poster girl for these changes," said Moses, who, politically speaking, leans to the left. "If you read the book, you will find there is nothing apologetic about big business."

Having issued this disclaimer, she reiterated her thesis that workers owe it to themselves to be prepared for the new world of work.

In the old benevolent corporation, workers who did what was required of them were provided with job security, benefits and developmental experiences.

In the late 1990s workplace, she writes in *The Good News About Careers*, everything is in constant flux, from the contents of your work to where you work and how.

"The result is more uncertainty, but also more freedom to take on new roles, whether as a full-time employee, independent contractor or small business owner."

Nowadays, she said, there is a widespread expectation that you can "reconfigure" yourself throughout your career.

Moses, whose previous books were *Career Intelligence* and *Career Planning Workbook*, does not believe that extroverts have a natural advantage over introverts.

"Much of work is relationship-driven and, therefore, extroverts will be more successful"

On the other hand, she cautioned, recent technological developments, notably the personal computer and the Internet, favor introverts.

"You should," she advised, "seek out environments which play to your strengths."

How, she was asked, do you sell yourself at a job interview?

"You have to communicate very quickly how you can add value to a company, but drowning an interviewer with irrelevant information is ineffective."

By her estimation, the qualities employers seek are flexibility, the ability to work within groups and alone and to hit the ground running, an understanding of broader social and business trends, and finally, an aptitude for changing direction in mid-course and communicating compellingly and graphically.

Turning to a related topic, Moses suggested that modern corporations are shucking off religious and ethnic prejudice.

"Twenty years ago, I felt a slight discomfort, in part because I am Jewish. I don't see that as much today, and clients tell me that too, though I'm sure that there are areas in this country where being Jewish poses a problem."

A 1971 McGill graduate, Moses was born in the leafy Montreal suburb of Hampstead. Her father, Nat, was the proprietor of a bridal veil business. Her mother, Sylvia, was a housewife until her husband's death forced her to go to work. Moses' sister, Susan, is a librarian in Toronto

Moses, a passionate gardener, is married to Andrew Weiner, a science fiction author and former business writer who runs the day-to-day affairs of BBM Human Resource Consultants.

They have one child, Nathaniel, to whom she partially dedicates *The Good News About Careers*. Moses is concerned that parents are not properly "career proofing" their children for an increasingly uncertain future. "It's a serious problem in Canada today," she said. "Parents are so busy that they are not spending enough time with their children. As a result, kids are not getting the support and the nurturing they require."

Having looked long and hard at the problem, she plans to write a book about this benignly neglected topic.

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$207,500, Bright, spotless 1-bedroom & den. Quiet exclusive building.

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BATHURST/TORRESDALE
Reduced to $219,900. Gorgeous 2 bedroom condo, huge solarium, 1,500 sq. ft., 2 baths. Quiet secure building, close to all amenities.

BATHURST MANOR
House fit for a prince. Asking $429,000 - Custom built by owner, 4 bedrooms, den, family room + basement apt. Great location fits professional people.

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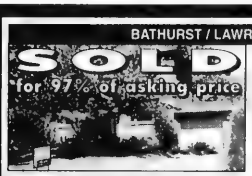
BATHURST / LAWRENCE



3 bedroom, 2 storey home on 50 ft. lot, fabulous location close to all amenities. **WON'T LAST AT THIS PRICE!** Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

SOLD

BATHURST / YORK DOWNS — BACKS ONTO EARL BALES PARK!

Rare offering! Spacious side-split on gorgeous 70 x 200 ft. lot (irreg.), serene private setting. Reduced to only $569,000 — **ACT NOW!** Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN — RANCH BUNGALOW
On 54 x 138 ft. lot, close to Shaarei Shomayim. Ideal building lot reduced to $439,000. Call now! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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THORNHILL — BATHURST / CLARK
2 storey, 3 bedroom home on generous lot, family room, finished basement, only $269,900. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

AVENUE ROAD / GLENCAIRN — EXCLUSIVE
Executive 4 bedroom, 2 storey on 47 x 200 ft. lot, renovated, new kitchen, magnificent pool, hot location! Only $599,000 — **ACT NOW!** Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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Modern design, open concept, quality craftsmanship, 4 + 2 bedrooms, large principal rooms, ideal for entertaining, cathedral ceilings. Only $549,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / LAWRENCE / WILSON
Spacious 3 + 2 bedroom bung., hardwood floors, eat-in kitchen, sep. entry to two in-law suites, fabulous location close to all amenities. Only $279,000 — **ACT NOW!** Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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AVENUE ROAD / BRIAR HILL — EXECUTIVE 4 + 1 BDRMS.
Family room, blend of contemporary & traditional, hardwood floors, marble fireplace, leaded windows, wainscotting ++, **reduced to $539,000.** Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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BATHURST / GLENCAIRN
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REAL ESTATE INC. REALTOR®

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FINE HOMES

BAYVIEW/YORK MILLS - $759,000
Executive ranch bungalow on 90 ft. frontage. Attractive entrance. Private yard. CAC. Fin. lower level w/sep. entrance. Private drive, att. garage. *Betty Cohen.

• • •

ST. CLAIR/AVENUE RD. - $1,395,000
Tudor Manor House + spectacular Guest House on beautifully landscaped grounds w/ponds & fountains. Totally renovated. *Edith Weiss/*Barbara Kaplan,

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PRIME FOREST HILL - $579,000
Fabulous 3+ bdrms., 4 bath home overlooking the park. Main floor family rm., granite kitchen, 3 fireplaces, finished lower level. **Don Wagman/*Shawnee Sian.

• • •

BRIAR HILL AVE. - $469,000
Stately elegance. 4 bdrms. Private drive. Lots of natural light & many beautiful leaded glass windows. *Carol Cotton.

• • •

KILBARRY ROAD DUPLEX
Charming 2 family residence with separate entrances. Multi fireplaces. Double garage. Quiet street. Convenient to TTC, park & schools. Live in & rent. *Edith Weiss.

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LAWRENCE/LEDBURY - $369,900.
Charming centre hall bungalow on huge lot. Main fl. family rm. w/walkout overlooks gardens. Skylight. Fin. lower level. Private drive, attached garage. *Edith Weiss.

• • •

1st TIME BUYERS - $199,900.
Perfect starter home Bathurst/St. Clair area. Bright 2 bdrm. bungalow. Updated kitchen. CAC. Garage. Call *Cathy Goldman.

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BAYVIEW/POST RD. - $1,650,000
Rare opportunity to build new or renovate. 6+ bdrms. Main floor library. Deep, secluded 1+ acre lot. Fin. lower level. Tennis court. Inground pool. *David Bloomstone

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THORNHILL - $799,000.
Beautiful custom built home. 5+ bdrms. Kitchen w/walk-out to deck & inground pool. Main fl. family rm. Fin. lower level w/2 extra bdrms. + rec. rm. *Bobby Simpson.

• • •

HAZELTON LANES - $219,000
Stunning one bedroom suite with large west-facing terrace, 2 walk outs. Perfect Yorkville location. *Carol Cotton/*Erica Binder

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RIDLEY BLVD. - $189,000
Immaculate condo suite w/unobstructed view. White oak kitchen, Insuite laundry, Parking. *Edie Winberg.

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FAIRLAWN AVE. - $305,000.
SOLD
Beautiful semi. 3 bdrms. Re[SOLD]en. Breakfast rm. w/walkout. Leaded windows, wainscotting. Garage. *Leslie Dennis.

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EGLINTON/BATHURST - $244,900
Charming & spacious bunga[SOLD]ti fireplaces. Finished lower level with rec. room + dark room & cedar closet. *Cathy Goldman

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BATHURST/LAWRENCE - $429,000
Spacious stone front sidesplit [SOLD] utiful 60 ft. frontage. Main flr. family rm. + powder rm. Bright kitchen. Finished lower level. Double garage. **Don Wagman

• • •

NORTH "Y" - $399,000
Updated home on fabulous lot [SOLD] 25 ft). 3+ bdrm. Main fl. den. Finished lower level w/extra bdrm. & rec. rm. CAC. Private drive, att. garage. *Ruth Kaufman

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YORK RD. - VERY SPECIAL
$1,198,000. Stunning 5+ bd[SOLD]aster w/sitting rm. & ensuite bath. Main flr. library, family rm. + solarium. Walk-out to decks, gardens and inground pool. *William Lipson

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Store + 2 apts., updated bldg., fully rented, A-1 location!

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BATHURST MANOR
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FINCH-BATHURST
3 bedrooms, 3 baths, family room, modern kitchen, finished basement, large lot, dble. gar.

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67' x 133', build or renovate existing home. Don't miss!

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BATHURST & FINCH
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81 GLEN PARK - BATHURST/GLENCAIRN
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Gail Zalev, Houston Group
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$349,000
ACROSS FROM PARK
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Marshall Cohen, Broker
Marshall Real Estate Ltd., Realtor
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15 HOUSES FOR RENT

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25 HOUSES WANTED TO RENT

Young resp. n/smkng, married couple no kids/pets to rent 12-24 mos. Price range $1000-1100. Asher /Ori, 905-832-2400

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

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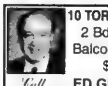

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2 Bdrm., 2 Bath, Balcony, Low Floor
$199,000
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131 Torresdale - 2 bdrm., den, Florida rm., 1600 sq. ft., lots of extras & uprg. Private sale. 905-660-7982 or 416-588-6771.

Bath./Centre - Fab. 1 bdrm., 5 appl., all blinds, 2 car tandem pkg., east view, many rec. fac., Asking $150K or best offer. No agents. Call 416-402-5279.

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New deluxe 1835 sq. ft., 2 bdrm., den, pkg., all amen., fab. rec. centre. $25,000 below market value. 226-1500.

35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

130 Neptune - New decor, 2 bdrm., 2 full bth., new kit., walk-in closet, undergrnd pkg., pool, $1250/mo. 905-771-9727.

Bath./Steeles - Townsgate, lux. 2 bdrm, 2 bth., 5 appl., huge PH terrace, 2 pkg. 905-882-1534.

40 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE/ RENT

Shomer Shabbos?
Bath./Steeles, lux. corn. apt., private entrance, never have to use elevator, 2 bdrms., sol., 2 bth., lge. windows in kit., 5 appl., huge priv. patio, parquet & cer. flrs., pool, etc. $259K OBO. Leave message739-0105

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

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NEWLY DECORATED SPACIOUS 1, 2 & 3 BDRMS.
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30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

CONDOMINIUMS FOR SALE
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631-9377 or 631-0388 - Super

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Bath./York Downs, lge bsmnt. apt., private entrance, or bsmnt furnished avail. Please fax 416-638-1504 or call 416-782-4872.

Bath/Lawrence, newly reno'd bsmt. 1 bdr. apt. 416-783-3849.

81 APARTMENT TO SUBLET

Upper West Side, NY. Studio apt. End of June - mid August. Kosher, n/smkr. 212-580-6463.

82 ROOM FOR RENT

Bath./Sheppard - 2 bdrm. apt., pkg. Avail. June 15. 638-7541.

105 COTTAGE FOR SALE

I'VE GOT FABULOUS YEAR-ROUND LAKEFRONTS IN BELLE EWART!
- 4 bed. Cottage + 4 bed. House on 79' lakefront + boathouse
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- 4 bed. Cottage, well maintained, 90' lakefront. Motivated vendor.
- Bargain! Neat 3 bedroom cottage
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Belle Ewart - Lakefront, shared lot, 3 bdrm., equipped, no agents. 905-881-3317.

Gravenhurst, lakefront cottage, 3 bdrm., liv./din. rm & kit., guest bunker, equipped + 2 boats. 416-667-8214.

Wasaga Beach - FOR SALE
2 cottages in Shomer Shabbos beach frnt co-op. 416-223-7147

110 COTTAGE FOR RENT

Lake Couchiching, Orillia, priv. waterfront, 3 bdrm., den, full amen., hot tub, row boat w/motor, docks. Avail. July. 489-1205

112 FURNISHED COTTAGE FOR RENT

Lake Simcoe waterfront cottages, Belle Ewart. 3 - 4 bdrms. Available for the summer. Call Bernie at 705-456-2999.

Lake Simcoe, rustic 4 bdrm, lkfront, scrnd porch, privacy, 90 min from Toronto, July $3000; try June weekend for $200. (416) 487-6050.

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DRASTIC REDUCTIONS
OWNERS SAY SELL
3 bdrms. and 3 baths, 2nd floor. Furn., include Golf Equity $112,000
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Established Kosher restaurant for sale. Samy, 905-738-1532 or 416-736-7227.

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Full time live-out nanny for Avenue/Eglinton area. For 2 & 3 yr old girls. Starting September. Hebrew an asset. Salary negotiable. Fax resume: 482-2860 or email: bnashman@yahoo.com

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European lady exp nurse/companion avail to look after senior. I'm honest, loving reliable, mannered. Live-in. 905-791-4008.

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265 PEOPLE SEARCH

Eliahu Fajn arrived in Canada w/mom Sara from Israel many years ago, also known as **Peter Fain** of 139 Springhurst Ave, Toronto. Call cousin Fila Jones, 011-61-3-9592-9291 collect.

I am looking for the family of **Naftali Krawiec** from **Dombrowa Katowicka, Poland** and his daughters **Fajga & Sura Gitel**. Please call 416-224-0028.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

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M3B 3K4
Box # _____

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Early 40's widow w/17 yr. old son, slightly physically challenged would like to find male companionship, 43-50, young Israel, Modern Orthodox background. CJN Box # 7186.

Traditional male, 50, is looking for an outstanding, kind lady for a serious relationship. All replies answered. CJN Box 7184.

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Youthful 54 SJF, prof, enjoys traveling,country life seeks prof. n/smkr, gentleman, 50-65 with sound intellectual/emot/financial port folios to share urban, rural pleasures. CJN Box # 7185.

*** CJN Boxes for Personal Companions Wanted ads are valid for 30 (thirty) days only (from 1st publication date). Replies must be received within this time frame in order to be forwarded to the correct CJN Box #.**

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330 OBITUARIES

330 OBITUARIES

JACOBS, Audrey - on Apr. 22, 1999, late of 281 Strathallan Wood.
KUPSOV, Ben - on Apr. 22, 1999, late of 880 Lawrence Ave. E., #224.
POVERING, Zelda - on Apr. 24, 1999, late of 71 Woodycrest Ave.
ALTENBERG, Bella - on Apr. 26, 1999, late of 85 Skymark Dr., #402.
SIEGAL, Belle - on Apr. 26, 1999, late of 282 St. Clair Ave. W.
HURWICH, David - on Apr. 27, 1999, late of Greenview Retirement Home.
LITVACK, Sam - on Apr. 27, 1999, late of 155 Marlee Ave., #1911.
EDSON, Bernice - on Apr. 28, 1999, late of 11 Blue Forest Dr.
HORWITZ, Ben - on Apr. 29, 1999, late of 55 Ameer Ave., #206.
BARCLAY, Minnie - on May 1, 1999, late of 33 Elmhurst Ave., #803.
DRY, Harry - on May 2, 1999, late of 66 Mullen Dr.
FREEDMAN, Eve - on May 2, 1999, late of 205 Cummer Ave.
SMIETANA, Harry - on May 2, 1999, late of 10 Artreeva Dr.
GREENSPAN, Ruth - on May 3, 1999, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
ZEILER, Sidney - on May 3, 1999, late of 4383 Bathurst St., #409.
ZWEIG, Ann - on May 3, 1999, late of 6200 Bathurst St., #705.

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will take place
Sunday, June 6th at 11:30 a.m.
Beth Tzedec Memorial Park
Section 9
Our relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
SYLVIA HOFFMAN ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 6th at 12 noon
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Dufferin St. W. of Major MacKenzie
Adath Israel Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
BEN & FELICIA OTIS ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 6th at 12:30 p.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Dufferin Street, 3km north of Major Mackenzie
Temple Sinai Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
MANYA ARBUS ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 6th, 12:00 noon
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Zaglembier Society Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
BELLA JACOBSON ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 6th, 11:00 a.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
Pride of Israel Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the loving memory of
FANNY LAUFER ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 13th, 11:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
New Zaglembia Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
LOUIS TALSKY ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 6th, 12:00 noon
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
Beth Sholom Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
CAROLE PULVER ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 13th at 11:30 a.m.
Beth Tzedec Memorial Park
5822 Bathurst Street
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the loving memory of
ADA CAPLAN ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 6th, 10:30 a.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Temple Sinai Section

The unveiling of a monument to the loving memory of
KEVE LADOWSKY ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 6th, 12:00 noon
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
Beth Sholom Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
BERNARD (BENNIE) SPIRA ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 6th, 12 noon
Mt. Sinai Cemetery
986 Wilson Ave.
Workman's Circle (Arbeiter Ring)
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
LARRY WIENER ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 6th, 11:00 a.m.
Roselawn Cemetery
Adath Israel Section
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Attractive Jewish female, 38, 5'5", brown hair & eyes, down to earth, family oriented. Seeking an educated male, well groomed, intelligent, 37-44, sensitive, active, likes to have fun. AD#1846

NICE GUY WANTED
Single Jewish female, 38, 5'5", brown hair & eyes, attractive, honest, caring, down to earth, fit, enjoy movies, dining out, dancing. Seeking a Jewish male, 35-45, active, non smoker, honest, caring, down to earth. AD#2005

BEST FRIENDS
Single female, attractive, professional, late 50's, 5'4", university grad, good sense of humour. Seeking a male, university grad, 55+, 5'8"+, bright, funny and warm. AD#2042

FRESH AND MATURE
Single female, 36, young looking, beautiful on the inside & outside, financially secure, enjoy theater, love life. Seeking a nice, down to earth male, 33-38, 5'8"-5'11", contemporary thinker. AD#1550

CULTURE ADVERTS
Divorced Jewish female, 44, 5'5", 120lbs, attractive, slim, warm, romantic, outgoing, employed, enjoy sports, culture adverts, theater, travelling, working out, swimming. Seeking a mature, independent male, 40-50, healthy in body, mind and soul, non smoker. AD#1379

LASTING FRIENDSHIP
Young looking Jewish female, 56, blond hair, blue eyes, attractive, quiet, intelligent, love life. Seeking a nice Jewish male, honest. AD#1120

FAMILY ORIENTED
Single Professional female, enjoy tennis, golfing, boating, sailing, travelling, dining out, family oriented. Seeking a professional or business male, who lives in Toronto, enjoys sports, dining out, movies, family oriented, with similar interests. AD#1193

COMEDY CLUBS
Attractive Jewish female, 5'4", dark brown hair, hazel eyes, professional, enjoy movies, working out, theater, roller blading, bowling, camping, outdoors, dining out. Seeking an attractive male, 32-43, with similar interests and qualities. AD#1602

KNOW WHAT HE WANTS
Single Jewish female, 5'4", 122lbs, brown hair, green eyes, enjoy working out, long walks, dancing, music, travelling, cycling, dining out, swimming. Seeking a male, 57"+, preferably jewish, university educated, good sense of style and humour, similar interests. AD#1400

KINDRED SPIRIT
Single Jewish female, professional, attractive, slender, romantic spirit, family values, with many interests. Seeking a Jewish male, 38-50yr olds, attractive, easy going, family values, funny, kind, who enjoys life and sharing. AD#2041

HEALTHY LIFESTYLE
Single Jewish female, attractive, 36, quick witted, active minded, enjoy reading, classical music. Seeking a Jewish male, good hearted, concerned for others and loves to talk. AD#1075

NON SMOKER
Single Jewish female, attractive, mid 50's, 5'7", romantic, warm, enjoy travelling, dining, dancing, movies, long walks, quiet times. Seeking a male with similar interests to be a friend and lover. AD#1505

LOVES TO DANCE
Single mother, attractive, enjoy dining, dancing, outdoor sports, seeking a male, who is tall, dark, handsome, 32-40, who loves kids. AD#2039

RELIABLE
Single Jewish female, petite, honest, warm, enjoy reading, films, music, theater, nature. Seeking a male, 38-44, single, kind, reliable, with similar interests. AD#1421

NUMBER ONE
Single jewish female, 5'5", youthful, brown hair and eyes, attractive, kind, sincere, non smoker, fun to be with, personable. Seeking a Jewish male, handsome, tall, 45-55, kind, warm, sensitive, funny, and enjoys life. AD#1011

SOUL MATE
Single female, slim, attractive, 36, 5'4", professional, brunette, enjoy cottage life, dinning out, theater, movies. Seeking a male, 36-46, professional, employed, intelligent, sensitive, interesting. AD#1626

COMPANIONSHIP
Single white female, attractive, professional, intelligent, enjoy movies, dining out, long walks, dancing, travelling. Seeking a male, 55-63, with similar interest for friendship and companionship. AD#1099

LONG TERM RELATIONSHIP
Single Jewish female, professional, traditional, great sense of humour, enjoy gardening, good foods, theater, movies, romantic walks. Seeking a jewish male, professional, traditional, non smoker, with similar interest. AD#1403

SINCERELY YOURS
Very attractive female, 52, intelligent. Seeking a single male, 65, honest, established, affectionate, kind, non smoker. AD#1016

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EASY GOING
Jamaican male, 48, 160lbs, enjoy house work, gardening, music, down to earth, good sense of humour. Seeking a female with similar interests. AD#1230

CALL ME
Single Jewish male, attractive, 36, 5'10", 190lbs, enjoy tennis, reading, movies, dining. Seeking a Jewish female, 28-45, fit, outgoing, with a good personality. AD#1192

MR. NICE MAN
Single Jewish male, non smoker, seeking a slim, attractive female, 65+, with a great sense of humour, who likes sports and travelling. AD#1292

GREAT OUTDOORS
Single male, 25, enjoy long walks, camping, sports, biking, outdoors. Seeking a Jewish female, 21-25, with similar interests. AD#1055

OPEN MIND
Single Jewish male, 48, 5'11", young looking, handsome, emotionally fit, dark brown hair, good shape, enjoy travelling, art, photography, writing. Seeking a female, 36-44, sensitive, intelligent, attractive, slim, good communicator, with an open, curious mind. AD#1648

SOCIALIZING
Single Jewish male, attractive, early 50's, 5'10", caring, compassionate, enjoy dancing, electronics, computers, socializing. Seeking a female, attractive, intelligent, caring, compassionate. AD#1119

AFFECTIONATE
Single Jewish male,e 42, attractive, honest, sincere, down to earth, never married, no dependents, enjoy movies, travelling, sports events, swimming, walking. Seeking a Jewish female, 32-43, up to 5'3", non smoker, attractive, honest, petite. AD#2032

SOULMATE
Single male, 6'1", 160lbs, young looking, compassionate, enjoy nature, country site, classical music, dancing, dining out. Seeking a female with similar interests, looking for my soulmate. AD#1005

BEST IS YET TO COME
Single Jewish male, 53, 5'9", professional, successful, healthy, handsome, traditional, enjoy dining and dancing, long walks. Seeking a female with similar interests and qualities for long term relationship. AD#2017

FUN LOVING
Single male, 33, 6', blue-green eyes, slim, attractive, financially secure, fun loving, enjoy dining out, movies, dancing. Seeking a Jewish female, 28-35, tall, attractive, with similar interests. AD#2008

MARRIAGE MINDED
Single Jewish male, 46, fit, easy going, sincere, hard working, enjoy art, music, movies, long walks. Seeking a female, 25-35, for marriage minded, serious relationship. AD#2086

WHAT A CATCH!
Single Jewish male, 36, 5'10", 190lbs, enjoy tennis, squash, reading, movies, dining & dancing, TV. Seeking a Jewish female, 28-47, fit, outgoing, personality is a plus. AD#2014

ATTENTION LADIES!
Single male, reformed, 40, tall, slim, handsome, fair hair, hazel eyes, non smoker, social drinker, medical specialist, enjoy movies, blading, the outdoors, trying new foods. Seeking a slim, educated, fit, employed female, with a car and blue jeans, no kids or cats. AD#2000

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ATTENTION LADIES!
Single white male, 56, self employed, romantic, warm caring, enjoy travelling, movies, quiet times, good conversation. Seeking a female with similar interests and qualities. AD#1996

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Single Jewish male, 5'8", 180lbs, easy going, healthy, down to earth, old fashioned, kind, man of many talents, enjoy art, sports. Seeking a single Jewish female with similar interests. AD#1937

WARM AND CARING
Single white male, 56, self employed, romantic, enjoy travelling, movies, quiet times, good conversations. Seeking a female with similar interests. AD#1933

EASY GOING
Single Jewish male, 41, fun loving, easy going, great sense of humour, enjoy movies, theater, long walks, skiing, skating. Seeking a female, 34-43, with similar interests. AD#1939

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"Stormin' Norman" — The Fan's real life Leaf fan

Hammerhead alert! Rumack rules late night talk radio

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Make no mistake about it. Norm Rumack is sport radio's late night vampire, Syracuse University's favorite son, Wendel Clark's biggest booster and an opinionated loudmouth who keeps people listening long after they should have tucked themselves into bed for a good night's sleep.

Although he's the creator of *Hammerhead Alerts*, the on-air narishkeit that greets the most inane of callers, Rumack in real life is Hammerheadity's opposite. He's a voracious reader of newspapers, an experienced TV and radio producer, a walking encyclopedia of sports trivia and a student of the broadcasting business who knows that to be successful you've got to develop name recognition.

Ergo, "Stormin' Norman" (a holdover from his Camp Winnebago days) and the numerous other personas he slips into while working The Fan's graveyard shift, 11 p.m. to 3 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, as well as weekend days.

It's a grueling schedule that Rumack is willing to endure for the prestige of working on a sports radio station in a major market. A die-hard Maple Leaf fan practically from childbirth, Rumack is in the enviable position (as long as you don't consider the hours) of being able to make a living shmoozing about sports.

It wasn't always so. At one time, Rumack struggled to break into the broadcasting business, working at odd jobs and sometimes supplementing his income teaching aerobics. But he always kept his eye on the prize, hoping to land a job in the medium he loves.

His infatuation with radio goes back to the mid-1960s, when he was growing up in Bathurst Manor. At nine, he recalls, he was already a "radio junkie" who fell asleep listening to CHUM radio DJs like Brian Skinner and Jungle Jay Nelson.

Rumack's favorite personality – his "hero" – was Jack Armstrong. "He'd speak at 70 m.p.h. in a falsetto voice and was so different than anybody else. I kept a tape of him on the air," Rumack said.

Back then, AM was top 40 oriented, but Rumack loved talk radio. "I knew then that I wanted to work in front of the microphone."

As a kid, he attended Associated Hebrew Schools, USDS, Bathurst Heights and graduated from Forest Hills Collegiate. His parents, Murray and Sylvia, helped found Beth Emeth Synagogue.

Norm studied history at York University, graduating in 1978. He worked in an automotive warehouse for a year until he realized "I didn't want to work at a job that was not mentally stimulating."

He enrolled in the TV and radio program at the S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications at Syracuse – the Alma Mater of TV personalities Ted Koppel, Bob Costas and Dick Clark – and graduated with a master's degree.

Norm Rumack presents former Toronto Blue Jay Paul Molitor with a "Hammerhead Alert" T-shirt.

His first big job came in 1981, when he worked as a researcher/programmer on CBC TV's midday magazine show. Through a network of connections he made at Mother Corp, he was introduced to Ralph Mellanby, who was director at the time of Don Cherry's *Grapevine*. Rumack worked at a variety of jobs on the show and met some incredible guests, including Bobby Orr and Smokin' Joe Frazier. He and Cherry hit it off quickly, reminiscing about the great Leaf-Flyer playoff brawls of the 1970s.

After his stint on Grapevine, Rumack drifted between jobs, working for a short time in 1985 as an aerobics instructor at Canadian Women's Fitness. He also visited Europe and spent a few months in Israel.

Returning to Canada in late '85, Rumack was frustrated at not being able to land a broadcasting job.

Instead, he took a different tack. "I thought that instead of looking for a job, I'd create my own production company, Sequence 33 Productions." One of the company's projects was presenting a documentary on Canadian Viet Nam veterans. Thanks to the publicity he brought to the group, Canadian and U.S. vets were honored with a puck-dropping ceremony to start a game in Detroit's Joe Louis Arena.

From there, the issue snowballed. Rumack worked with two U.S. Congressmen to organize a memorial ceremony for the veterans at the Viet Nam Memorial wall in Washington. In March 1988, President Reagan signed a bill extending full benefits to Canadian veterans.

Afterwards, Rumack landed a job with CTV, working as editor/producer/researcher at Canada AM. At the height of the intifadah, he got Benjamin Netanyahu, then Israel's ambassador to the UN, and the Palestinian UN representative to discuss the issue on air at a time when such dialogues were rare.

In April 1991, Rumack was among 40 staffers let go by the network. He took a job with CFRB, mostly screening calls, but also getting some on-air exposure. From there, he was recruited to the Fan and was paired with Jim Richardson right after Jays Talk, going on the air from 11 p.m. to 2 a.m.

Expected to work again at 5 a.m., the two spent a lot of nights killing time at the Golden Griddle on Eglinton and Redpath.

"We were so excited to be on the air in a major market," Rumack said. "It was tiring, but it was fun. I think they were getting us as much on-air experience as possible."

The air time gave him the chance to apply some valuable broadcasting lessons. "I learned very quickly at CFRB that if you score high in the love/hate index with the audience, you'll have a large following. But," he continued, "if you're a phony, people will see right through you."

His admiration for Wendel Clark was real and as someone who always admired hockey's enforcers, making friends with Leaf tough guy Tie Domi was a natural.

Rumack believes it's important to do your homework (hence the heavy reading list) and treat athletes with respect. They don't mind answering tough questions if you're prepared, he said. "When I interview them, I want to present the whole person and not focus only on the negatives."

He was instrumental in presenting *The Players*, an in-depth interview show that featured top athletes like Mario Lemieux, Paul Molitor, Rod Carew and Eric Lindross.

Currently, Stormin' Norman continues to work nights as well as an afternoon shift with *Globe and Mail* columnist Marty York. He's also appeared on a cable TV call-in show on community access stations.

"I'm a character guy," he acknowledged. "In terms of name awareness, I think most people who are sports fans in this market know the name, Stormin' Norman."

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The Inside Back

Old dog learns new trick

By JORDAN MAX

This past winter, my wife and I decided that it was finally time to make a concerted effort to teach our children to skate. I freely admit I never learned to skate properly, which impeded my hockey career.

Last Laugh

My mother, who told me "you think after having paid thousands of dollars for those braces, I'm going to let your teeth get knocked out? This is a profession for a nice Jewish boy?" may have had something to do with it. Most professional figure skaters still have their own teeth.

My wife, on the other hand, excelled at skating, and even learned to figure skate.

So there we were on the ice, trying to teach our children to skate. In my situation, it's hard to tell the teacher and student apart. I can go forward, even do a crossover turn, I just can't stop or go backwards. As a result, I was pretty much stuck in the "kiddie zone" of the rink, while the others were speed skating.

During those many frustrating afternoons, I found myself thinking about our roles as Jewish parents. There's nothing for motivation like the prospect of children in a day school, who are fast approaching your own knowledge level. Remember, when your children in a Jewish day school are learning Mishna in grade 8, they're already halfway to law school. The Shema says "And you shall teach [Torah] to your children," not the other way around.

So, after Pesach, I finally decided to join a new Gemarah (Talmud) class on Masechet Rosh Hashana offered at shul. The trouble was, this class was to start daily at 6 a.m., before davening.

After I came up with every conceivable excuse not to join, my children (bless them) reminded me of Rabbi Akiva, who only started to learn the aleph-bet at age 40.

Believe me, getting up at 5:30 is the easy part, although it has necessitated some evening schedule changes, like no more late night television. And just like my sons, I leave my clothes out the night before, except for socks. I like a little mystery in my life, so in the darkness, when I reach into the drawer, I never know what color I've selected until I get to shul. Being colorblind, as long as they match each other, I'm happy.

You're probably expecting me to say how the learning is fantastic, (which it is) and that I've found I have a natural talent for it (definitely not). But there's no turning back for me, I can't get a refund on the book.

Did you know there are actually four New Years in the Jewish calendar. What, now I have to go to shul eight days a year?

Despite Rabbi Breitowitz's dynamic teaching style and breadth of knowledge, learning Gemarah is hard, head-breaking work for me, especially at 6 a.m. I can best describe it as trying to rev your brain from zero to 60 in two seconds flat. In that case, I could probably use a block heater.

In fact, I'm merely treading water in the Sea of Talmud. On the positive side, by the time I get to work, my brain (now fully awake) is in high gear, fueled by pure logic (and very strong coffee). And I find it definitely does help my conceptual and analytical skills. It's like law school without the tuition, egos or exams.

As a side effect, I think I've stumbled onto a solution to the paradox of plummeting Jewish literacy despite rising secular education levels, intelligence and learning capacity. We live in a society which is extremely competitive, individualistic and materialistic. Maybe we should market Talmud as both the intellectual equivalent of Tae-Bo, and as an exclusive, elite activity in which all achievement-oriented Jews should want to participate.

In other words, the solution to Jewish adult education is to raise, not lower expectations. The marketing campaign could go something like, "So you've got your MBA, your law degree, your PhD. But can you handle Talmud?" Throw in a Gala dinner and they'd be filling the shul study halls in no time flat.

There's a whole Sea of Talmud out there. Don't keep yourself in the wading pool. Just put on a bathing suit, your water wings if you need them, and jump right in. The water's fine. And, unlike hockey, you get to keep your teeth.

KAHLUA KUGEL

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1 cup Nordica cottage cheese
1 cup sour cream
1 cup milk
1/2 cup Kahlua
1/4 cup unsalted butter melted

Cook noodles in 4 quarts of boiling water about 10 minutes. Drain and set aside. Beat eggs with sugar, cottage cheese, sour cream , milk, kahlua and butter. Pour 1 cup mixture into a greased 9" baking dish. Top with noodles, arranged in a single layer. Repeat layering until all ingredients are used up. Cover and refrigerate 4-8 hours.

Topping
1/4 cup packed brown sugar
2 oz. semi sweet chocolate, finely chopped
1/2 cup all purpose flour
1 tsp. instant espresso powder
1 tsp unsalted butter, chilled and chopped

Preheat oven to 350°F. Combine topping ingredients in food processor until crumbly. Sprinkle topping over kugel. Bake for 1 hour. Cut warm kugel into serving squares and serve with whipped cream, if desired.

About Teens

Dear Karilani,

I'm really concerned for my friend David because his best friends are really mean to him. They constantly abuse him, mentally and emotionally. It has now come to the point where he is getting really depressed. I told him to stick up for himself, because it will show his "friends" that he won't take the abuse anymore. David tried to say something, but they just thought that it was a joke, and it didn't help him at all. I have also tried to speak to his friends to tell them to stop, but they think it is all fun and games. Is there anything that I can do to help David?

Sarah, David's concerned friend

Dear Concerned Friend,

Firstly, you should be commended for looking out for your friend. It seems that you and David share a great friendship, unlike those he has with his other friends. A friendship must exist between two people who both contribute and benefit from the friendship. If one friend is the only one who puts in an effort, than this is a one-sided friendship, which almost always fades and breaks apart. Long-lasting friends care for one another, and respect the other person's feelings. It seems that David's friends are not fulfilling these essential requirements of friendship. This is an abusive relationship which should be resolved, or ended.

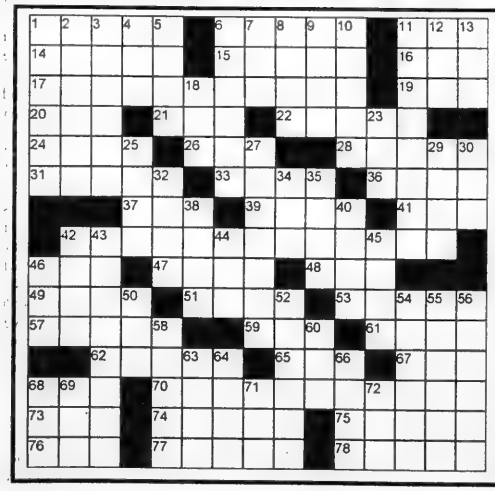
If David is becoming depressed because of his "friends," than he should attempt to find other friends, and leave the abusive friends behind. Maybe you should try to incorporate David into your group of friends and bring him out with other people so that he can expand his social horizons.

It is definitely very difficult to make new friends, but it may be necessary for David to do that in order to make new friends, who hopefully will treat him properly. Albeit a drastic change for David, it might be necessary.

If David does, however, wish to attempt to reconcile with his old friends, than it may be possible for you to help him by acting as a middleman. This means that you will talk for David to his friends, so that they do not feel as though they are being threatened or accused. Although you and David have already spoken to his friends, try talking to them one more time, and tell them that their actions are having a very negative affect on David's self-esteem.

Hopefully, David's friends will understand that their treatment of him is abusive, or David will make new friends who will treat him in a nicer fashion. You have been a great friend to David, and with a friend like you, David will surely never be alone.

Karilani is a composite name for three girls, who are close friends and in Grade 11 in Toronto.



The Canadian Jewish news

Name Games

By Matt Gaffney and David Bianco
(QSyndicate@aol.com)

Across

1 Common coffee flavor
6 Edna Ferber's Pulitzer-winning novel
11 Wind up
14 "September" director
15 _____-Barbera of cartoon production
16 Put on the tube
17 Thai Jew?
19 Mossad employee
20 Israeli artist ____ Ganor
21 Stir-fry need
22 "_____ My Heart in San Francisco"
24 Boxer and Wellstone, casually
26 Unlike the Negev
28 Writer Sontag
31 Examination
33 Pele's pride
36 River infant Moses' basket sailed down
37 "_____ *Shabbos*" (Yiddish greeting)
39 TV producer Norman
41 Kirk Douglas, to Michael
42 Jew with a sweet tooth?
46 Baseball bat wood
47 Golda Meir's birthplace
48 ____ Paulo, Brazil
49 Punch hard
51 Stiffly formal
53 Ridicule harshly
57 Sampras and Seeger
59 Dutch surname part
61 Jury member, supposedly
62 Uses a certain camera lens
65 Wish one hadn't
67 "Wowzers!"
68 *Kiddush* need
70 Giving a Jew a massage?
73 Coca-Cola founder Candler
74 TV Tori's dad
75 Cohan's "You're a ____ Old Flag"
76 Cheer from the stands
77 Israel, since '48
78 Gershwin output

Down

1 Zealots' stronghold
2 Mount of _____ (Hebrew University locale)
3 Avows
4 ____ and haw (stall for time)
5 Freshly
6 Mordecai's money
7 ____ Ridge, TN
8 _____ B'rith
9 The I in IMF
10 Fixes one's stare
11 Lower _____ (historic home to many New York Jews)
12 Tiny amount, as of brandy
13 Like the Negev
18 Work on the kibbutz, maybe
23 Hedonist's pursuit
25 Rabbi, for example
27 Site of The New Israeli Opera
29 Actor Arkin
30 Nancy Drew's boyfriend
32 "This is disgusting!"
34 Ruby or Emerald
35 Pouches, in biology
38 Vacation
40 Be a good lion
42 Wight or Man
43 Dershowitz book
44 Ending for chariot or slogan
45 Basketball basket
46 Egyptian danger
50 Chevy offering
52 Of the water
54 Sea NW of Israel
55 Believing, to some
56 Market watcher's concern
58 Living room pieces
60 Fourteenth letter
63 *Fleishigs*
64 Word repeated after "Que"
66 Matzah Brie ingredient
68 Lincoln or Ford
69 1996 Olympic hosts
71 He fled from Sodom
72 To and ____

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

(This week's answers are on page 39.)

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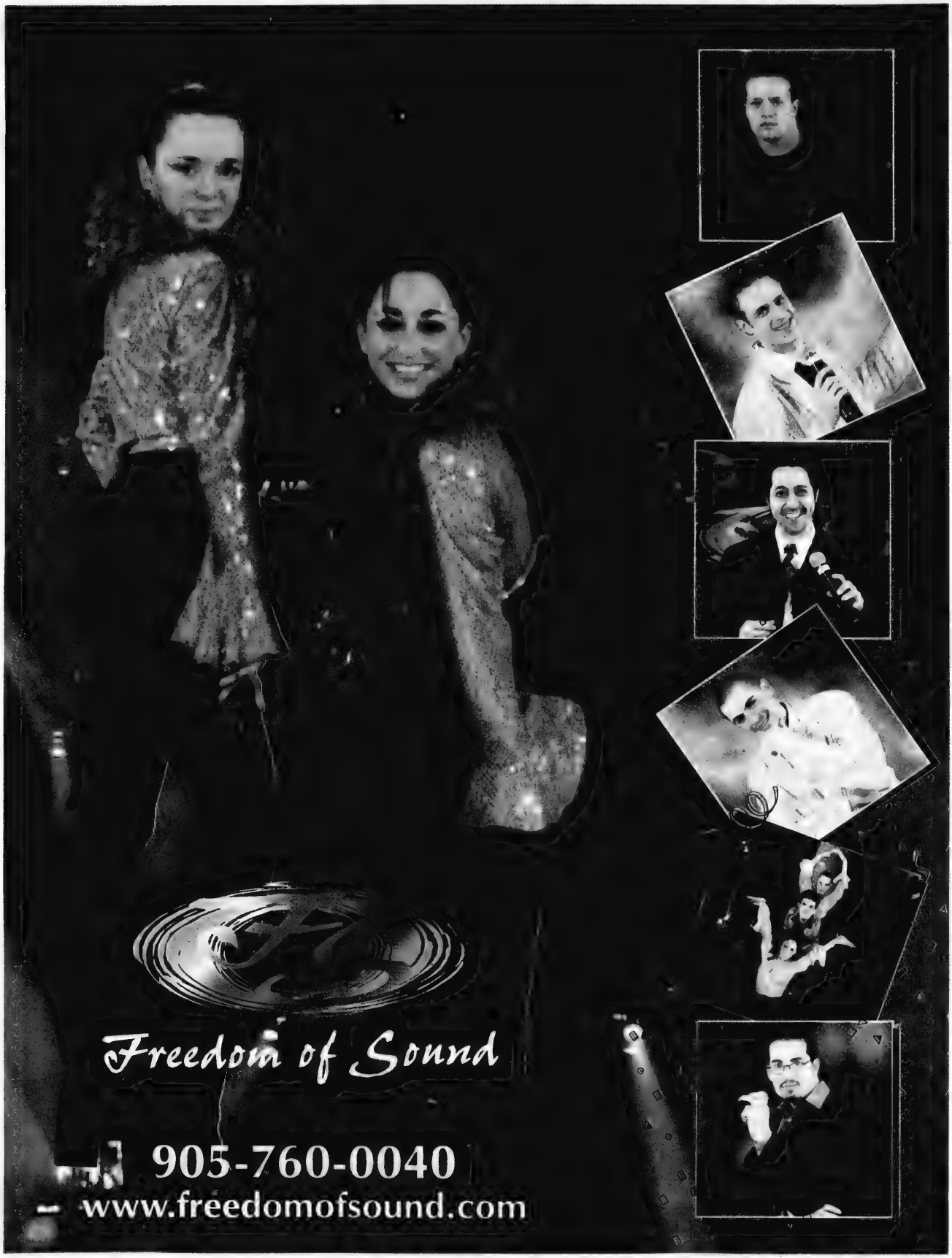
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Party Planner

Good band has strong rapport with audience

By ERIC LAYMAN
Special to the CJN

Music is a vital part of a good party. Later, when you and your guests recall what a great time you had, the music will be one of the first things to echo in your memory.

When you choose your band, there are some key things to look for, say Morris Kast of the Sky's Band (1-905-561-4404), and Shelley Miller of the Shelley Miller Band (484-1044). The band leaders have similar ideas on the qualities of a good band.

Good band musicians have fun playing. They work well with each other, and with other professionals like the caterers. Rapport with the guests is equally important – and includes dressing for the occasion. "We're a performance, and we're going to be looked at," Miller explains.

You, the host, should contribute actively to this rapport. Kast has noticed that while people want things lively, they don't always say so; so he encourages you not to be shy about telling the band leader what you want.

Versatility is another basic. The band leaders say, look for a band that plays songs from the '40s to the '90s – everything from Latin to swing, Motown to the Top 40 – to suit a range of guests, aged 10 to 90. This is especially important for celebrations like weddings.

Versatility includes shifts in mood. For example, you want mellow music while you're eating, soft enough to talk while it's playing, yet with enough volume to hear it if you want to listen. They say between courses, you need something livelier, and for dancing, even more so.

Versatility and rapport are connected. Along with the "must play" list, both Kast and Miller leave room for requests and improvising. For much of an evening's repertoire, they take their cues from the guests' mood at a given time; and pleasing everyone means mastering many songs and styles.

The Sky's is mainly a wedding band, with peppy, high-energy musicians who like to move with the music. They have a large repertoire of dance tunes to get your guests out on the floor.

The Sky's place a lot of emphasis on the singers, Kast says. Four front singers – two female and two male – are on stage all night long, and there are plenty of duets. The singers also dance.

He says the instrumentals are strong too – horns include trumpet and sax; and the rhythm section has piano, bass, drums, congas and guitar.

Miller composes unique arrangements and medleys, and he will work with themes for your event, he says. He always has at least three lead vocalists; and some of the instrumentalists sing as well.

With plenty of musicians, the live music can be almost continuous, Miller says.

He plans for no live music breaks until the main course is served or the speeches start. His mellow dinner music runs all through dinner except during speeches and prayers. Sometimes there's another break when the sweet table opens.

Both Kast and Miller urge you to choose your band as early as possible.

Continued on page B5

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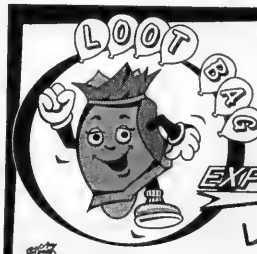

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Party Planner

Many key things to look for when choosing a band

Continued from page B4

Miller books weddings eight months to a year and a half ahead, and advises you to book as soon as you have a date – even before you've chosen the hall, since the band's versatility includes adapting to your venue.

Other bands advertising in this supplement are: Aelita Musical Enterprises, 222-7573; Ambiance Flute and Guitar Duo, 693-8778; Fabulous Harvey Seigel Band/Speak-Easy Jazz BD, 782-9202; Fern Lindzon Piano & Vocals, 445-9780; Joe Star Band, The, 905-881-1378; Kenny Simon Band, The, 638-2549; Klapman's Klezmer Band, 658-0854; Larry Rodness Orchestra, The, 650-5858; Musical Entertainment by Sonja, 621-5227; Nu-Rhythm Band, 905-882-5044; Paul Zurin Band, The, 905-770-3084; Rick Levine Band, The, 905-881-6400; Russ Myers Band, The, 905-771-0257; Starsband Productions, 1-800-498-8444.

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Party Planner

Book photographer early to avoid disappointment

By DAVID SILVERBERG
Student Intern

Bands energize the evening. Caterers offer sumptuous meals. Yet photographs capture the moments of the party.

Mike Day of The Art of Weddings (698-0186) and Greg Dean of Signature Photographs (784-4488) are experienced photographers when it comes to weddings, bnei/bnot mitzvah or other parties.

Day leans toward a more documentary style of photography. He favors some black and white photos, perhaps stemming from his photo-journalism background. He likes having fun with his clients, so the overall experience is far from boring.

"Personality is important. No one wants a photographer ruining a wedding day. He has to be nice, polite and not too overbearing."

Dean agrees that personality plays into the job. "Making friends is a good thing," he says. "If you have a connection with the client, the easier the day will go."

If assigned to a bar or bat mitzvah, Dean will shoot some pictures of the family a week before; he might take them to a park or to their house for an easy shoot when the family is not worried about guests, the catering or their child's Torah reading.

Both Dean and Day shoot around 300 to 400 pictures a day, with the client choosing 30 to 50.

Kids make some of the best photo subjects, says Day.

Dean agrees, and says that he spends time with the children before the shoot. He likes working with children, and not forcing them to do anything. "Photographers have to see eye-to-eye with kids," he says.

He recommends booking a photographer as soon as the date of the function is arranged. Signature is already booking for 2002.

Before choosing a photographer, Day suggests visiting studios and seeing the different styles and pictures. Photography boils down to pictures, he says, and to make clientele happy, there must be excellent photos.

Dean believes in a relaxed atmosphere, with creative pictures and different styles. Yet, his photographers still joke around, and the result is that "people are thankful that they actually enjoyed the shooting," he says.

"There's no pressure, no hard sell."

Day stresses the importance of honesty and open communication in a photographer.

"Make sure you know exactly what you're getting," he warns. "Find out the exact cost. You must be aware of everything."

Other photographers advertising in this supplement are: Eclipse Photography, 256-3000; Mark Stern Photography, 383-1333; Party Shots, 905-881-6372; Photos by Arnold, 905-881-6372; Platinum Studios, 785-8865.

Picture by Mike Day of The Art of Weddings (above); and Greg Dean of Signature Photographs (below.)

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Party Planner

Plenty of great places to throw a party

By DAVID SILVERBERG
Student Intern

You may have the flowers, the DJ and the photographer, but you still need to book the right hall for your simchah.

Casa Loma has offered its venue for parties and functions for 40 years, according to catering manager Tina Katz.

The grand hall, the library and the conservatory can accommodate 174 people, says Katz. The grand hall is used mainly for receptions, the library for dinner and dancing, and the conservatory for the sweet table.

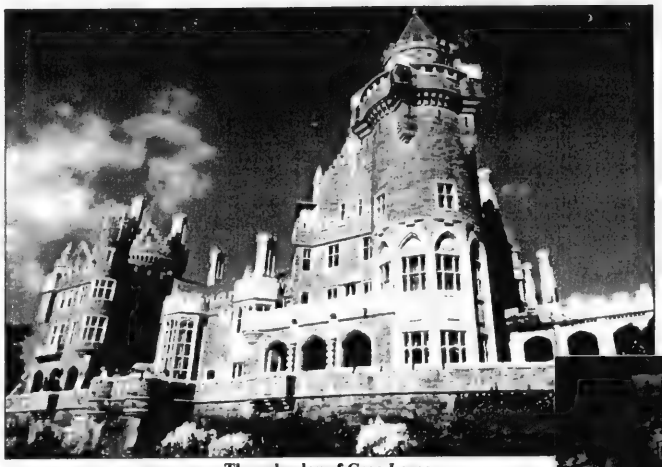
The library includes rows of books, an ornate ceiling and a window overlooking the terrace area. The grand hall features a 60-foot ceiling and an accessible door to a terraced garden. The conservatory has a medieval courtyard feel, with bronze doors and a small fountain bubbling in the summer months.

Kosher meals can be catered by Peter Graben Fine Foods.

"We go through [every detail] with clients; everything must be considered, says Katz."

Feel comfortable with the hall manager, she adds. Make suggestions, and be honest about what is required for the party. It is important to get involved. "This [is] a major event in your life, and we hope this memory will last a lifetime," says Katz.

Baycrest Hospitality (785-2500) tends to favor corporate or conference events. Sharon Bizouati, manager, says Baycrest Hospitality features two banquet halls, an outdoor garden and patio and a fireplace in the winter. Located west of the hospital, the Wagman Centre is strictly kosher and offers its own in-house caterer.



The splendor of Casa Loma.

While still offering bnei/bnot mitzvah, weddings and birthdays, Bizouati says the hall also gives Jewish organizations a venue for luncheons or dinners.

"We can fit 10 to 500," she says. "We can arrange the room for any function and offer audio-visual services."

She says that Baycrest is unique because it is central, and it is a one-stop shop: for other party details, Baycrest has dozens of referrals.

"Remember, we're here to help," offers Bizouati. "If you don't know what you want, talk to us."

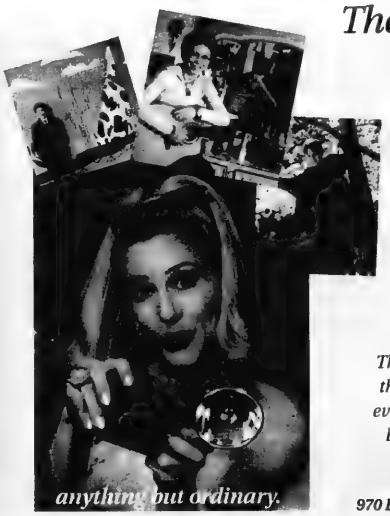
Book both halls as soon as possible, they suggest.

Other kosher places to throw a party advertising in this supplement are: Kehila Catering, 905-669-7654 ext. 232; Lodzer Centre/Rose Lazar Catering, 633-0344; Park Hyatt Toronto 925-1234; Royalton Banquet & Convention Centre, The, 905-851-2325; Sheraton Centre of Toronto, 361-1000; Tri Elm-Beth Jacob 222-1230.

Baycrest Hospitality favors corporate events.

SIGNATURE PHOTOGRAPHY

Party Planning Ideas



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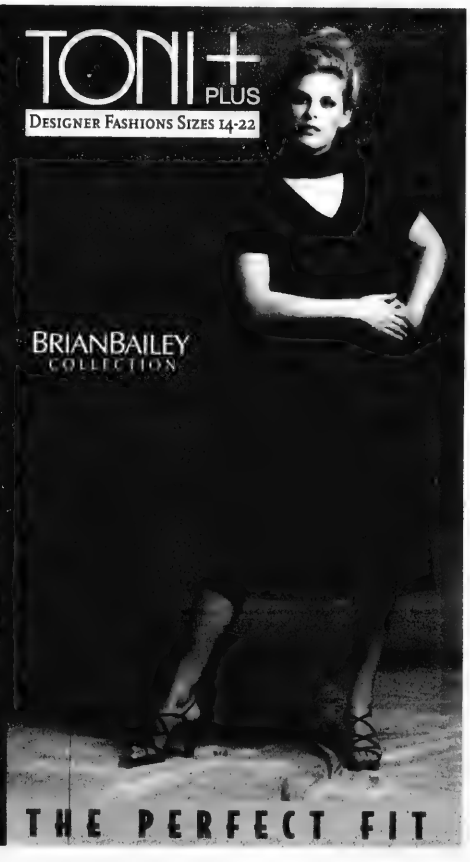

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Abundance of great wines

Top-quality kosher wines

By DAVID SILVERBERG
Student Intern

Kosher wines, such as these from Mazel, are world-winners.

Who doesn't enjoy a Weinstock Cabernet Sauvignon once in a while? Or how about a semi-sweet Bartenura Asti from Italy?

LCBO (925-5266) or Mazel Wines (631-8071) can assist in choosing the right kosher wine.

Wine is often essential at any function. Many people, however, think kosher wine is overly sweet and of poor quality. Yet, there is an abundance of high-quality kosher wine out there, as the president of Mazel Wines explains.

Her extensive product list includes Baron Herzog, Bartenura, Gamla and Givon. All are world-winners, from such places as New York State, France, Italy and Israel.

"In the past, kosher wine selection was very restricted," she says, requesting not to be named. "Now, many companies are happy to make top quality kosher wine."

Robin Sirutis, product consultant of LCBO at the Manulife Centre, says that people still think kosher means sweet.

"The best thing is to experiment," she recommends, "because there's lots of great stuff out there."

As connoisseurs know, different wines go with different meals. For instance, Bartenura Royal 18 Peach (a delicate pink white with a slight effervescence) goes well with desserts, fruits and snacks. A Baron Herzog Zinfandel (a sweet, fragrant red wine) is best sipped with cheese, light and dark meat, pasta and fruit. A Givon-Barkan Golden Sweet (hearty gold wine from Israel) is ideal with fish, light meat, fried foods and desserts. For fish or light dairy food, like Shavuot meals, Kedem 144 and Baron Herzog White Zinfandel is recommended. With chicken, a lighter red wine, like Fortant de France, should be used.

Sirutis says world famous Chardonnay, Merlot and Cabernet are finding homes in the Jewish market. She credits it to the increased sophistication of Jewish wine lovers and the endless variety on shelves, as at the Hilda and Clark LCBO kosher kiosk, with kosher wines, liquors and spirits.

Is there a difference between kosher and non-kosher wine?

In the past, Sirutis says, kosher wines were boiled to give off a cooked taste. Now, kosher wines are flash pasteurized, which is a brief heating process to make the wine kosher.

"There's wine for everybody," says the president of Mazel. "You can't go wrong."

An experienced wine taster, she says, will look for texture and aroma. The wine has to have substance and a good color. The full bouquet (aroma) indicates a high-quality wine.

All wines at Mazel are also kosher for Passover.

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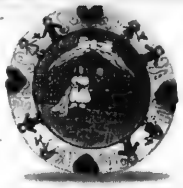
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Party Planner

Enjoy yourself: let consultants do the work

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
CJN Staff

If you hire a party planner, you are guaranteed to be treated like a guest at your own simchah.

Marla Kay (905-882-2042), a bridal consultant and party planner for 17 years – she averages about 40 or 50 functions a year – says a consultant relieves all the stress and anxiety that comes with making a simchah.

"At the party, your whole family is on display. There is excitement and expectations, and the consultant makes sure that everything happens the way it should. Our prime directive is to help make a party you will always remember."

A good consultant, she says, takes the party on as if it were her very own. "From the moment I get a phone call from a client, I give the party all the care and devotion that I would if it were my party."

Judy Stein (905-764-7604), also a party planner, says that a consultant should be available to her clients from the very beginning until the end of the party.

"Of course, there are different packages according to clients' needs. Some people need guidance throughout the whole process, from drawing up the guest list, to ordering the invitations and hiring the professionals.

Judy Stein

"Others have all the basics at hand, but want someone there the day of the party. When I'm there, my clients feel a load lifted from their shoulders."

When she's at a party, says Stein, she puts herself in the "guests' shoes" in order to see how smoothly the party is running. "If I feel the music needs picking up or slowing down, I talk to the musicians or disc jockey; if I'm waiting too long between courses, I speak to the caterer."

Everything she does, she says, allows the hosts to mingle and enjoy being with their friends and family.

It is essential for consultants to be familiar with party venues and keep up with all the new locations, Kay says. "I need to know what to recommend according to a client's budget and needs.

"I know what places can make arrangements for kosher food, which are great for dancing, and which may be suitable for a cocktail party. I spend a lot of time checking out places and speaking to the managers."

For a wedding, says Kay, she arrives at the venue before the bride gets dressed. "I have a schedule prepared so everyone knows exactly where they should be at what time.

"Pictures are an important part of the wedding, and I love outdoor pictures. If it's a nice day, I have driven the bridal party to another location to be photographed."

As for potential "disasters," Stein and Kay have both averted a few. Kay had to revive a groom with smelling salts and she had to mask blood on another groom's shirt with white-out, she says. "When a bride dropped red wine on her dress, she was hysterical. I took soda and water and cleaned the whole thing up."

Stein, who carries Ban-It soap, "her miracle soap," was able to remove grease from a bridal gown.

"My bridal bag contains everything anyone would ever need, including sandpaper to fix heels, shoelaces, smelling salts, and tea biscuits if someone is hungry, she says.

"If someone ever says, 'I wish I had...' I make sure I have it next time."

Other consultants advertising in this supplement are: C & C Group, 421-8042; Florence Wilder, 222-2977; Heidi Gruenspan, 905-738-5030; Raquel Senanes-Grad, 398-0217; Risa Gold (Oziel), 905-882-5044; Sarah Cherry, 905-764-7121.

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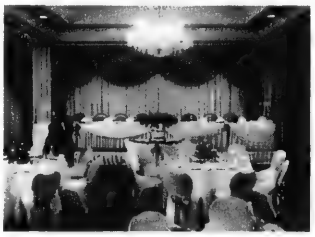

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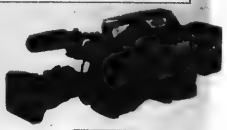

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Food is always the best part

By DAVID SILVERBERG
Student Intern

Food is a crucial part of any simchah. From the presentation to the taste, caterers can either make or break a party.

Kosher caterers aren't too difficult to find in Toronto. Le Chinoix (905-709-8211) and Zuchter-Berk Creative Catering (905-738-6880) are two examples of fine glatt kosher caterers party planners can rely on.

Raphy Amar's Le Chinoix is a newcomer on the catering scene, having just opened its doors several weeks ago. But Amar has years of experience at Le Parc, where he continues to preside as its exclusive kosher caterer.

Amar touts Le Chinoix with its internationally known chefs as the most upscale kosher restaurant in the Greater Toronto Area.

Amar believes Toronto needs to adopt an open-policy style of catering, as in Montreal where clients holding simchahs in shuls can use whichever kosher caterer they please, he says. Synagogues shouldn't force caterers on their members.

Amar says, "You'll never be bored of our menu," which consists of Chinese-Italian cuisine that is exclusively kosher. An extensive wine and exotic drink list is also available.

Some specialties that Amar particularly favors are jagged pear salad with delicate green and tangy walnut dressing; provini veal chop stuffed with mushroom duxcelles and infused veal. Dessert is divine with a spring roll banana strudel on a pool of caramel cream drizzled with chocolate syrup.

"Food presentation is important," Amar says. "The kosher community is used to seeing the same dishes over and over. We're doing impressive things with our food."

Amar likes to think of Le Chinoix as a one-stop shop: everything can be arranged, from coordination to setup. "We don't want our clients to be running around a lot," he says.

David Berk of Zuchter-Berk suggests looking for reputation, creativity and the quality of food and service in a caterer. It's important to keep up with the times, as his business does, and to provide new and innovative ideas, he says.

"We introduced mashed potato martinis," Berk says. An hors-d'oeuvre item, garlic potatoes are scooped into a martini glass and served with either garlic-pesto or black bean chili and mushroom sauce.

Strictly kosher, the caterer company has hosted bar and bat mitzvahs, weddings, special birthdays and organizational dinners. Zuchter-Berk also caters at Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda and Adath Israel synagogues.

Specialties include basil balsamic chicken breast with jimp-fried assorted peppers and exotic mushrooms. The signature dessert is Kahlua mousse pie on a mango-raspberry coulis.

A family business since 1930, reputation speaks a lot for reliability, Berk says and yet the menu is never boring, as it changes on a daily basis he adds. Often, he says, Zuchter-Berk goes back to comfort foods like mashed potatoes or a variety of soups.

Zuchter-Berk is one of the first caterers to set up its own Web site, at zuchterberk.com. Visitors can literally browse the menu. They can also order items or just see what the facility is like.

"You must have trust in your caterer," says Amar. "The relationship of caterer and client is built on honesty."

Berk agrees. Caterers need to relate to people; clients want to feel comfortable with the caterer they're working with, he says.

For indecisive customers, Le Chinoix and Zuchter-Berk both offer sampling of various dishes.

Other kosher caterers advertising in this supplement are: Caterers York/Sweet York Desserts, 783-4293; Malmar Fine Foods & Catering, 638-0091; Prestige Fine Cuisine, 782-7840; Shaarei Tefillah Synagogue/Rose Lazar Catering, 633-0344; Tri Elm Catering, 222-1230.

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Party Planner

Caricatures are gentle, funny, good-natured fun

By ERIC LAYMAN
Special to The CJN

Often, party guests want to give a gift that is not unique. A well known brand name may represent quality. Often, though, you do want a gift to be something no one else has; but what to give? Many such gifts, like handmade clothes, take a lot of time to make, and require specialized skills you may not have. Others, like most original works of art, are very expensive.

However, not all unique works of art are costly. For instance, you and the guests at your party might like a caricature done by a professional artist.

For 11 years, Brian Montenegro (703-3591) has drawn caricatures at Ontario Place and at bnei/bnot mitzvah. He also paints and does illustration and animation. In five to 10 minutes, he will complete a drawing of a guest enjoying a favorite sport or hobby.

A Montenegro caricature is full frontal black and white, with a strong outline and form. It's true to life, but compliments the subject. "I glamorize the women," Montenegro laughs, "and usually give the men more hair."

His work has a polished, urbane look, but keeps the spontaneity of a sketch.

While it's not just dashed off, it's not too meticulous either. When done quickly, he explains, a drawing has a fluidity that you lose if you work more slowly.

Mark Ciale (203-2514) also has 11 years' experience, including four at Ontario College of Art. He enjoys working at parties and schmoozing with the guests.

Sometimes, Ciale says, people in a group single out one of their friends and urge him to have his caricature drawn. Often, this person will be the clown of the group.

Ciale also works quickly, to capture true-to-life details of the face.

His approach is often to make gentle, good-natured fun. Most of us have humorous traits which we like about ourselves, say, a special way of smiling; this is Ciale's favorite theme.

Both artists work with black Magic Markers, which make a strong, bold stroke. At the same time, being quick drying and hard to erase, markers demand a sure, practised, confident hand.

While many people equate a caricature with a cartoon, there are important differences. Cartoons are often partisan, political and malicious; they usually single out one or two features of the subject, and expose them to ridicule.

Both Montenegro and Ciale, on the other hand, want you to enjoy the drawing. And they want you to feel good about the person portrayed in the drawing: good enough that you'll keep it, even frame it.

By Brian Montenegro

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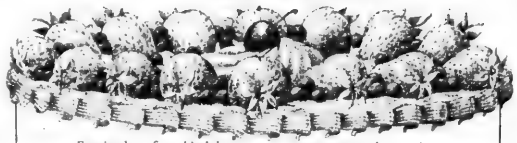
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Don't underestimate party's decor

By ERIC LAYMAN
Special to The CJN

Planning a party always involves several elements at once: working on a menu, choosing a band, making a guest list, and doing all the other things that need doing.

Of course, it's essential to have good food and music, and make sure all the right people are invited. Don't underestimate the decor, though. Along with the music, it's the first thing your guests will notice when they come in.

Choose your decor artist carefully; and remember, no two are exactly alike. For example, Renee Birnbaum of An Affair to Remember (905-881-6686) and Tammy Goodman of Artistic Creations (905-508-8193) have different approaches to their work. You'll want to pick the person who suits you best.

Birnbaum and Goodman each like to create new, interesting concepts. They co-operate well with the other party professionals, such as the caterers. And they each tailor their work to a unique match with you and your event. Their differences are in what could be called the personality of their work.

Birnbaum creates a "Cinderella effect," totally transforming your setting, enhancing the visual impact of everything in the room. And at An Affair to Remember, you find every decor component – centrepieces, balloons, flowers, props and lighting – under one roof.

Birnbaum emphasizes the fact that she stays within your budget, be it lavish or moderate. She works with themes, and with every ambience and type of event, from kids' parties to corporate lunches. And if the bar mitzvah boy wants to be in on the consultations for his simchah, she's glad to talk with him.

Color schemes, as Birnbaum points out, add a lot to a party. A wedding for example, can be warmed and enlivened by colors which are lighter, yet in keeping with decorum. A good decorator can always create something a bit out of the ordinary.

Tammy Goodman of Artistic Creations has extensive graphic arts experience, including cartoon work. Her photo album is full of interesting ideas.

She enjoys doing kids' birthdays, and is known for her Crafty Kidz parties. And she likes detail, both in organization and in artistry.

Goodman does a lot of her work with a thin foam board – not styrofoam, but a less bulky kind which allows for more detail and a cleaner finish. Her work is cut, painted and assembled by hand, with every stage under her direct supervision.

Artistic Creations integrates your theme with everything in the room.

If it's hockey, for example, the place cards will look like hockey cards.

Goodman even does theme-related candles and painted kippot.

As to when to book, the old advice still holds: soon. Good artists are always in demand; so the best way to get the one you want is to phone as far ahead as you can.

Other decor actors advertising in this supplement are: Party Props, 905-726-8878; Perlit Novelties, 665-4838.

Decor by Renee Birnbaum of An Affair to Remember.

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Party Planner

Use a professional to film your simchahs

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
CJN Staff

Only a professional videographer can assure top-quality film, creative editing and back-up cameras, says Brian Korson of Video Excellence (905-731-4355).

"It is essential, in case the prime camera goes out, to have a back-up including lights, battery, mike and bulbs. That way, no part of the party is left out. I have heard about people viewing their video and finding chunks of it blank. That would not have happened had they had back-up material."

When hiring a videographer, says Korson, a client should find out if he rents or owns the equipment. "If someone rents the equipment, it is possible that he is not familiar with the machine. Again, parts of the party could be left out while the videographer is trying to figure out how to use his camera."

The client should also find out exactly who will be filming the party. "You don't want to hire a certain videographer, just to find out someone else, whose work you've never seen, arrives at your party. Find out everything up front."

Korson says his equipment is wireless, which gives the room a much cleaner look. "It's also a matter of safety. There are no wires for guests to trip over."

Digital cameras are the best for good quality film, he says. "When a videographer uses digital filming and digital editing, results are much sharper and the color is clearer. As well, digital equipment requires less light than traditional cameras, so they are less obtrusive."

Brian Korson of Video Excellence.

He stresses that for good quality digital film, every step in the process must be digital. "It has to be digital film in a digital camera, edited in a digital suite for the best resolution and color possible."

Because the resolution on the digital film is so high, says Korson, prints can be lifted off it. "These do not replace the pictures a photographer will take, because the quality is not quite as good. But if someone sees a shot that was not on a photograph, they can capture it."

Most videographers offer packages to suit most budgets, he says. "At the lowest end, the videographer can merely capture the day professionally.

Clients then get a good quality record of events. On the highest end, full editing can include a photo montage, animation, character credits or a recap summary of events at the end of the video. Of course, there are all sorts of options in between. The video could cost anywhere from $995 to $4,000."

When videographers come out, he says, they should be dressed appropriately for the party. "If it's black tie, he'll wear a tux, if it's casual, he'll dress down. It's important for him to look like a guest, so he doesn't stand out."

It is also important to interview clients well in advance to determine their needs. "Some people want every guest given a chance to say a few words on camera; others want just immediate family or friends on tape. Every client is different, and the videographer must respect their requests."

Other video graphics advertising in this supplement are: All Event Video Productions, 905-254-9999; DMS Video Productions, 905-881-7677; Lisa Productions, 905-764-1033; Redstone Pictures, 256-4666; Twins Photo Video, 905-660-7385; Video Affairs, 905-889-0909; Video Productions by Josh, 630-5558.

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Joy of clothes-shopping for kids

'Quality is numero uno'

BY DAVID SILVERBERG
Student Intern

When it comes to dress-wear, children may be difficult to shop for. The clothes may make them fidget, there is the possibility of outgrowing the clothes after a growth spurt, and it is necessary to purchase comfortable and good looking fashions.

Three stores offer selection and advice. Experts at Crawford (782-8137) at Lawrence and Bathurst, Beatties (481-4459) near Eglinton and Avenue, and Kids N' Company (905-764-0755), at Yonge and Doncaster, agree that comfort and quality should be considered when shopping for kids' formals.

Paul Spiar, owner of Crawford since 1979, says his store has specialized in boyswear for the past 10 years. His biggest seller is the suit for special occasions like a bar mitzvah. The colors of his suits range from blue to black, with a selection of tans and olives. Suits run from $160 to $300, and sports jackets range from $125 to $215.

"Selling boyswear is not something that can be done in 15 minutes," says Spiar. "It takes time and effort."

Spiar believes listening to the boy is important because it's obvious he'd rather be anywhere than shopping.

Perhaps that is the reason why Crawford has a play area for the youngsters, in case they get bored waiting for their parents to make a decision. The area has a basketball net, pinball and other games to occupy the child's time and to make sure the parents and the staff aren't rushed.

Beatties, which has over 1,200 suits and sports jackets in its 4,000 square foot store, has many brand names the average adolescent will recognize: Calvin Klein, Tommy Hilfiger, Point Zero, Perry Ellis and DKNY. David Hadden, owner for the last two years, cites Perry Ellis as one of the biggest sellers.

"Lots of clients want good quality with good value," says Hadden. His suits start at $100 and go as high as $299. Every bar mitzvah suit comes with a $25 gift certificate, he adds.

Also, Beatties includes husky sizes 22-36 in its suit selection.

Neil Rosenberg, president of Kids N' Company, carries popular children brands such as Mickey and Co., Ocean Pacific, Buster Brown and UFO. The store leans toward casual wear, with name brand Cargo the big winner of the season.

"Flares are big," Rosenberg says. "So are novelty knits, embroidered butterflies on girls' clothing and girls' fashion from L.A."

Rosenberg says that kids prefer more wash and wear clothing, something that doesn't need to be pampered or shipped to the cleaners every time the parents spot dirt.

"It is important to shop at a store that you have trust and confidence in," says Spiar. "Visit first, walk around and shop there only if you feel comfortable."

"The value and quality of the suit is very important," says Hadden. "Look at the cost and how the suit fits your child."

Rosenberg agrees. "Quality is numero uno."

Suits for bar mitzvahs are big sellers at Crawford's.

Beatties has many brand names including Perry Ellis (pictured.)

Looking for a perfect gift

By DAVID SILVERBERG
Student Intern

What do you buy the person who has everything? Where can you get the perfect gift for somebody?

Leila Amoils, of Il Argento (905-889-5175), and Jackie Kiasa of Ashley's (964-9111) may be of some assistance.

Il Argento carries silverware, candlesticks, challah platters, sterling picture frames and tea sets, among other things, says Amoils. Many items come from South America, which is an influence of her Venezuelan background.

"Mostly the silver platters are typical South American design," says Amoils. "It has that colonial look, a mixture of modern and contemporary."

Silver platters are priced from $150 to $200; decorating platters – they are ideal for wedding or holidays – are made with hand-beaten silver and range from $30 to $350.

"We have a large selection of Judaica," Amoils says. "We have challah knives, Kiddush cups, candlesticks, even silver dreidels.

Specialty dreidels are in the $45 range. Kiddush cups are sometimes made from copies of archaeological artifacts uncovered in Israel. They are made of sterling and ceramic and "last for the rest of your life", she says.

Il Argento carries a lot of silverware...

In addition, Amoils has a rare menorah, designed with hieroglyphics and ancient symbols, that is a copy of an excavated artifact from Israel.

Candlesticks make a great gift for bat mitzvahs, Amoils says. One interesting pair, colored with delicate pastel blues and amber, has a motif of flowers with twisting vines curling upward.

A boy reaching the age of bar mitzvah may appreciate a Torah pointer, says Amoils.

"[In our store] it's like entering a home," says Amoils. "Feel free to walk around, look for something you like.

"The merchandise we carry, no one else in Canada has it," she says. "We have an exclusive contract to give our gifts that different look."

Kiasa, manager of Ashley's for 50 years, says the store offers a huge range of crystal, silver, pewter and porcelain.

Some of the most popular gift items – they could be crystal, figurines, vases or candlesticks – are from Waterford, she says. "The Waterford crystal chest set is exquisite."

The 24,000 square-foot store also has a large selection of Judaica gifts, among them, are seder plates, menorahs and Kiddush cups.

Ashley's offers a huge range of crystal, silver, pewter and porcelain.

Everybody wants to be served well and staff needs qualified expertise, Kiasa says.

However, knowing a person well makes it easier to shop for them, she adds.

"The better you know somebody, the better ability you have to get a better gift. You want that person to cherish the gift that will complement his home or lifestyle."

Amoils recommends buying gifts that are functional. "It's not going to sit on a shelf and collect dust. It should have use and the person should have pride in it."

No one has yet found the formula for the universally perfect gift. But Amoils has a good idea of what the recipient's reaction might be upon getting the perfect gift.

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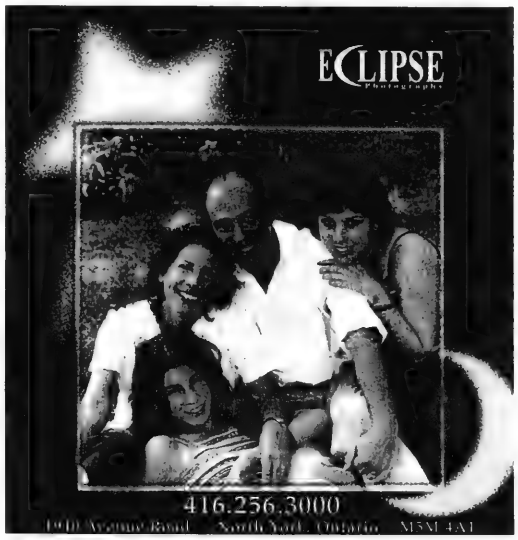

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Party Planner

Loot bags/party favors complete a simchah

By DAVID SILVERBERG
Student Intern

To children, loot bags are the icing on the cake. The adult version of a loot bag is the party favor, says Isaac Soberano of Alpha-Tribeca Group (398-9800).

Soberano gave every guest at his son's brit milah a chocolate bar with his child's information on the wrapper; instead of the name of the chocolate, it read Here He Is, instead of the net weight of the bar, Soberano included his son's weight.

"Everybody is loving those bars," Soberano says. "And they're kosher, too."

Soberano's company mainly deals with corporate affairs, anniversaries, and bnai/bnot mitzvah where custom T-shirts, mugs and baseball caps are especially popular as give-aways.

"We work directly with the client so we have the most information about what he wants," he says.

At Bagz of Fun, children get to make toys out of their loot bags.

For instance, for the golf lover a T-shirt compressed into a golf ball might do the trick, he says. You twist the top off the fake golf ball, and a wearable, wrinkle-free shirt with a custom design is ready for use.

At the 2000-sq.-ft. showroom, says Soberano, people can browse through such items as mouse pads with personalized logos, a pen that can blow bubbles or a T-shirt that can be colored in with crayons.

Slinkies, in many different colors and shapes, are popular again with the kids.

"People want something creative, something with high-perceived value and something that's wearable."

Bev Bergman, of Bagz of Fun (665-5978), doesn't give children toys in their loot bags; they have to make the toys.

Appropriate for ages 4 to 8, says Bergman, the loot bag may have items for jewelry-making, puppet-making, mask decoration, construction and more. No junk food is included.

"When kids go home and make the craft, they love it," Bergman says. Girls favor the jewelry kit while boys like the construction items. The construction bag will include notched popsicle sticks, papers that are imprinted with interior and exterior finishes, paint and paintbrush.

Bergman, mother of three children, always had craft material in her home, and found her children enjoyed "making something out of nothing."

Bergman says she wanted to get away from the usual junk in loot bags, and involve the children in an activity.

The instructions aren't how-to, Bergman stresses. They are merely suggestions, in order to give the children the most freedom.

Party favors should be special and exciting for every guest. Whether they are for a wedding anniversary or for a 3-year old's birthday party, "the fun should continue after the party."

Other places providing party favors are Suckers, 416-CANDIES.

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Party Planner

All you need is under one roof

By ERIC LAYMAN
Special to The CJN

One advantage of getting all your party supplies under one roof is saving time. Deadlines and due dates always come too soon; and there are always more details and problems than you plan for.

It isn't just a matter of getting the best flowers, loot bags, etc. It's also a matter of having colors and designs match, and co-ordinating decor and props with everything else. This is important even if the party doesn't have a theme.

Party suppliers Norene Norris of Tyme to Party (905-737-2789), and Caroline Keane of Party Props (905-726-8878; 416-436-9379), both think a supplier should have a feel for decor and good design. Also, she should like people, and be a good organizer.

Keane also sees stress relief as part of her work. She has noticed that people under stress are liable to lose track of details. This may create a vicious circle: you miss one detail, worry about it so much that you miss another, and so on.

Happily, the process can be reversed. Success in handling one problem boosts confidence and energy, and makes it easier to tackle the next problem. The one-stop party supplier helps, by taking a lot of the details out of your hands from the start.

Some things you may need to get from a specialist; but Keane says that a good supplier has contacts with resource people. Having the right contacts is vital to this business, which is based mainly on referrals and good reputation.

A supplier's work resembles that of the party co-ordinator. If a supplier can't answer every question for you, she should know where to find the answer. Once she contacts other professionals, they can follow up with you, or work with the supplier, whichever you want.

Small-town-style of service

Some clients, Keane says, want to leave as much detail as possible in their supplier's hands. Equally often, though, the client wants to consult with the supplier at each stage, especially on one-of-a-kind artistic work like floral or wall decorations.

Norris enjoys brainstorming with her clients. She prefers a friendly small-town style of service, ready to go the extra mile for the client.

Most of her work is for bnei/bnot mitzvah and kids' parties; and most of her adult clients have fun too, enjoying the chance to be kids again.

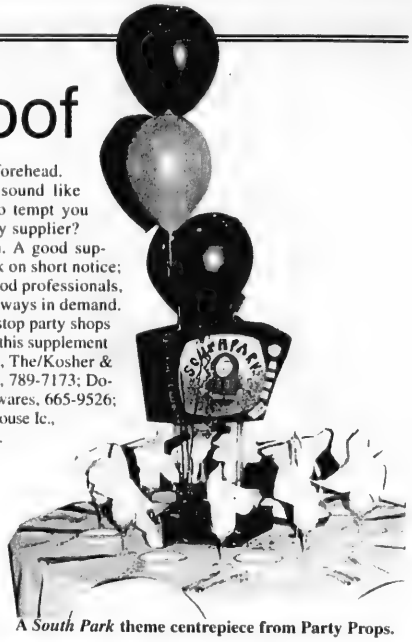
Clients want to get something unique, Norris observes, but without spending a fortune. You can do this, she points out, with party favors and with loot bags, which account for a huge percentage of Norris' sales. To give personalized loot bags shows that you think of your guests as individuals.

Popular novelties, Norris says, include blow-up picture frames and pillows; liquid pencil cases (made of two layers of plastic with liquid between, which you can see moving); and sun visors with a battery-run fan to cool your forehead.

Does this sound like fun enough to tempt you to visit a party supplier?

Do it soon. A good supplier can work on short notice; but like all good professionals, the best are always in demand.

Other one stop party shops advertising in this supplement are: Canadian, The/Kosher & Natural Foods, 789-7173; Dominion Smallwares, 665-9526; Venture Warehouse Ic., 905-709-4370.



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A singer's melody comes straight from the heart

By ERIC LAYMAN
Special to The CJN

Music evokes emotions more directly than any other art. Visual art and writing usually require a moment's thought before we respond; but music seems to go straight from the ears to the heart.

When we hear a singer, we respond to the feeling of the music and to the meaning of the words. That is why a singer can add so much to the entertainment at a party.

In choosing a singer, listen to a tape, then hear a performance. Recordings give you an idea of voice quality and repertory; but they can be touched up, made perfect through technology. When you hear singers perform, they show you what they do spontaneously, in the presence of a demanding audience.

Gedalia Zweig of the Kiddish Club (977-3502; Web site www.geocities.com/Hollywood/Picture/5257) has a style that weaves Jewish musical ideas and contemporary pop into a blend both Jews and non-Jews can relate to.

For example, he has a Chanukah song, *La La La La Latke*. And his *Bensch Licht Again* is a takeoff on Kalmann Cohen's *Let's Twist Again*, with Cohen's permission.

Zweig plays electric or acoustic guitar. He also works with a five-piece band which includes himself, drums, sax, bass and keyboard. The band is on his demo tape.

Gedalia Zweig weaves Jewish musical ideas and contemporary pop.

He will do everything from playing solo for a small gathering, to working with other musicians as part of a larger entertainment package.

He prefers audiences of 200 or less, where he can resonate with people as individuals.

Of Zweig's three albums, the latest, *Toys*, is for kids. *Moment* magazine in the United States has it on the kids' music Top Ten list; and he's penetrating the U.S. market through Jewish bookstores. Book him as far ahead as possible, he advises, especially if your event is around Chanukah.

Fern Lindzon (445-9780) has a wide repertory from swing to Latin, and her own Fern Lindzon Band. She appears solo, in duets and trios, and with up to seven musicians, and can hire an additional singer. She's also a pianist, can accompany herself, and writes her own arrangements.

The old standards, especially songs by the Gershwins and Cole Porter, are among Fern's favorites. Their great lyrics and melodies have timeless appeal; and each time you sing a standard, you have to infuse it with a new, different feeling.

Today, Fern observes, these standards are enjoying a comeback. It's wonderful, she says, to sing at a bar mitzvah, and hear a 13-year-old request something by Holly Cole, or see younger people dancing to swing.

Fern also likes contemporary ballads by singers like Celine Dionne and Elton John. R&B and rock 'n roll, she leaves to her band, who have special interests in these forms. They're all jazz musicians, who can read music and improvise.

With so much variety available, picking a singer could take time; so start listening soon. You won't only enjoy the singer at your party: you'll also enjoy the process of choosing.

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Party Planner

Artist's work conveys a feeling of movement

By SARAH HERSHENSON
WZPS

Frank Meisler likes to set things in motion. Whether it is his small sculpture pieces, full of whimsy and fun, or his larger pieces of sacred or decorative art, his work always conveys a feeling of movement.

One of his newest pieces, for example, is a spectacled chef, triumphantly holding aloft outdoor cooking tools. Upon pulling a lever at his midriff, a grill complete with sausages, a bottle of wine and glasses are revealed.

Meisler's famous camels, too, have heads that can be positioned to sway back and forth. "What you see is not necessarily what you get," Meisler says. "There is no one way of looking at anything."

Meisler believes his outlook on life stems from being born in Danzig, Germany. "Danzig is a city of contradictions," he says. "When I was growing up, many of its inhabitants were Jews from Poland and Germany. Nevertheless, each group had diametrically opposing views. Danzig was a city of culture, replete with museums and a renowned university. However it was also a hotbed of Nazi support during the war."

In August 1939, Meisler was one of 26 children who fled the Holocaust in a *kindertransport* to England. He was given a home in London by two aunts. After the war he studied architecture at Manchester University.

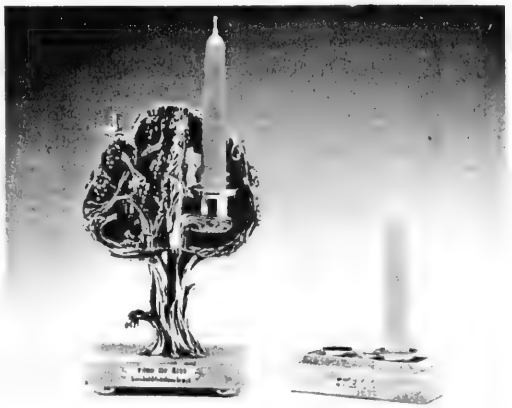
"My life has seen many changes," he recalls. "In England, I worked professionally as an architect and sculpture was my hobby. However, things assumed another view when I came to Israel in the early 1960s.

"My visit was supposed to be a 'working vacation', to serve as a consultant to the construction industry due to the tremendous amount of housing that was needed. Buildings were going up as fast as possible in order to accommodate the 1960s wave of aliyah. Unfortunately, the results were buildings that were symbols of an almost 'architectural bankruptcy' and I was slightly disillusioned. Therefore, after I decided to stay in Israel, I made up my mind to pursue my sculpting hobby as a career."

With an eye for detail and a careful, perhaps inherited, sense of business acumen, Meisler began designing and marketing his pieces. He had already established his studio in Old Jaffa by the time the Tel Aviv municipality got around to renovating the ancient port and turning it into a visitor's delight.

Today, the studio in Old Jaffa employs a number of skilled artisans and has a gallery on the premises. There are also galleries in central Tel Aviv and Jerusalem.

Many official gifts given by the State of Israel to dignitaries and notables come from his studio and many gift shops worldwide carry his beautifully crafted pieces which are made from pewter and brass and often set with semi-precious stones.



Frank Meisler's "The Tree of Life."

His best known work in Israel is the sculpture fountain in the lobby of the King Solomon hotel in Jerusalem – a globe-shaped relief of Jerusalem that has become both a local landmark and a much loved symbol of the Holy City.

His tribute to the 50th anniversary of the State of Israel is a scroll of Israel's Declaration of Independence, complete with replicas of the signers' signatures and a revolving Magen David.

Recently, Meisler was asked to make a set of Maranos candlesticks; disguised candlesticks that were used in Spain during the Inquisition. The candlesticks, hidden within a statue or decorative object, could appear or disappear with the flick of a lever or closing of a small door.

Meisler fashioned a statue, studded with semi-precious stones, called The Tree of Life. By opening two small doors at the base, the candlesticks are revealed.

"It is a project that intrigued me because it's an instance of ambiguity that saved both the lives and identity of many."

Meisler said he gets his ideas, "from a fertile, creative mind, which is sometimes tinged, just ever so slightly, with my black and often 'wicked' sense of humor."

However, not all his pieces are fanciful. Meisler recently was asked to assist in the design and decoration of Moscow's newest synagogue. After over 70 years when religion was outlawed by Communism, the Russian government decided to erect a memorial complex composed of three houses of worship in memory of Russia's huge losses during the Second World War: a Russian Orthodox church, a mosque and a synagogue.

"Faced with the memorial's immense responsibility, I did not know if I could do it justice," Meisler says. Nevertheless, his sense of professionalism took over and he admits it turned out better than he had hoped.

Inside the synagogue, Meisler designed a hexagonal bimah out of metal and wood. The materials he chose for the Holy Ark were metal and Jerusalem stone. Outside, he fashioned a bronze menorah mounted on black marble and on the inside walls, two sculptures, almost nine feet high, one depicting Moses receiving the Five Books, the other symbolizing the Twelve Tribes.

The Ukrainian government has commissioned him to design a new monument for the Jews who perished at Babi Yar. In Israel he looks forward to creating more Judaica and opening a new shop in Jerusalem's ancient Cardo shopping area.

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Party Planner

Both the Ketubot on this page were done by Michael Shapiro of Ketubah Ketubah.

The art of Ketubah willl live through the new millennium

By ERIC LAYMAN
Special to The CJN

When we take an important step in life such as marriage, we make it formal through ceremony. Many important events have also been formalized by drawing up a document.

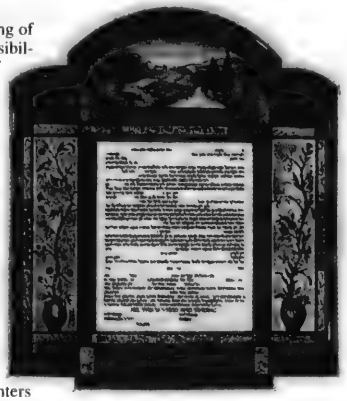
As legal texts, written documents hold us to our commitments by providing a permanent record. But a document is also visual. And if it bears witness to a major lifelong promise, it's a physical reminder of the values expressed in that promise – and almost calls out to be treated as a work of art.

Because marriage is not an ordinary commitment, a ketubah is not an ordinary legal document. As both written text and work of art, it pays tribute to all the many aspects of marriage.

Marriage is a sharing of property, and a responsibility for the wellbeing of spouses and children. It's a lifelong commitment to love and loyalty. It re-affirms a religious tradition, and it is a union of two unique individuals.

Brian Liss of the Liss Gallery (787-9872) and Michael Shapiro of Ketubah Ketubah (963-9191) offer a wealth of information on this uniquely Jewish artform.

Besides representing contemporary painters and sculptors and consulting on art acquisition, the Liss Gallery features artists who offer unique or limited-edition ketubot.



Limited editions consist of about 300 numbered copies. For individual commisioned works, artists use durable acrylics and oil paints. Parchment is available, but with modern inks. The gallery frames ketubot as well.

Ketubot reflect different historical eras. They also reflect the style of the artist, and in individually commissioned ketubot, the preferred imagery of the couple. As you might expect, this imagery is often drawn from the Song of Songs.

Ketubot can be commissioned before or after the marriage. For a hand-crafted work, says Liss, the wait is about three months.

Ketubah Ketubah specializes exclusively in ketubot. They represent 35 artists with a wide range of materials and styles, traditional and contemporary, creating everything from limited editions of 100 to 500 copies, to one-of-a-kind hand-painted work. Most are the size of a poster or frameable lithograph print.

Often, says Shapiro, a ketubah is the first art a couple buys. Many buy anniversary ketubot; and some young couples get them for their parents.

Texts used represent all denominations – Orthodox, Conservative and Reform.

The ketubah as art, says Shapiro, goes back to the Middle Ages, possibly earlier. After fading for awhile, interest in this artform has enjoyed a resurgence in the last 20 years.

The technology used, says Shapiro, combines new and old. In one style based on paper cutting, for example, the original is made by hand, much like a stencil; then copies are made with a laser.

Making ketubot, Shapiro points out, supports a large number of artists. If you commission one or buy a limited-edition copy, you pay special tribute to your own marriage.

Another place that does ketubah advertising in this supplement is: Ketubah, Haftarah by Karny Vorona, 226-3131.

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Party Planner

'We have a gift for gift-giving'

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
CJN Staff

Picture a child-sized car filled to the brim with baby clothes, soft toys and other baby products, and imagine the expression of the new parents who receive this unusual gift basket.

Depending on one's taste the same baby gifts can also be packed in a wagon or a white wicker child-size rocking chair.

These are just three of the many styles of gift baskets available at the Nutcracker Sweet (782-3232) at 1936 Avenue Rd., says store owner Elaine Akler. "Our slogan is we have a gift for gift giving."

Fifteen years ago, she bought the store, then a health food store, with the intension of converting it to a store specializing in gift baskets filled with gourmet foods and other gift items.

The creativity of putting together gift baskets appealed to her, Akler said. "We were one of the first people in the city doing gift baskets."

The quality of the items from the Nutcracker Sweet is very high and "the presentation is fabulous," she said. "There is no one who comes close."

The company does a large baby basket business, she said. "We either use a basket or toy as a container. We use a lot of Little Tikes toys and high-end soft toys, like Gund. All the sleepers we use are 100 percent cotton."

Gift baskets can be sent for all kinds of occasions such as an office opening or other corporate events, Akler said. "People have become more aware of gift baskets. It's become an item of choice for corporations. If you don't know someone that well, how can you go wrong with a gift basket of food?"

Corporate gift baskets mainly consist of gourmet cheese and crackers, anti pastos, chocolates, cookies as well as nuts and fresh fruit, she noted.

"These baskets leave a very lasting impression for the people who receive them. It's really exciting to get something that looks so beautiful, and it's full of exciting things that people wouldn't necessarily go out and buy themselves."

Nutcracker Sweet, which can provide party centrepieces and flowers for wedding and bnei/bnot mitzvah, does many hotel baskets for out of town guests attending simchahs. The baskets, which average in price from $20 to $30 include such things as soaps, cookies and mineral water.

"It's very nice if you come in from out of town to have a gift basket in your hotel room," Akler said. "We carry high quality cosmetic lines like Crabtree and Evelyn."

She says they also do anti-boredom baskets, get well baskets, as well as birthday baskets. "If people need help we have a lot of catalogues." Baskets start at $20 and can run as high as $500 for large deluxe-size containers.

Nutcracker has a wide assortment of containers to suit a variety of budgets, among them, silvers ice baskets, ceramic containers, mesh hat boxes as well as wicker baskets. She says a popular item is the Nutcracker Sweet basket– a black rod-iron basket named for the store "because everything in it is sweet."

Nutcracker uses a lot of ribbon, and the bows are all handmade, Akler says. "We always match to the occasion. We did a glass bowl with hand-painted lemons, and matched it to fabric ribbon which had lemons on it. We're always one step ahead of the trend. We're right with the latest colors."

Nutcracker offers a full line of kosher gift baskets, which would include cookies, nuts, antipastos, jams and crackers, she says.

"There's more upscale [kosher] products with nice packaging. At one time it was all so pedestrian."

She says nut and candy trays are good items to send to a shivah because of the way they're presented. People can just nibble. It's nice to have because there's generally a lot of people.

At least 50 percent of the orders are done over the phone, Akler says. "We deliver all over Canada and the United States. We do it by courier. Shipments leave every day for all destinations."

Samples from the Nutcracker Sweet.

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A Caribbean cruise is a wonderful honeymoon idea

By KATHRYN KATES
Special to The CJN

Immortalized in the Walter Matthau, Jack Lemmon movie *Out To Sea*, the MS Westerdam, the largest of the luxurious Holland America Line fleet, cruises the Eastern Caribbean each week departing from Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.

The exotic ports of call – perfect honeymoon spots– include Nassau, Bahamas, San Juan, Puerto Rico, St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands and Half Moon Cay, Bahamas, a private resort owned by the cruise line.

The Westerdam's common areas are tastefully decorated with fine art and museum-quality antiques. The ship boasts seven lounges and three fine restaurants. Kosher meals can be pre-ordered and prepared prior to departure and are served in their original packaging.

A must-do on the Westerdam is to pamper yourself at Steiner of London's Ocean Spa. Beauty rituals of note include the La Therapie Facial, the Aromaspa Body Treatment and the Top to Toe massage and facial.

Specials are offered daily, including Relax in Paradise, a massage on a secluded area of the beach at Half Moon Cay. Steiner also operates the fitness centre and beauty salon.

On board, daytime activities include swimming in one of two pools; lots of on-deck entertainment, games and tournaments; a club for kids; and lectures on art, food, health, beauty.

The nightlife aboard the Westerdam is varied. The Admiral Lounge plays host to Las Vegas-style productions and novelty acts. Other entertainment includes a 50s bash and a country and western party. Bands are plentiful and include dance bands, lounge acts, a string quartet and a calypso group.

The Westerdam also features theme cruises. Past entertainment included Budd Friedman's Improv at Sea, big band shows and a number of sock hops featuring favorite icons of the rock and roll era.

On land, the Westerdam's well-informed staff can organize affordable port excursions or offer valuable tips for those who prefer to explore on their own.

The half-day visit to Nassau allows passengers to sample the former British colony. Sights include Fort Charlotte, built in 1789 and Fort Fincastle, constructed in 1793. There's also Bay Street, the heart of the city, the Queen's Staircase, hand carved out of limestone by slaves, and Paradise Island, with its Cloister Gardens and famous Atlantic Resort and Casino.

The Westerdam's next stop is historic island of San Juan, which became part of the United States after the Spanish American War in 1898. The territory's residents became US citizens in 1917.

The seven-square-block area of Old San Juan, with its 16th and 17th century Spanish colonial architecture, has been named a National Historic Zone. Along the blue cobblestone roads are interesting churches, forts, museums, restored homes, duty-free boutiques, art galleries, restaurants and sidewalk cafes.

A popular Westerdam excursion is Juan Carlos and his Rumba Flamenco Show staged at the posh San Juan Grand Hotel. The famed Barcelona-born guitar master is remembered by many from his performances on *The Ed Sullivan Show*.

St. Thomas is one of the prettiest places on earth. A walking tour through downtown Charlotte Amalie should include a visit to Fort Christian, Government House and the St. Thomas Synagogue, the second oldest shul in the western hemisphere, built in 1833 by Sephardi Jews.

Other places of interest in St. Thomas are Coral World, Paradise Point Tramway, Estate St. Peter Greathouse and Botanical Gardens. Mountain Top. Of course, there are also St. Thomas' many beautiful beaches.

The MS Westerdam cruise-only fares range from $1,206 for a standard room to $5,189 for a spacious suite, based on double occupancy and including port charges. A number of 2-for-1 cruise are offered through travel agencies.

Canada 3000 also offers a flight schedule from Toronto.

CONGRATULATIONS MICHELLE

Happy bride Michelle Sabourin, *The CJNs* temporary receptionist, [above] with flower girl Kyra. Also pictured (top) is maid-of-honor Kelli with Kyra. [Karen Syptak photos]

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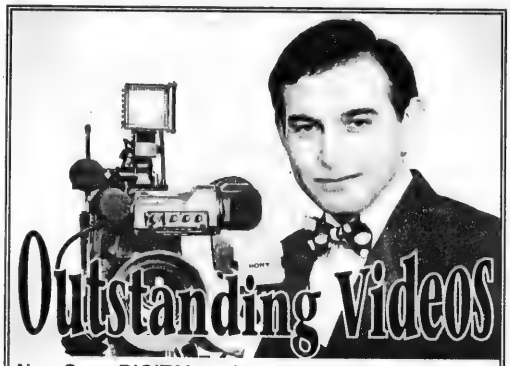

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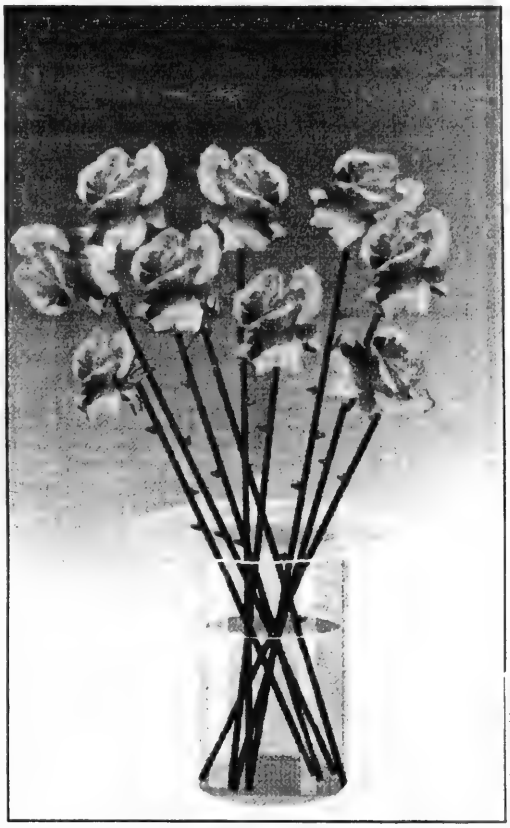
Millennium hype will affect floral themes this winter

By DAVID SILVERBERG
Student Intern



Every party needs a splash of color, pleasing patterns and relaxing fragrances. Why not borrow from nature?

Designs by Karen Baker (905-886-8100) is one example of an experienced florist studio. Baker, owner for 20 years, also deals with room decor, table props and party details. An expert in floral patterns, Baker knows exactly what flowers go with every affair.

For a wedding in June, she says, use hydragena, roses, peonies, cream-gold colors. Ice tones, like baby blue or pink, add some extra flair.

Summer, she says, favors cream and pastel colors. Roses offer an elegant classical look.

This winter will be buzzing with millennium hype, she says. Dragons, wizards and exotic or tropical flowers will be popular, as well as "funky sparkly flowers like protea, antherium or unusually colored orchids," she says.

Baker knows that everybody needs something different; some want major detail, some don't. But all the flowers have to be personable, have to touch the client in some special way.

A good florist is reputable, creative and enthusiastic, Baker says. The florist has to be prepared and organized, which includes coming on time.

"After all," she adds, "when it comes to bnei/bnot mitzvah, parents have waited 13 years for this."

Mario Seguin, owner of Floral Studio (504-1850) sees himself as a florist creating atmosphere for the whole evening. He works with lighting, staging and table setting. His studio is the official florist of the Canadian Opera Company and he arranged floral designs for the opening of the opera *The Golden Ass*.

"Shoppers should research for the best quality and price," he says. Seguin also believes a florist is someone the client can trust and get along with. Working with a florist should be, like the whole evening, a pleasant experience.

Floral Studio, which did $1 million of business last year, does weddings, charity events, galas and corporate affairs. Its clientele ranges from NHL all-star Paul Coffey to the Reichmans.

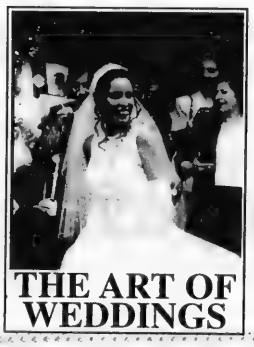
Many factors come into play when organizing a party with a florist, according to Baker.

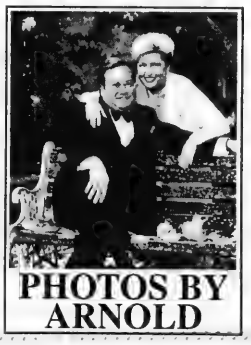
"You have to consider such things as: Is there a theme? What are colors? Is it an elegant or fun display? How about the overall feeling of the room? Do you have linen covering the chairs?"

She suggests writing a formal proposal with different options, so everyone is aware of everything.

"I have a passion for it," says Seguin, on being a florist. "There's always something new and interesting to do."

Another florist advertising in this supplement is: The Toronto Florist Shop, 905-764-6332.


THE ART OF WEDDINGS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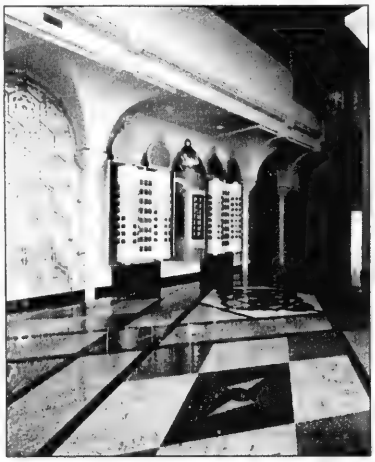
Featuring the now famous 100 foot high gold leaf dome ceiling, rich cherry wood seating, and an awe-inspiring, towering 3 tier Aron Hakodesh, it has become a most sought-after location for your Chuppah ceremony.



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DJs should provide creativity and interaction

By DAVID SILVERBERG
Student Intern

The beat is heavy. The bass shakes stomachs. Dancers gyrate and pull reluctant guests on stage.

DJs have taken over.

Innovative DJ services are catching on. More people want creativity and interaction at their parties, something they may not be able to get with a live band.

Freedom of Sound (905-760-0040) tries to be interactive without intimidating, according to owner Miki Klevan. His bar/bat mitzvah shows can include dancers, a DJ, an MC, a digital CD sound system, light shows, a 9x12 video screen and, if in the mood, fire-breathers and Henna painters. Klevan says that his company is one of the biggest in the Jewish market.

"We try to come up with different things that haven't been seen before," says Klevan.

Dancers could be an integral part of the show. Klevan thinks many dancers project an egotistical image of "I'm the best, I'm on a pedestal." Klevan's dancers grab guests by the hand to dance everything from the *Macarena* to the *YMCA* dance. Interaction with the crowd has no limits, he says.

Freedom of Sound hosted 700 to 800 parties last year and Klevan makes sure not one is the same. He tells the DJs to watch for kids they have seen before, so as to alter the routine for a different and fun experience. Weekly seminars train the dancers.

"Look for liability," suggests Klevan. "Look for a good name and someone that's reliable." DJ companies should have backups in case a performer falls ill or equipment damages during mid-show. Klevan finds that emergency vehicles loaded with sound gear are especially useful.

Rick Levine's Times Square Entertainment offers a Spice Party with Spice Girl lookalikes.

Rick Levine's Times Square Entertainment (905-881-6400) offers a high level of professionalism by avoiding tacky games and leaning towards a more musical oriented presentation.

He offers live band and DJ combinations, giving the best of both worlds. He finds a live band could be great but a DJ offers more versatility and an appeal to teens and adolescents.

"Volume and selection of music are important," says Levine, president of Times Square for five years. "You want to reach adults and kids with the style and repertoire. You don't play raunchy rock tunes with 70 percent senior citizens. Perhaps something more fun would be a conga line."

Levine's number one concern is that everyone feels comfortable at the party. Perhaps that is the reason, he says, why his company only books two parties a night–so the function will run smoothly and without problems.

We treat clients as equals, says Klevan. His agents give clients respect and attention because their event may be once-in-a-lifetime, and it must be special and innovative.

Book early, warns Levine. "We're booked into 2001. Don't worry–when you hire Times Square, we take care of the details."

Levine says his Jewish market is increasing, with 80 percent of business coming from Jewish functions.

Both DJ services offer casino games, laser systems and party packages.

See more DJ's coverage on page B-31.

Miki Klevan (left) hosts an evening of fun at Freedom of Sound.

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Party Planner

DJs must be flexible

By DAVID SILVERBERG
Student Intern

Quality is the key factor for Jim Bailey, president of Ace Music Service (1-800-337-5530) for 18 years.

Hailed as the #1 DJ company in Thunder Bay, Ace has an office in Toronto and has hosted such events as the Pepsi Video Blast Party. Bar or Bat Mitzvahs run around $1000, depending on the options.

"Make sure you have a written contract," Bailey advises. "Ask for references, and make sure the company sends a competent DJ." Bailey suggests meeting the DJ personally before the evening, or perhaps viewing him perform.

Unsuccessful companies are inflexible, he says. They don't upgrade their equipment and the DJs may be over-bearing.

With Magic Moments (749-7604) , guests can expect professionalism, state-of-art equipment and an evening of magic, according to owner and operator Chris Allard.

"We're a smaller company," he says, "but our ambience is double than bigger DJ services".

Magic Moments offers DJs for sweet 16 birthday parties, anniversaries, Bar/Bat Mitzvahs, proms, weddings and corporate functions. Features include dry ice, fireworks, bubbles, intelligent lighting (computer controlled graphics) and elegant lighting for slow songs. That type of package may cost around $1500.

"DJs have to read the crowd," Allard says. "If they can't read the crowd, the night is shot."

Allard suggests not to pick the first company you see. There's always one better, he says, shop around. Remember, you pay for what you get.

Recently diving into the Bar Mitzvah market, Allard invested into traditional Jewish music. The music library ranges from the 20s to current tunes.

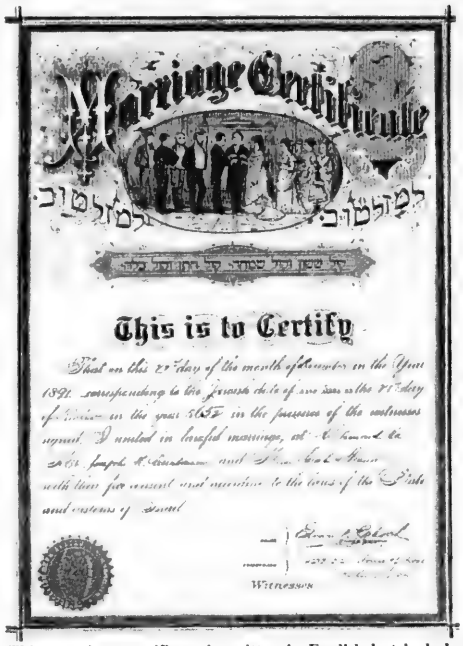
"We help plan the party, "Allard says. "We co-ordinate with staff from the hall, we work with the videographer and we all work together to get the function perfect."

Bailey constantly wishes to improve his DJ service. Follow-up calls to past clients offer insight into what was good and what needs change. He even offers a Web site [www.acetunz.com] for Internet users.

Allard offers a last piece of advice that could save headaches and financial woes.

"At the initial talk, ask every possible question. It's like buying a car, you don't want a lemon."

Other DJ's advertising in this supplement are: Mandell Entertainment Group, 886-4000; Mister Disc Jockey, 1-877-473-3800; Starr Productions, 881-1378.



This marriage certificate is written in English but includes traditional Hebrew verses that refer to marital happiness. A depiction of a ceremony is featured above the text. The bride was Sarah Strauss, and the groom was Joseph M. Rosenbaum. They married in Richmond, Va., 1891. Rabbi Edward Nathan Calisch officiated. This picture and the one on page 33 are taken from *Ketubbot: Marriage Contracts from the Jewish Museum*, edited by Claudia J. Nahson.

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Party Planner

Many women want to look like Gwyneth Paltrow

Oscars set the tone in fashion

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
CJN Staff

What people wear to the Academy Awards sets the tone for eveningwear for the coming year, says Edward Gurney of Julian Edwards (923-5979), a store that specializes in dresses for proms, weddings, bnai/bnot mitzvah or balls.

The company manufactures its products under the Peter Nou, Claire Pearce and Wayne Clark labels.

"After Gwyneth Paltrow appeared on the show in her pink, taffeta, a Ralph Lauren creation, we had many women coming in asking for something closely resembling it," he said.

Because they manufacture their own lines, he said, women can choose a dress they like, and have it made up for them in about three weeks. "We also do all the alterations on dresses that are chosen off the rack."

Full-length ball gowns are getting more and more popular every year, said Gurney. "There seem to be many events that call for these gowns, and people are feeling more comfortable about spending money.

"They're starting to go back to big skirts with miles and miles of tulle or taffeta that rustle when you walk."

Pink is the biggest color this spring, but black is the perennial favorite, he said. "If women want to wear a dress to many different occasions, I suggest they buy black or navy, because those colors are not as memorable.

"They can get a lot more mileage out of their dress, than, let's say, a bright pink dress."

Beading and sequins are coming back in a big way, he said. "The glitzier the better this year."

For cocktail dresses, which women wear for dinners, the theatre or to cocktail parties, glitzy is also popular, Gurney said.

"We're seeing a lot of shot taffeta, in which one color is woven one way, and another color is woven another way, producing an iridescent quality. For example, weaving together royal blue and black, gives off a sapphire effect."

The swing style is important this year, he said. "The dresses are ankle-length, with a simple bodice, short sleeves and boat neck.

"A narrow belt at the waist is made out of the same fabric as the dress. Taffeta, peau-de-soie or cotton linen blends are the more popular fabrics – any fabric that allows the skirt to move."

Every now and then, what's fashionable happens to be very wearable, and with the swing dresses "this is one of those moments," Gurney said.

"These swing dresses are easy to wear, not tight to the body. There are also a lot of seams so they are easy to alter.The dresses work for women of all ages."

For mothers of the bride, evening suits are very big, he said. These suits, with long skirts are often made of tri-acetate, a synthetic material that looks like four-ply silk.

"People are not buying the silk as much any more, because silk absorbs oil from the skin too easily and also pulls out of shape. Synthetics can approximate any fibre, they don't crease and sometimes, they can be thrown in the washing machine."

Bridesmaids, he said, are looking for dresses "that are not bridesmaidy. They want to be able to wear them again. We're seeing lots of blues, ivories, creams and pinks."

Other places providing fashion and accessories are: Celebration Shoes, 703-2789; Jordan's Apparel Ltd., 667-1175; Toni Plus, 512-0341.

Graphic by Edward Dunbar

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Party Planner

Combine friendship and crafts at innovative party places

By ERIC LAYMAN
Special to The CJN

Many celebrations need a sizable venue like a hall, hotel or larger restaurant to host a few hundred people. For smaller parties, though, many small, out-of-the-ordinary venues offer unique, one-of-a-kind ways to have fun.

To sample two such venues, let's look at Rosie's House of Ceramics (222-3808), and the Academy of Artisans (322-9997). Both invite you to combine creativity in a craft or art with a gathering of close friends or family celebrating together.

Rosie's House of Ceramics is a home studio, where you make a ceramic piece for yourself or as a gift. It's ideal for gatherings up to about 16 people, such as a shower for the friends of a bride. Along with coffee, cookies and candies, Rosie supplies tools and brushes.

You start work with a bisque, a piece which has already been shaped and fired once in the kiln at 1200 F. Though you paint and glaze the bisque yourself, you don't take it home right away: it has to be fired again. The finished piece is durable and useful: you can clean it in the dishwasher, or use it to heat food in the microwave.

Much of the pleasure of working with ceramics is in the contrast between fragility and earthy strength.

Many forms of ceramics shatter easily, or lose their glaze if subjected to extreme heat or corrosive cleaning. This fragility challenges us to treat a beautiful material object with loving care.

Yet, if treated well, a bowl or plate is an enduring memento. Ceramics last for decades, even millennia. When archeologists study an ancient culture, one of the first things they look at is the pottery.

Rosie's House of Ceramics also offers regular workshops. (Serious long-term students buy their own tools.) Whether for party or workshop, Rosie is always your resource person, there to help you.

The Academy of Artisans offers crafts ranging from metalwork to macramé: cooking, papier mâché, cartooning, tie dye, silk screening, stained glass, mask making, pottery, drawing and painting. And the same 56 professionals teach at both the parties and regular classes.

The academy can also host other courses like origami and jewelry making.

Recently, a book club did floor cloths; and a bar mitzvah party did dogtag jewelry.

Your academy event lasts two hours, 1½ for the activity and 30 minutes for celebration. You can provide food or let the academy cater. It also supplies free helium balloons, and will work with party themes.

The academy can host up to 30 or 35 children, and also go off-site for bigger events, to a hall or club, as part of a larger entertainment context.

Book a month or so ahead, Rosie advises. The academy can handle short- notice bookings, but it's better to book as far ahead as you can.

This marriage contract from Pisa, Italy from 1721 celebrates the marriage between Sarah Miranda and Moses De Leon. The nudes at the top indicate the influence of Italian art.

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Party Planner

Simplistic and traditional gowns are both popular

Elenis Papourlias of Elenis Coutourie and Tailor works on everything from bridal gowns to suits.

By DAVID SILVERBERG
Student Intern

Style, body shape and budget should be considered when shopping for bridal fashion, says two leading experts in the business.

Elenis Papourlias, of Elenis Coutourie and Tailor (657-1286), works on everything from bridal gowns to suits. She feels that if a bride has a style in mind, then designing the fashion may make the job easier.

"Clients have to trust me," says Papourlias. "In this business, it's not good for the reputation to lie."

Budget is important, she says, because the client must know what she can afford and what will suit her needs.

From her Keele and Eglinton home, Papourlias uses fabrics like four-ply crepe silk, *peu de soir* silk and wool for suits. Custom gowns average $1500, a polyester bridesmaid gown starts at $385 and a two-piece suit for mothers starts at $700 (depending on the fabric).

Nilda Chiarelli, of Edith's Fashions (633-4222), says the 8000 sq. ft. store has a large selection of bridal wear, cocktail suits, evening gowns and sportswear. She tends to use chiffon, satin and silk fabrics.

Chiarelli says a recent trend in bridal fashion is simplicity.

"Also," she adds, "the open neckline and short sleeves are popular."

The gown or dress must suit the woman's body, she says, so it will highlight the curves and the contours.

Papourlias finds that antique colours are coming back. Colours like beige, off-white, light blue, and washed-out green are requested more often. She sees a surge of low-cut, long dresses with slits.

"Brides want something they can wear again," says Papourlias.

While women want something more simplistic, Papourlias is also seeing a comeback of the Victorian style gowns.

"Maybe it's those Shakespeare movies," she speculates. "But I'm getting more customers who want big, Cinderella gowns."

Papourlias stresses that comfort should be the most important factor when shopping for bridal fashion. If it doesn't fit right, don't buy it.

"I also believe that you pay for what you get," Papourlias says. "For a fancy large gown, expect a higher price. For a smaller gown, expect a smaller price."

Other factors that women should consider include good service, workmanship, fabric durability and availability of in-store alterations.

Vilda Chiarelli of Edith's Fashions has bridalwear, cocktail suits, evening gowns and sportswear.

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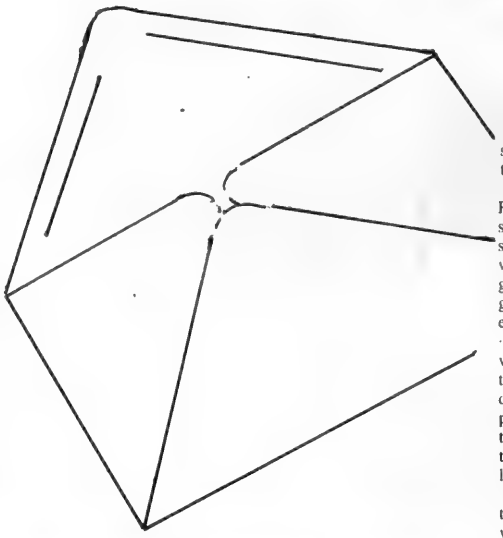
Party Planner



You're invited!

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
CJN Staff

Invitations are designed to do the obvious – what, where and when, says Ann Feldman, who owns the Printed Word (484-4600) with her husband Eliot.

Invitations also set the tone of the party, she says. "Whether it is a backyard party or a black-tie event, the invitation can say it all.

"If an invitation is glitzy, with stars, bows and bangles, guests know it is going to be a glitzy event. On the other hand, a traditional invitation written in formal font, sets the tone for a traditional affair."

An invitation that had a picture of a tree on it, was for a party being held outside. "It put people in the mood for the party."

Clients have several options when they come to see her, she says. "We can order from a catalogue, or we can invent the wheel. They then have a choice of paper and a choice of offset printing or engraving."

Engraving is the most expensive because a metal plate has to be produced, and is usually done for "classic, traditional weddings. The invitations are usually white or off-white with black or charcoal-grey print. Guests know the wedding will be, not necessarily black tie, but traditional and formal."

More casual affairs call for cards with imprinted borders. "If kids are being taken to a sports place, the invitation can have a sports theme. A dance party can be announced using a jukebox theme. These cards are printed by computer or offset [printing]."

Japanese handmade papers have become quite popular. "Some are thin and tissue-like, and others have a design ingrained in the paper. They are much more textured than regular paper. They are often used as a top layer of an invitation," says Feldman, "to make the invitation demure."

Cynthia Sager, owner of Please Reply (905-508-5669) says that some people like their guests to be surprised. "They may keep the invitation simple, but the affair is going to be quite elaborate. The guests do not know what to expect."

Simple invitations can be converted easily, she says. "Add a bow, turn down a corner, and you've dressed it up. You can also use a paper with flecks, textures, tone on tone or with a weave coming through the paper. Ideas are limitless."

Bar or bat mitzvah invitations tend to be simpler than wedding invitations, she says. "They are usually for parties rather than for more traditional affairs."

When deciding when to order invitations, says Feldman, she advises her clients to work backwards. "Figure out when the event is, when you want it mailed, and how long it will take to have the invitations made. We suggest that summer invitations be sent out about two months ahead, so people can plan their holidays. Too early is not good because people may put the invitations away and forget about them."

Some people send out notes a few months ahead that an invitation will be coming and people should mark the date. "One client wrote a note in her Jewish New Year cards."

She also tells her clients not to time the mailing so the invitations come out before a major holiday such as Passover or Rosh Hashanah. "They may get lost in the shuffle of holiday preparation."

Other places providing invitations in this supplement are: Barbara Mortfield Invitations, 905-738-1232; Heather Hennick-Invitations Design, 905-881-5736.

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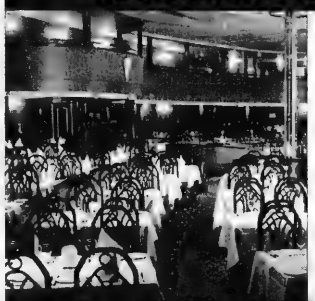

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Party Planner

Yiddish is alive and well in Israeli theatre

By SARAH HERSHENSON
WZPS

It is remarkable that in Israel, where Hebrew is the proudly spoken language, Yiddish is alive and well, both on the street and in the theatre. As the Tel Aviv based Yiddishpiel theatre troupe celebrates its tenth anniversary, with sold out performances in Israel and abroad, it is apparent that, even today, Yiddish for Jews everywhere is more than just a language.

Many identify with its nuances, its gestures, the irrepressible cadence of its words, and the tuneful melodies of songs that burst from a vibrant soul. It is representative of the life and culture of the ghetto – the strivings, hardships and joys.

"We are celebrating so many achievements," says Shmuel Atzmon, Yiddishpiel's artistic director. "Our anniversary celebration program, *Gut Yom Tov, Yiddish* (Happy Holiday, Yiddish) celebrates both 50 years of the State of Israel and the 10th anniversary of the Yiddishpiel, and we honor them both.

"The show opens and closes with the entire cast in glittering evening dresses and tuxedos, setting the stage for a festive evening of song, monologues, comedy, and short skits that fill the heart with nostalgia and joy."

The show was so successful that *Gut Yom Tov, Yiddish* was performed in November at the Tel Aviv Opera House to a sold out audience, and videotaped and screened outside for the hundreds of people unable to obtain tickets.

Yiddish, a hallmark of European Jewish culture, was not always looked upon kindly in Israel. Rather, there was a period when it was held in disdain because it represented the life and hardships of the ghetto.

In 1929, the famous Yiddish actress, Molly Picon, travelled to what was then called Palestine where instead of cheers, she was welcomed with jeers and insults. Only after the intervention of Israel's poet laureate, Haim Nachman Bialik, did her show go on.

On Sept. 8, 1930, things took a turn for the worse when a notice appeared in the Israeli press that cinemas were not allowed to show Yiddish films. In 1951, it became a criminal offense for a native-born Israeli to perform in Yiddish!

In the '60s, many new performers in Israel, like Atzmon, who made aliyah from Romania, drifted between the fledgling Hebrew theatre and the small Yiddish stage. As a matter of fact, Atzmon flatly states that during those years he was the leader of the "storm and fury" of the avant-garde Hebrew theatre.

Carol Marcovitz [left] and Helena Varlova of the Yiddishpiel in a scene from *The Romanian Wedding*.

Now he has returned to his roots and the Yiddish stage. He feels that people are coming back to the Yiddish theatre because they've had enough of the "salt, pepper and vinegar" of plays that deal critically with society. "We lost a lot of the soul of those years of Hebrew drama," he reflects. "Now we are trying to bring the public back."

Even though the formal prohibitions against Yiddish were removed in the '70s, the biggest boon to Yiddish took place in 1979 when Isaac Bashevis Singer, whose books were written in Yiddish, was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature. This recognition of the beauty of the Yiddish language provided a "transfusion" for the Yiddish theatre.

"Just as Isaac Bashevis Singer said that he would keep writing in Yiddish for the lone Jew who would arise from the grave in the day of Messiah and ask for I.B. Singer's latest book in Yiddish," quips Atzmon, "so we will continue Yiddishpiel theatre performances."

Yiddishpiel was formed with the aid and encouragement of former Tel Aviv mayor, Shlomo Lahat, towards the end of 1987. "Today, 10 years on, we sell over 50,000 tickets per year," says Rachel Limon, president of the Friends of Yiddishpiel.

"We do some 60 performances throughout Israel every year, in addition to 80 performances in our super, modern, home theatre in Tel Aviv's ZOA House, which was donated in 1989 by Americans Cecil and Leon Fiszman.

Continued on page B42

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Party Planner

Desserts you can't refuse

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
CJN Staff

If you're thinking of sending birthday or holiday wishes, or a gift for a special occasion, why not say it with chocolate?

Chocolate Charm (787-4256) at 3541 Bathurst Street specializes in chocolate truffles, novelty- shaped chocolates, gift baskets and trays. "We make gift-giving deliciously easy. That's our motto," says store owner Bob Levine.

In operation since 1983, Chocolate Charm, which is under COR supervision, offers both milk and pareve chocolates made from Swiss and Belgian chocolate, says Levine.

Belgium and Switzerland make the best chocolate in the world, Levine says. "There's no American chocolate that can come close. If you're a real connoisseur you can tell that the European chocolate is smoother and melts in your mouth."

Chocolate novelty shapes, which Chocolate Charm can personalize and deliver, make wonderful gifts because they're something people would not buy for themselves, Levine says.

"It's more of a fun thing. It's nice to get the shape they like in chocolate...If you like hockey and you get a chocolate hockey stick it's really fun."

He says during the holidays, novelty shapes are very popular gifts. At Shavuot, for example, people like to give chocolate-shaped Torahs and tablets and for Rosh Hashanah there are chocolate shofars and apples.

Chocolate flowers have also become very popular. Long stem roses, daisies, tulips and daffodils sent in clay pots make wonderful house-warming and holiday gifts, says Levine. "Our flowers don't wilt."

He says personalized chocolate champagne bottles are also frequently requested as gifts for special occasions. He recommends that customers give the store a day's notice for personalized items.

Levine says people love to get chocolate as gifts because it "is known to be the most universally loved flavor."

At Chocolate Charm two full-time chocolate makers are on staff at all times, and they don't use any preservatives or artificial flavors, he says. "Our truffles are made with fresh cream, real butter and genuine liqueurs."

Truffles, he explains, have a soft creamy centre which is encased in a chocolate shell.

Chocolate Charm also has a line of Passover and pareve truffles. Brandied cherry, a maraschino cherry marinated in brandy, dipped in fondant and then in chocolate, is one of the most popular truffles. Other truffle flavors in demand include caramel, champagne, Kahlua, Scotch, Irish cream, cappuccino and café au lait.

Chocolate-covered nuts, almond bark in milk or dark chocolate, and dry fruit dipped in chocolate are also available.

A treat from Chocolate Charm.

Levine says that research shows that chocolate is good for you. "Almond bark is a nice, healthy snack and is not bad for the heart. The oil in chocolate is unsaturated. Chocolate is of vegetable origin."

Chocolate Charm has been making smash cakes from the same European chocolate since the late '80s.

A smash cake is a hollow chocolate box in the shape of a cake which the bar/bat mitzvah breaks with a mallet. "We decorate the cake with all kinds of shapes. We add their names in chocolate with the letters standing up and we provide a mallet.

"We have a few hundred different shapes – telephones, polar bears, elephants. It's all made out of chocolate."

For more traditional cakes and other luscious desserts for simchas, consider Sweet York (783-4293), the dessert division of Caterers York, the caterers of Pride of Israel and Beth Tzedec synagogues. The company provides cakes to many synagogues and hotels.

Sweet York, now operating for 16 years, was established because catering company co-owners Sharon Firestone and Bill Batista felt there were not enough "good quality pareve desserts." They also wanted to custom design wedding cakes and special occasion cakes, says Firestone.

Cakes need not be adorned with the traditional bride and groom figurines: some people even use fresh flowers, she says.

She notes that Sweet York's cake designer, Linda Thomas, can custom-design more intricate cakes. The wedding and bar/bat mitzvah cakes come in a variety of flavors – carrot, lemon. mocha, and chocolate mousse, to name but a few. Bar/bat mitzvah cakes can also be coordinated with a theme or color scheme, she adds.

Some frequently requested desserts from Sweet York include what Firestone calls "the best chocolate chip cookies," chocolate mousse tortes, chocolate pecan flans, and fruit flans.

For sweet tables, the company prepares an assortment of mini pastries, squares, cookies, and 9-inch cakes, she says.

"We can be very creative. I always liked to bake at home. I wanted to do some of my own recipes [for the simchas]."

She says she has experimented and been able to adapt recipes for quantity as well as for kashrut. "Many new recipes can be adapted to make them pareve."

She says desserts go in and out of fashion. For example, biscotti, an Italian cookie very similar to mandel broit is very popular these days, as are apple desserts. "Fruit generally is more in vogue because there is a trend to lighter and healthier eating.

Other kosher specialty food places advertising in this supplement are: Richman's Bakery 636-9710.

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Party Planner

Time to say good riddance to bad hair days

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
CJN Staff

You can say good riddance to bad hair days, if you follow the advice of hairstylists John Colombo and Marc Anthony.

Colombo is the owner of Hairafter, located at 644 Finch Ave., between Bayview and Leslie (221-6658).

Hairafter, which has been at this location for 28 years, is a full- service hair salon offering make-up, manicures, facials and other esthetic services.

The shape of the face determines the hairstyle, Colombo says. His philosophy has always been to match the suitability of the style to the shape of the face. "I'm a firm believer in suitability. Hair is like clothes in that way."

For example, he says that a person with a square face can wear an updo "beautifully" and a person with a long face shouldn't wear long hair down. "I would suggest some curls to get volume along the side. You start to look in proportion. You go with width rather than height."

A little bit of bangs usually suits a round face and hair can be worn either up or down, Colombo says.

On the other hand, long hair does not suit a triangular nor a diamond shape. He suggests that a person with this shaped face "can be fairly adventurous and can try an asymmetric hairstyle."

Hairafter uses sketches to determine the client's face shape. Before a cut there is a consultation with every client."The consultation is very important. The client should not have any surprises. Communication between the client and hairdresser is very important.

"Hair plays the first role before clothes. When you look at someone, you look them in the eye. You see the face and the hair frames the face."

For special occasions Hairafter stylists can do updos, knotting and crimping, Colombo says. "For brides I recommend natural flowers for their hair."

He uses orchids frequently, but the type of flower used in the hair depends on the bride's dress. The salon also has a wide selection of hair ornaments, he adds.

As for trends, he says that short hair has been in style for the last few years. Hair tends to be shorter in the summer and then longer in the fall and winter.

He notes the trend for wispier bangs, created by a double layer of bangs – the layer underneath is shorter – which gives the impression of "a see-through kind of veil."

A bob (cut) is a look "that will never die," Colombo says. "There are so many versions of the bob and pageboy. There's a lot of versatility."

As for layered hair, he notes that a lot of texturing is done with a razor to get more volume and softness. The trend now is for layers to be shoulder-length with "the layering on the perimeter, not on the top."

Colombo says that soft perms are very fashionable. "The look today is very versatile. We're going back to the '40s with waves and soft curls."

Hairafter also specializes in hair color – highlighting, lowlighting, colorshine etc. – offering their clientele a full range of haircoloring techniques.

To achieve a more natural look with color, he recommends choosing a shade or two lighter than one's natural color.

Hair shining, a color treatment without ammonia or peroxide that lasts four to six weeks, can be used for people who have less than 30 percent grey hair, he says. "It brings out the natural color."

Marc Anthony, as he prefers to be called, owns two full service salons bearing his

Continued on page B 39

John Colombo treats hair like clothes.

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Party Planner

Soft perm look a throw back to the 1940s

Continued from page B 38

name, one at 1918 Avenue Rd. (789-1212) and one in Woodbridge at 3883 Highway 7 near Weston Road (905-850-0055).

The Marc Anthony salons won the 1998 Canadian Hair Color Championship at the Allied Beauty Association of Canada show and was designated the 1999 salon team of the year, by *Canadian Hairdresser Magazine*, Marc Anthony says proudly.

He also manufactures a line of hair care products under the Marc Anthony label, which is now available across Canada at Shoppers Drug Mart stores. "It is the only true professional product available for consumers at Shoppers," says Marc Anthony.

He says that there are several new hair-coloring trends this spring.

With hair shading, the last two inches of hair are colored about two shades lighter than the rest of the hair. Depending on the personality, the shading can be even lighter for a greater contrast, he explains.

His technicians are very skilled in all types of coloring techniques. Highlighting and lowlighting give more volume to the hair with a much more natural look, he explains.

He says when you combine low-lighting, – going a few shades darker – with highlighting – going a few shades lighter – it replicates the variations in the color-shading of natural hair.

Hair should also have a beautiful healthy shine without split ends, Marc Anthony says. As hair grows longer it gets drier and you can see the difference between the new growth at the roots, which is full of moisture, compared with the ends which are often dry and split.

"We set out to create a product, the Marc Anthony Moisture Gloss Serum, which replenishes essential hair moisture."

He strongly recommends the use of this product to return natural moisture to hair for people who straighten their hair. "The Moisture Gloss Serum should be used when you blow-dry curls to straighten them. You need the extra moisture. Use it and your hair will be silky."

For fine and flat hair he suggests using Marc Anthony Hair-Thickening Cream because "it's heat-activated. When you blow-dry the hair, the heat activates the molecules to expand the hair temporarily to make the hair strand thicker and give the hair a fuller look."

Marc Anthony technicians can also add more volume to hair using a roller wave technique. This technique adds body rather than curl, and gives the hair a lift, lasting up to four months.

For frizzy hair he recommends a curl enhancer/frizz control product called Marc Anthony Jel Lite. "It seals in the frizz and individualizes the curl for beautiful and healthy looking curls with shine."

Hairafter uses sketches to determine client's face shape.

Marc Anthony hair products are available commercially.

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Digital cameras a wonderful tool for the amateur

By RICK LEVINE
Special to The CJN

Have you ever brought a camera to an event thinking you would have some great pics only to be disappointed with results when they came back from the lab? Well it's time to join the world of digital photography.

Digital cameras are devices that do not use film, but instead capture images on various types of memory cards (Smart Media of Compact Flash), which are then viewed on a computer or printed out on a high- quality color printer. The results can be stunning!

Family functions, weddings, bar/bat mitzvahs will offer great opportunities to capture lots of color and action.

Combine the digital images with a personal computer, a software editing program and a little creative energy, and you might surprise yourself, as well as your relatives and friends.

Digital photography has many advantages.

Most digital cameras today have built-in screens, which allow immediate viewing of the pictures. You can quickly remove any pictures that turn out poorly or the ones you simply don't wish to keep.

With digital cameras, one selects a resolution, and this determines the number of pictures on the memory card. A single card can hold more than 100 pictures.

You can copy the images to your computer, burn them to CD ROM, or put them on the internet for relatives and friends to see.

You are able to view your pictures, as soon as you get home from the party.

There are many different cameras. I have tried the latest line of

Continued on page B 41

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Party Planner

Digital photography has many advantages over traditional way

Continued from page B 40

Olympus digital cameras. I found the Olympus D-400 or the Olympus D-620L zoom lens cameras easy to use and I was happy with the images captured.

When it comes to printing these pictures, I used the Epson Photo 700/Epson Stylus Photo EX ink jet series. Because these Epson printers use six-color cartridges and print with very fine spray, the pictures were quite realistic.

Are the digital/inkjet prints as good as traditional photos? Using the special glossy paper, the printer can yield beautifully finished prints without visible pixels.

The Olympus cameras and the Epson printers reviewed are designed to work with both Windows and Macintosh computer platforms. I used them with a Power Macintosh.

I appreciated the convenience of the Olympus Flashpath adapter, which enables the Smart Media card to transfer the digital images through the floppy drive quickly and onto the computer's hard drive.

This may seem a little technical but it's easier than it sounds, and certainly beats the older method of using serial cables to transfer the camera's images to the computer.

All this digital technology has come a long way in the last few years and continues to evolve at a staggering pace with more remarkable, faster, better products every six months.

Nothing, however, will replace the person taking the picture, which is why hiring a professional photographer to record the memories of an important family event is something that a computer can never replace.

And the time will come in the not-too-distant future, when professional photographers will be able to capture your special day entirely with digital equipment.

Record the memories with a digital camera for your own enjoyment and hire a professional photographer for your own piece of mind.

The pictures on this and the preceeding page were taken by an amateur photographer using a digital Olympus camera. You should see them in color!!

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Lots of variety to jewelry

By DAVID SILVERBERG
Student Intern

Have you ever felt that a gift of jewellry may be predictable, boring and repetitive?

There's endless variety, say two jewellry experts. Renée Ackermann, of The Earring Gallery (905-763-2210) and Randee Clayman of Tollman Fine Jewellery (905-707-8006) deal with silver, gold and precious stones every working day.

The Earring Gallery houses over 3,000 pairs of earrings, from clip-ons to diamond studs, says Ackermann. Many earrings come from Italy, Israel or the States, starting at $30 per pair and reaching a maximum of $5,000.

"We work closely with each person," says Ackermann. "We guide them to whatever they want to spend and make them feel comfortable."

Ackermann finds that a brand called Huggie is very popular these days. These earrings have a hinge that opens and closes, "hugging" the earlobe. It is very small but comfortable, she says, and doesn't have anything sticking in the back of the neck.

Earrings are a popular gift choice for bat mitzvahs. For a 12-year-old girl, Ackermann says, you don't want to buy anything heavy or elaborate. A *chai* or Magen David ornament is popular, as is the silver-gold combination from the Israeli merchandise. Pearls are also making a comeback, with colors ranging from white to black to pink, she says. Pearls are abundant during weddings or bridal showers.

Graphic by Edward Dunbar

Try on the earrings before purchasing, Ackermann suggests. Don't worry, the Earring Gallery sterilizes every pair after every use.

Skin color and face shape plays into it, Ackermann says. Long faces are usually complimented by round earrings and vice versa. For pale skin, colored stones usually brighten the face and white or yellow gold stands out naturally on a dark-toned face.

"Trust your jeweller," Ackermann advises. "Feel confident that he or she is reputable and honest."

Clayman, of Tollman Fine Jewellery which just opened in February, has gifts like rings, wedding bands, sterling silver items, pearls and earrings.

She says that diamond pendants are desirable.

"They look amazing on any age group."

Clayman says they have unusual white gold rings, even Magen David rings that start as low as $50. For spring, pearls are definitely in, she adds.

People are buying a lot of cubic zirconium, she says. It is not a real diamond but is cut and faceted to sparkle like the real thing. Also, she adds, the cost of cubic zirconium may be more practical for some people.

"Have a budget in mind so you won't be easily swayed," advises Clayman. "Ask questions about everything; it's like buying a car, it's an investment."

"Anything's possible," Ackermann says. "If we don't have the earrings you're looking for, we can order earrings from our supplier or have them custom-made."

It is essential for a gift store to have something for everyone. It must have a calm environment and reputable staff that stand behind the product, Clayman says.

Many identify with Yiddish nuances, gestures and irrepressible cadences

Continued from page B36

To aid audience enjoyment, we received a donation of some $25,000 from Abraham Lerner from England to provide simultaneous translation headphone devices that enable our audiences to enjoy Yiddish plays in Hebrew and in English."

Over the years, Yiddishpiel has staged 27 different productions and participated in 12 international festivals. Just as audience members comprise three generations, so, too, do the actors involved in Yiddish theatre. In 1995, Yiddishpiel opened its first Studio for Young Actors, and 14 new, young actors participated in 480 hours of professional instruction in the Yiddish language, culture and acting techniques. In 1997, they performed their own successful production of *The Romanian Wedding* and have since become involved in the troupe's professional performances.

Weddings occupy a special place in Yiddish plays. *The Romanian Wedding*, for example, is the favorite of actor Carol Marcovitz, who performed for 22 years in over 120 different roles with the Yiddish theatre in Bucharest.

"The Yiddish theatre is so successful and desirable in Romania its actors and actresses are mostly non-Jews," he says. "It's wonderful for me to be in Israel and perform in the *mameloshen* before Jewish audiences and with Jewish actors."

A special honor

Actress Monica Wardimon, who plays the female lead in *The Romanian Wedding*, agrees. She came to Israel from Romania in 1976, after being a star performer on the Yiddish stage and Romanian television. "Performing with the Yiddishpiel is a special honor," she says.

"The stories in the Yiddish theatre are, perhaps, naive with bitter-sweet humor, pathos, and side-splitting belly-laughs," says Atzmon with a wry smile. "But that is life. Jews are not connoisseurs of caviar. We are connoisseurs of *schmaltz* with a touch of garlic, like Yiddish stories.

"Writers like Shalom Aleichem, whose many stories we have adapted for stage, wrote with a lot of *schmaltz*. But he knew how to put it in the right places. *Schmaltz* is healthy if you know how to use it."

Writer and Yiddish performer, Morris Schwartz, certainly knew how to use it when he wrote *The Drunken Chazan*, a monologue currently being performed by Marcovitz. It is the story of a once-famous cantor who stops singing in the synagogue, because he feels that people are more concerned with money and prestige, than in helping his sick daughter.

After she dies he makes a vow never to sing again, but he does express hope that, when the children come to shul on Simchat Torah, things will improve.

His last words to Yankele, to whom he tells the story, and who personifies the audience and the Jewish people, are "*Zei gezunt*, (be well)." This is exactly what audiences worldwide wish the Yiddishpiel in this special anniversary year.

Party Planner

Lake Placid celebration pays homage to first Jewish community

By MARK SMITH
Special to the CJN

David Cohen

They were an unlikely group of men to be traversing the great Adirondack wilderness of northern New York State.

They were hardly men at all. Mostly teenage boys – some as young as 13 and 14 – they were Jewish refugees from Europe, plodding on foot across the rugged terrain with 100-pound packs on their backs, looking to make friends and looking to make a sale.

This summer, when the small synagogue congregation in the fashionable Winter Olympic resort of Lake Placid celebrates its 120th year, it will also pay homage to those extraordinary individuals who brought the first Jewish community to this still-remote backwater of mountain and forest.

Today, that community represents the last active synagogue congregation in an area larger than Rhode Island and Connecticut put together.

Until recent decades, the Adirondacks was almost the exclusive preserve of French-Canadian lumberjacks, Yankee wilderness guides, fur trappers, miners and a few hard-working farmers. Much of the region today remains as inaccessible as it was more than a century ago, when those early Adirondack Jews schlepped along its old tracks and cow paths to wherever a dwelling could be found.

They were a tough breed of youngsters, pioneer-merchants, peddlers, walking sometimes up to their knees in mud and snow. Communities and farmhouses were so isolated, it could take a boy half a day to trudge between them.

Winter nights were bitterly cold, with the thermometer sinking to 40 degrees below zero.

But life in the Adirondacks was a far cry from the cold-water tenements of New York City's Lower East Side. Although still decades shy of peak Eastern European immigration, Manhattan slums already thronged with immigrant Jewish families, industrious and hopeful in their new "Golden Land," but crippled by poverty.

A peddler's life in this northern wilderness, however hard, was a blessing – at least compared to hawking matches, a penny a box, around the rough saloons of Hell's Kitchen or slaving in the sweatshops of the industrial revolution.

Between 1830 and 1914, nearly three million Jews left central and eastern Europe. During those years, more than a million of them landed on the docks and quays of New York's harbors. Most stayed in New York City itself.

Others went west; others, north to Montreal, Toronto and other places where great centres of Canadian Jewry exist today.

But there were also those who settled in the great wilderness in between. Jewish roots in the Adirondacks go back to the early decades of the 19th century. Jews — mostly immigrants from Germany —worked as furriers' agents in the old trapping colony of Old Forge, on the south-west fringes of the wilderness. Others are known to have worked briefly in the iron mines.

Stories also persist of Polish immigrants in 1890s – Jews among them – being shanghaied to build the new rail-link between Remsen and Montreal. But ages-old anti-Semitism was fervent among Polish Catholics, and some of those Jews are thought to have fled into the wild Adirondacks. To survive, they peddled.

The first Jewish peddlers here arrived in the late 1830s, on the heels of the first logging boom. Although none are known to have settled among the wild mountains and forests, there were burgeoning Jewish communities in the small cities on the rim of the wilderness.

As early as 1844, there was already a synagogue and a well-established Jewish population in Plattsburgh, on the north-east edge of the Adirondacks. Historic records from the city of Utica, show 140 Jews registered as licensed peddlers between 1849 and 1871. Some are certain to have traveled into the remote hinterland of the region.

Many of the names of Jewish peddlers have become local legend, etched into Adirondack folklore by those who recall the tales of their parents and grandparents. Yet there is no mention of these people in any of the classic Adirondack histories.

There was Zip Coon (probably Cohen), who worked out of Albany, coming by train to North Creek and

Continued on page B46

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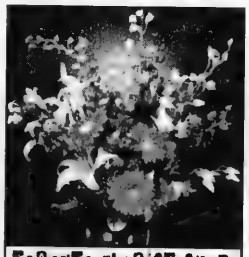
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Party Planner

Mazel Tov, It's a girl! So...when's the Wedding?

By RICK LEVINE
Special to The CJN

Simchah planning for the people of our community has always been a major event. It's a responsibility. In fact, it's a tradition!

Among the many changes over the decades, musical styles have varied, food presentation has developed and prices have gone in one direction. But most significantly, it's the people who have changed and the technology that has improved.

In response to the needs of this community, an industry that services the wedding, bar and bat mitzvah market has seen unprecedented growth.

The early decades of this century saw a significant wave of Jewish immigration to North America and with them came the tastes and styles of eastern Europe. They were determined to work hard to provide a new life for their children, but life was hard and there were few luxuries. with the life they never had.

As the community grew more prosperous, the wedding and the bar/bat mitzvah began to take on a special significance. Mother and father would reserve the shul, have the most beautiful invitations, order the best kosher meal, find the finest florists, reserve the best photographer and hire a fabulous orchestra.

Mom and Dad had complete control. In the early days, there were only a limited number of businesses who were equipped to supply the appropriate type of service.

How things have changed! Today many people hold their functions outside of the shuls. Some people design their own invitations on the computer, meals are not always kosher, and memories are now often, captured on video as well as still photography.

Kids make the choices

DJs compete with orchestras, and more often than not, the kids make the choices.

For their bar/bat mitzvahs, the kids want the DJs they see performing at their summer camps. The kids want to hear all the latest songs they hear on the radio.

Today, kids think that having a DJ at a bar/bat mitzvah is cooler than having a band. For many parents, the cost of a DJ is enough of a savings over hiring an orchestra to warrant putting up with all this "noise."

Unless they are paying for the simchah, most grandparents have very little say anymore and will come simply as guests to share the moment with family and friends. In most cases, gone is the day when you will hear a tango, waltz, cha cha or polka played at a simchah.

What we have seen, particularly at weddings, is a change in the variety of musical styles. Weddings will usually have an orchestra rather than a DJ. We can find dozens of genuine bands specializing in particular styles of music, such as klezmer, Middle Eastern or Russian, to fulfill the needs of the members of these communities.

Since today both parents work, there is a real need for a professional party consultant to eliminate the stress of planning a big simchah. Party planning consultants are readily available to help a person plan and organize each and every detail. In recent years, party planners are in far greater demand.

If you are old enough to remember the 8mm movie camera, you'll have a great appreciation for the invention of the video camera. Since 1980, video has become as common as still photography as a way of recording the events of that special day. But since the introduction of video, there have been tremendous improvements in quality and production.

The first video cameras required a lot of lighting in order to obtain a clear picture. Cameras have improved to enable videographers to work totally in the background, nearly unnoticed. Many photography studios now offer video services, greatly adding to the competitiveness of that area of the market.

Decor has always been an important party of setting the mood for an event. Chair covers are increasingly popular today, as some of the halls only have very plain commercial type chairs.

Looking at a before and after photograph of the same hall set up with chair covers and without chair covers will allow one to appreciate the dramatic difference. For that matter, some halls need more work than others to help set the mood.

It might be worth while to visit the hall with your decorator to determine what degree of decoration will be required to meet your needs.

Balloon arches are still popular at bar/bat mitzvahs, and floral arrangements add elegance to weddings. Our city has an abundance of very talented decorators which makes this area of the market also very competitive.

The Toronto Jewish community has experienced unprecedented growth over the past 20 years, due in part to a large migration of people from the Montreal area, South Africa and the Middle East. In addition to increasing the size of the market place, these people have also brought with them an abundance of talented professionals and entrepreneurs who specialize in providing a tremendous variety of services.

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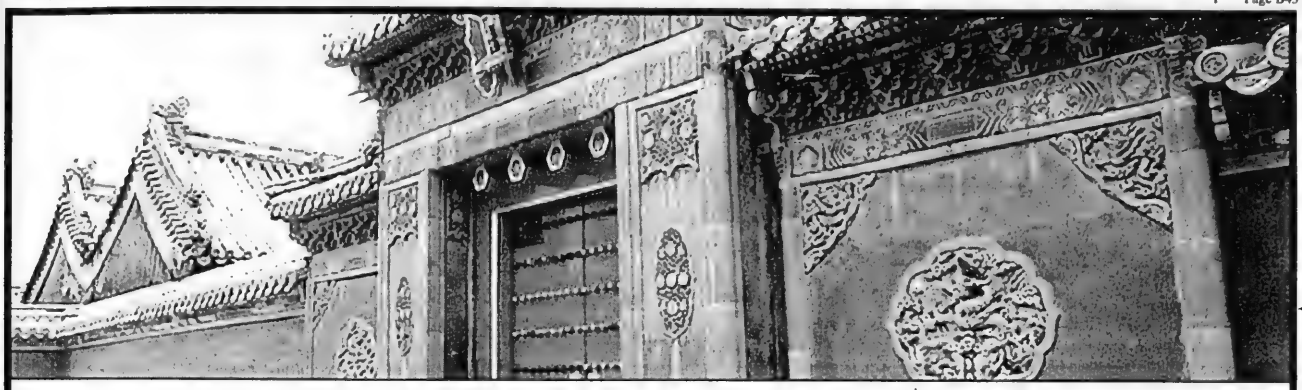

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Party Planner

Celebration pays homage to first Jewish community

Continued from page B43

then plodding on by foot to the Blue Mountain Lake area in the central Adirondacks.

There were the Cohen brothers, David and Moses, of Bloomingdale, who worked a route along the Saranac River. There was George Baroudi, of North Creek, and Moses Ginsberg, who worked out of Lake Placid and later Tupper Lake.

Their packs were enormous. The main pack – made from mattress ticking and stretching from the shoulders to the calves – carried 70-odd pounds of heavy goods – tinware, pots and pans, underwear, checkered tablecloths, stockings, ladies' wrappers. The front portion, called a telescope, was strapped around the waist and held an additional 25 pounds of lighter items, like elastic, pins, buttons; sometimes medicine and insurance.

Ready-made peddler packs came by train to North Creek or Plattsburgh from a supplier in New York City, and could be purchased from accompanying agents for between $16 and $30. There are tales of the kindness of these agents, who would often let a boy peddler have a pack on loan, sometimes out of their own pockets. Stories also persist of the determination of peddlers to repay those loans.

They got to know the community, mostly the women of the households – the wives of lumberjacks, long-suffering women who waited all year for a fat paycheck, and the wives of farmers, whose husbands would spend all day in the rocky fields.

And the peddlers brought the news of the day from neighbors as they made the rounds. These peddlers also acted as supply agents to wilderness guides, the men who took New York City's elite – the J.P. Morgans, Rockefellers and Vanderbilts – on hunting and fishing excursions into the bush.

Among those elite, also came Manhattan's Jewish millionaires – men like financier Otto Kahn and copper magnate Adolph Lewisohn, who not only took guides into the woods, but also personal barbers and singing teachers. These were interesting times in the Adirondacks.

But there was another side to it. Muriel Ginsberg, now 90, the daughter of a peddler named Moses Ginsberg, and one of only a handful of Jews to have remained in the once-thriving Jewish community of Tupper Lake, remembers her father's tales of dog bites, shotgun blasts that almost blew his head off and of suspicious husbands who would come home and "throw out the Jew."

She said sometimes, there would be a sign: "No dogs. No peddlers." and sometimes it read: "No dogs. No Jews." She said her father was very young when he was peddling.

"I remember him telling me of one incident when a drunken husband threw him out in the middle of the night. The house was just across from a graveyard.

"He saw shadows dancing on the headstones in the moonlight, and was convinced they were ghosts. He ran and ran. He told me he was shaking for hours after that."

Moses Ginsberg later went on to open up the Ginsberg department store in Tupper Lake. He died in 1974, and the department store, the longest-lasting family-run department store in New York State, was closed a few years after his death. However, the Ginsberg name remains legendary in the region.

Peddlers learned quickly to plot courses for friendly households, little havens where homesteaders would let them stay the night in return for goods from the pack. In those day, inns were off-limits to "Hebrews."

The barn at the Ross Farm, in the hills near Blue Mountain Lake, was a welcome shelter to Zip Coon on many a cold night.

And the missus at the Cox farm in Keene would let Moses Ginsberg spend the night in her kitchen in front of a wood-burning stove; sometimes, she would wash his blistered feet in a basin of hot water and alum.

And there was the Cash homestead on Bloomingdale Road, poor German immigrant farmers, who let young Moses Cohen sleep in the guest-room and often kept his stock for safekeeping.

Mrs Cash also taught Cohen to read and write English. And even when he had given up peddling and had opened a hardware store in Bloomingdale and later in Old Forge, he continued to send Mrs Cash $25 a month for the rest of her life.

Another welcoming household – this time a Jewish one – was the home of Isaac Feinberg in Franklin Falls, 25 miles north of Lake Placid. This was a favorite meeting place for Jewish peddlers. And it was here, in 1879, that a makeshift two rooms in the Feinberg house was turned into the first synagogue in the Adirondacks.

In 1898, Feinberg moved to Lake Placid, bringing the Torah scrolls and a small congregation with him. Lake Placid was already growing into a fashionable tourist destination. And it was this same congregation that five years later financed and erected the Adirondack's first synagogue.

By the turn of the century, Jewish communities were establishing themselves in the region. In Lake Placid, there were 20 families, with considerably more in the surrounding area – thanks to the booming tuberculosis "cure" industry in the nearby village of Saranac Lake.

Many Jews were among the thousands that came for the clear mountain air and some stayed on – even though it was only spiritual health that could be improved in the Adirondacks.

The real cure for TB didn't come until half a century later with the discovery of penicillin. In the backwoods lumber town of Tupper Lake, there were 35 Jewish families. Tupper Lake's Synagogue, Beth Joseph, also known as "The Peddlers' Synagogue" was built in 1905.

Today, Beth Joseph is the oldest surviving synagogue in the region - and it remains a beautiful building, lovingly restored and the recipient of national historic recognition – but, except for a few summer residents, its congregation has gone.

It now stands as a museum and monument to early Jewish life in the Adirondacks. Meanwhile, Lake Placid Synagogue and its congregation continues to thrive, despite

the fact it has changed premises thrice in its history. The current synagogue building dates back to 1959.

The word miracle keeps coming up in reference to this Jewish community's 120th anniversary. Yet the miracle is not without irony.

This oldest and only remaining Jewish congregation in the Adirondacks has grown up on the doorstep of one of the most notorious bastions of anti-Semitism in the United States.

The Lake Placid Club was the brainchild of Melvil Dewey, inventor of a library cataloging system that bears his name. Dewey was a man with an unshakable conviction in the correctness of his own ideas.

His vision for the Lake Placid Club was a kind of backwoods university, where the "country's best" could exchange ideas in the comfort of a plush wilderness resort.

Dewey's perception of the country's best, however, took the form of blatant racism. Circulars and one grossly worded paragraph in the club's literature shocked many. It stated: "No one will be received as a member or guest against whom there is a physical, moral, social or race objection ...

"This invariable rule is rigidly enforced: it is found impracticable to make exceptions to Jews or others excluded, even when of unusual personal qualifications."

It went on to state: "Except as servants, negroes are not admitted."

Dewey had been New York State's head librarian since 1899, and a number of Jewish leaders in New York City and Albany considered it an outrage that an anti-Semite was on the public payroll.

In December 1904, Louis Marshall, a prominent Jewish civil-rights lawyer and one of the founding fathers in the wilderness preservation of what is now Adirondack State Park, led a campaign for Dewey's dismissal. In February 1905, Dewey resigned.

Marshall, who also owned a summer home on Lower Saranac Lake, was exultant. "I have succeeded in getting Dewey's scalp," he said. "The result is most gratifying." However, there were those, including many in the fledgling Jewish communities of the Adirondacks, who feared an anti-Semitic backlash.

Marshall went on: "Turning the other cheek is an exercise to which we have become accustomed by the practice of centuries. It has, however, grown somewhat monotonous." The backlash never came.

The village of Lake Placid owes much to Dewey's club for the fashionable veneer which today draws more than a million tourists each year. But to many Adirondackers, the club has always been a place apart.

Few locals ever went through its doors, except as help. Others would never go into it, shunning its snobbishness and bigotry. Throughout the history of the club and until its closure in 1980, it never altered its discrimination policy.

Several Jews, however, are known to have crossed the threshold. One of them, local shopkeeper Isadore "Pop" Urfirer, was invited by Dewey's second wife, Emily, to sell silks, satins and velvet at the club when the Guy Lombardo Orchestra visited there in the late 1920s.

It was an arrangement that continued for several years, with Urfirer's Silk Shop opening displays on the club premises on a regular basis. Much later, in the early 1950s, three well-known local Jews, including Urfirer, purchased a plot of land from the Lake Placid Club for use as a Jewish cemetery. Four years later, the ownership of that land was transferred to the synagogue. To this day, Lake Placid Jews are buried on land that once belonged to Dewey's notorious club.

It wasn't just Lake Placid. The Flume Cottage in Keene Valley advertised in 1894: "Hebrews will knock vainly for admission." And several years later, the *Brightside* on Raquette Lake advertised: "Hebrews need not apply."

According to Lake Placid historian Mary MacKenzie: "Anti-Semitism was across the board. No hotel in the Adirondacks admitted Jews. And it was common business practice, until after the Second World War when state discrimination laws began to be upheld."

There were, however, more disturbing concerns – especially for those who had lived through pogroms and persecutions in Eastern Europe. Around the turn of the century, the Ku Klux Klan had a strong following in the region.

And then there was the Incident at Massena, located 90 miles north of Lake Placid: a young girl disappeared on the eve of Yom Kippur.

The mayor and a state trooper led a mob to the home of Massena's rabbi with a list of questions and accusations about ritual murder. Later that day, the girl, who had been lost in the woods, turned up safe. But what if she hadn't?

Isadore Urfirer's son, Roland, now 77 and a former president of the Lake Placid synagogue, is sanguine. "The anti-Semitism of the past is not something we dwell on. The days of discrimination in hotels and resorts are long gone. We've certainly rounded the corner on that one.

"This place is a Mecca for tourists, and that's helped the synagogue. We have Jewish tourists from Canada and New York City who come to join the congregation during their vacation.

"And as for the local Jewish community, we live in religious harmony with our neighbors. We couldn't ask for a better community – both Jewish and gentile alike."

The Lake Placid congregation today maintains a cemetery, celebrates the High Holy Days, has a religious school and marks the Sabbath with services and communal meals. It's a thriving Jewish community in every sense. The local supermarket even provides a kosher-food section.

"It is miraculous," said Rabbi Alec Freedman, of Lake Placid. "We began as a small synagogue for peddlers – and although the peddlers have gone, we remain small. But the point is, we remain.

"It's no small feat to keep a synagogue and congregation going in such a remote area with such a small Jewish community.

"Quite simply, this synagogue has survived because of the determination of its congregation. That's the real miracle."

And the miracle shows no sign of abating. When the 120th anniversary celebrations are in full swing on July 29, there will, no doubt, be a toast to the next 120 years.

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This Week

National

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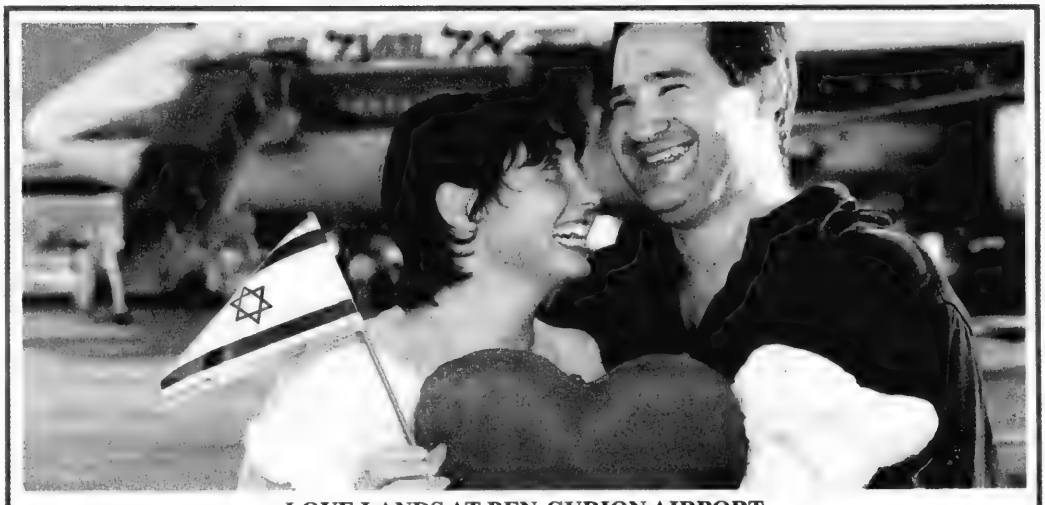

LOVE LANDS AT BEN-GURION AIRPORT

Ivana Katz, who arrived last week as a new immigrant to Israel from Argentina along with some 100 other new immigrants, is greeted at the airport by her fiance Ricardo Nahman. Nahman received Katz with a big welcoming heart. *[Israel Sun photo]*

Finding Jewish identity

Vancouver lad near top in Israel competition

By VIVA PRESS
CJN Israel Bureau

RAMAT GAN — "It's a great honor being here from Canada," 12½-year-old Paeir Barzilai said earlier last week. "I feel great."

Barzilai, of Vancouver, was the only Canadian finalist in the third annual International Competition on Jewish Identity, for religious and secular youth in Israel and the Diaspora. Two Torontonians also made it to the international level but did not come to Israel.

Reuma Weizman congratulates Paeir Barzilai *[Israel Sun photo]*

Sponsored by Bar-Ilan University's (BIU) International Centre for Jewish Identity, the Jewish Agency and the Jewish National Fund, the top four winners in the competition, which took place on May 31, won a one-year scholarship for a future year of study at BIU.

"It would've been nice if I could be in the finals," said the Vancouver Talmud Torah seventh grader. "But I'm excited to watch."

The finals took place in Ness Ziona, after all of the students met with Reuma, wife of President Ezer Weizman, at the President's House for the signing of an International Jewish Youth Congress Declaration.

"I was really excited to meet with [Reuma] Weizman," a smiling Barzilai said after having his picture taken with the president's wife.

More than 130,000 students from 23 countries, including the United States, Canada, Israel, Australia, Hungary, South Africa, Peru, Ukraine, and Estonia, ranging in age from 12 to 16, registered for this year's competition. One hundred and forty made it to Israel.

Continued on page 45

The CJN wins Quebec award

MONTREAL — For the third straight year, *The Canadian Jewish News* garnered a first place award at a recent meeting of the Quebec Community Newspapers Association (QCNA).

The CJN was judged 1998's best overall specialty publication by the QCNA, an umbrella group for about two dozen Quebec community newspapers.

The newspaper "reads excellence from front page to back and earns first place hands down," wrote judge Tom MacLean, of the Nova Scotia-based *Enfield Weekly Press*.

"It's nice to win," said Louise Wolman, *CJN's* retail advertising sales manager in Montreal. "It's nice to have peers look at your paper and recognize you."

Newspapers up for the QCNA awards were judged on the basis of "news and information, front page, editorial page, photos, advertising, layout and overall impression."

INSIDE

Tribute to Israel.

Yugoslav Jews welcome prospect of peace — please see page 43

The News in Brief

CANADA

Emergency Meeting

HAMILTON — An emergency meeting was held here recently to address a $100,000 shortfall in this year's United Jewish Appeal campaign. Meeting chair Stan Tick warned that the shortfall is just the tip of the iceberg, as the $100,000 only reflects a decrease from the 1998 campaign, which itself was well below that of previous drives.

ISRAEL

Russian Immigration Up

JERUSALEM — Russian immigration to Israel is up by 116 percent during the first quarter of 1999, according to the Jewish Agency for Israel. Some 7,933 Russian Jews immigrated to Israel in the first three months of the year, compared with 3,673 during the same period in 1998. About 30 percent of 1,054 immigrants surveyed by the Jewish Agency cited anti-Semitism as one of the main reasons for their move, an increase from nine percent in a similar survey conducted before Russia's economic crisis began last August. Overall, 16,389 immigrants from the former Soviet Union arrived in the Jewish state in the first quarter. Some 13,336 did so during the same period in 1998.

Israeli Expansion

JERUSALEM — Israeli police forcibly dispersed Israeli and Palestinian demonstrators protesting against Jewish housing construction in the eastern Jerusalem neighborhood of Ras al-Amud. The site, owned by Miami developer Irving Moskowitz, has become a flash point for tensions over Jewish building in the West Bank and disputed parts of Jerusalem.

No Reform Recognition

JERUSALEM — Israel's Orthodox establishment will not recognize Reform Judaism despite a set of principles North American Reform rabbis recently passed endorsing the movement's adoption of some traditional practices. Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi Yisrael Meir Lau said there is "no basis for dialogue" between the Reform movement and the Chief Rabbinate, which has a monopoly over life-cycle events in the Jewish state, until Reform Jews adopt the Orthodox interpretation of Jewish law. At the same time, Rabbi Lau said the move by the Reform movement "should be welcomed."

Deri Launches Appeal

JERUSALEM — The leader of Israel's Orthodox Shas Party last week filed an appeal with the Supreme Court to overturn his conviction and four-year jail sentence for accepting bribes while serving in the Interior Ministry. Aryeh Deri argued that the judges who convicted him were biased and had based their verdict on circumstantial evidence. Meanwhile, Prime Minister-elect Ehud Barak reiterated his desire to include Shas in his governing coalition.

WORLD

Zhirinovsky Loses

MOSCOW — Vladimir Zhirinovsky, the Russian ultranationalist known for his anti-Semitic rhetoric, lost an election for governor in a rural region in southwestern Russia. This month's vote in the Belgorod region gave Zhirinovsky less than 18 percent of the vote, which placed him third in the race won by the region's incumbent governor. Recent opinion polls show that Zhirinovsky's Liberal Democratic Party may not reach the five percent threshold necessary to gain representation in the Duma, Russia's lower house of parliament, in elections scheduled for December. The party currently has 51 deputies in the 450-seat house.

Police Remove Crosses

WARSAW — Polish police removed some 300 crosses last week from outside the former Auschwitz death camp. Despite a year-long protest by Israel and Jewish groups, a 26-foot cross will remain. The police action came a week before Pope John Paul II begins a trip to his homeland during which he will stress religious tolerance.

New Community Centre

BUENOS AIRES — Argentine Jews recently inaugurated a new community centre to replace the AMIA building where 86 people were killed five years ago in a bombing that remains unsolved. The new building is a monument that "reminds us of our mission's deepest sense: to honor life and constantly exercise memory," AMIA president Oscar Hansman told hundreds of onlookers.

Lawyers for Survivors Want $25 Million

WASHINGTON — Lawyers who represented Holocaust survivors in a class action lawsuit against Swiss banks are requesting $25 million in legal fees for their role in last year's $1.25-billion settlement.

But any decision regarding fees must be approved by the federal judge in New York who served as an arbiter between the banks and Jewish representatives.

The issue of legal fees has been a source of contention between the lawyers and groups such as the World Jewish Congress, which says it opposes anyone profiting from the Holocaust.

While many of the two dozen lawyers worked on the case for no fee, a few have applied for fees, citing financial burdens.

The court overseeing the settlement, meanwhile, has ordered a major advertising campaign to begin later this month to notify all possible beneficiaries in the United States about how to apply for payments from the settlement. The administrative costs for the campaign will come out of the settlement.

Unlike the humanitarian fund of nearly $200 million set up by Switzerland in 1997 to provide payments to needy Holocaust survivors, the $1.25-billion settlement is intended as restitution for those who lost assets in the Holocaust.

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Three Jewish MPPs head to Queen's Park

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Three Jewish MPPs – one a rookie – will head to Queen's Park following last week's provincial vote in which Premier Mike Harris' Big Blue Machine steamrolled to a second majority government.

David Caplan

Of the seven Toronto and York Region ridings with concentrations of Jewish voters or with Jewish candidates, four went to the Liberals and three to the Tories.

The only close race in the 905 region, otherwise painted blue by the Tories, was in Thornhill, where Liberal Dan Ronen is considering asking for a recount.

Thornhill, which is at least one-third Jewish, saw one of the tightest races in the province. After election night, the numbers indicated that Conservative Tina Molinari had beaten Ronen 19,684 votes to 19,237, a difference of just 447 votes. New Democrat Nathan Rotman polled 1,443 ballots.

But a counting error at one poll discovered the next day showed a different picture. According to Ronen, the numbers were 19,578 for Molinari, and 19,235 for him – a margin of 343 votes.

"We will consult with party officials to decide whether to request a recount," Ronen told *The CJN*.

Early in the campaign, Molinari found herself on the defensive after a telephone poll asked residents whether they would be comfortable voting for a "member" of Canadian Jewish Congress and the son of a Holocaust survivor. Ronen's father is an Auschwitz survivor, and his brother Moshe is president of Congress.

David Young

Ontario's Tories apologized for the questions and fired the pollster. Molinari insisted she did not commission the poll, but refused to say who did.

Ronen said he still wants to know who commissioned the poll.

In late May, two letters of support for Molinari were sent out to Jewish voters in Thornhill, one signed by lawyer John Syrtash, the other by Rabbi Solomon Domb of B'nai Shalom North Congregation.

Syrtash said the strongly worded letter bearing his name was his idea, and that about 1,000 were mailed. Pamela Pole, Rabbi Domb's assistant, told *The CJN* the letter under the rabbi's signature was Molinari's idea, but "she had his permission to do it."

Syrtash said the letters were probably a contributing factor in Molinari's narrow win.

Monte Kwinter

In Don Valley East, Liberal David Caplan, 34, was being hailed a giant killer for defeating Education Minister Dave Johnson. Caplan, who since 1997 held the old riding of Oriole represented by his mother Elinor for many years, got by Johnson with a 2,500-vote plurality.

Analysts said Don Valley East was probably among the very few ridings where strategic voting – casting ballots for the candidate most likely to defeat the Harris government – actually worked.

Johnson, as education minister and a former health minister, bore the brunt of many of the Tories' most contentious policies. Nurses' and teachers' associations targeted the riding in an effort to bring about his defeat.

Veteran Liberal Monte Kwinter, 68, was returned for a fifth term in the riding of York Centre, trouncing fellow Jewish candidates Roberto Hausman of the Conservatives and

Continued on page 40

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The children have been left with about $200k in debts and no further means of financial support. Funds are required for basic necessities such as food, clothing, housing and Jewish education.

The family desperately wants to stay together, with the older children taking on the responsibility of raising and ultimately marrying off the younger ones and themselves.

We appeal to you to support our community's efforts to establish a trust fund for these children. All cheques over $10 will receive charitable tax receipts. In the spirit of Jewish compassion and generosity at this holiday time, please open your hearts and donate generously. Thank you.

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From the editor's desk

In keeping with *The CJN's* determination to encourage young people to stretch their creativity and their imaginations, two weeks ago in this space I wrote about the fifth volume of *Dorot*, an annual journal of contemporary Jewish literature organized by post-secondary school students, for post-secondary school students.

This week I write about the creative works of our younger students.

For the past few years, it has been the pleasure of *The CJN* to publish some of the winning entries in the annual creative writing contest sponsored by Toronto's Board of Jewish Education (BJE).

The BJE, founded in 1949, is the central community agency for Jewish education in the Greater Toronto Area. Funded by UJA Federation, it provides a variety of important services to its affiliated schools, of which there are now more than 50, benefiting more than 17,000 students and 1,300 educators.

The creative writing contest, coordinated at the BJE by Joyce Levine, director of Interschool Programming and Pedagogic Services, attracts submissions from students in all grades, one through high school. There are categories for both Hebrew and English.

This year, we feature two of the "winning" poems.

BJE poetry "winners"

The Generation After The Holocaust

We stroll into the auditorium as usual,
laughing and talking
It is just another assembly
Nothing is different.

Some girl says a poem,
something to do with death and destruction.
We do not understand and neither does she.
We all talk.

An old woman slowly and painfully stands up,
She walks towards the microphone,
the burden and pain of worlds
on her old, stooped shoulders.
Her eyes scan the crowd.
She does not want to be here,
but some invisible force brought her here,
and is keeping her steady.

We stand and sit mechanically
under the watchful gaze of our teachers.
We turn curious eyes onto the woman
Maybe this will get interesting.

She stands alone on the platform,
alone in the world.
Her face is old and torn with pain.
She must go on. They must know.
We will bear it in honor and pride.

The old woman walks back to her seat.
Her gait is a little lighter.
She has taken off some of burden
and placed it on our shoulders.

We all stand immediately
in pure silence and respect.
Her body is disregarded,
and it is her soul we see.
She is a great woman.

Her held held high, she sits down.
Her obligation is fulfilled.
They will not forget.
We will not forget.

by Ariela Yevick, Grade 8
Eitz Chaim Schools

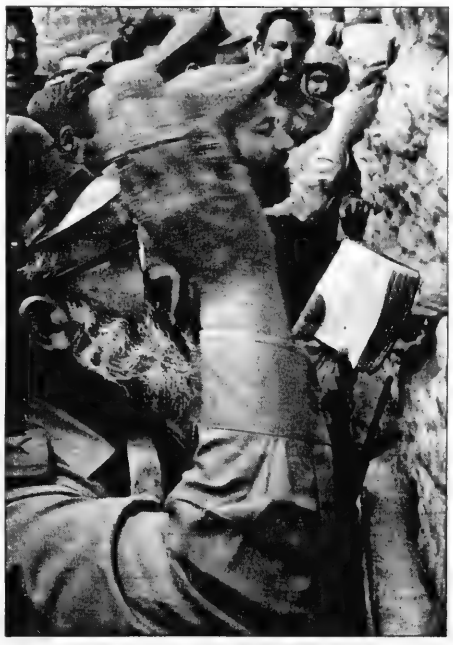
A Tree for Tu b'Shvat

I started as a tiny seed,
Sun, air and water I did need.
My trunk went up into the air
like an arrow would shoot,
And from my branches I grew fruit.
Today is my birthday,
the 15th of Shvat,
I celebrate it each year
and I like it a lot.

by Elan Hahn, Grade 2
Netivot HaTorah Day School

To all students: Keep on writing.
MBD

SEE JN



32 YEARS AGO

Chief military rabbi Shlomo Goren and the paratroopers who liberated the Western Wall on June 7, 1967, one of the defining moments of the Six Day War.[Micha Bar-Am photo]

Greater Toronto Area

Deadlock in negotiations likely over: Peace Now

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Prime Minister-elect Ehud Barak intends to break the deadlock in the peace process, says Galia Golan, a founder of Peace Now.

In an interview, she expressed confidence that Barak will restart talks with the Palestinians and Syria.

The May 17 Israeli election was not only a repudiation of Benjamin Netanyahu, the incumbent, but a signal from the electorate that the peace process should be resumed, said Golan, an American who settled in Israel in 1966.

Galia Golan

Golan, a professor of Russian and East European studies at the Hebrew University, urged Barak to implement the 1998 Wye memorandum, frozen by Netanyahu, as a confidence-building measure, and to move on to final status negotiations with the Palestinian Authority.

The Palestinians, she warned, will resist a final peace agreement with Israel unless they receive at least 90 percent of the West Bank, and still more land in the Gaza Strip than they already possess.

Turning to a related topic, Golan said Peace Now has no problem with the Labor party's demand that no foreign Arab army or armies should be stationed west of the Jordan River.

She called on Barak to stop Jewish settlers in the West Bank from expanding existing settlements and engaging in unauthorized land grabs.

In the past six months, defiant settlers have seized some 19 hilltops in a bid to establish facts on the ground. These outposts should be cleared of settlers, she advised.

As well, the government should put an end to two controversial construction projects in contested eastern Jerusalem, Har Choma and Ras al-Amud.

Peace Now, however, believes that Jerusalem should remain undivided under Israel's administration, and that the capital of a future Palestinian state should be in Abu Dis, just outside Jerusalem's current borders.

Predicting that Jewish settlements in the West Bank will pose an enormous problem for Barak's peacemaking efforts, Golan said that the government should assist settlers move back to Israel.

It would be surprising if Barak does not shift funds from West Bank settlements to Israeli development towns, where Shas, the Sephardi haredi party, made major gains.

The Labor party, she observed, must respond to that segment of the have-not Sephardi population.

Golan, here under the auspices of Canadian Friends of Peace Now to deliver a speech on last month's election, has no doubt that Barak will agree to resume talks with Syria at the point they broke off in 1996.

Barak, she said, will withdraw from the Golan as part of an accord with Syria on southern Lebanon.

Rejecting suggestions that Barak and Netanyahu are policy clones, Golan maintained that they do, in fact, have major differences.

Barak is a security-minded Labor Zionist whose pragmatism embraces the idea of partition, "though that doesn't mean he won't be hard-headed and even hawkish on certain issues."

Netanyahu, by contrast, was not a pragmatist, and never intended to make concessions to the Arabs, she commented.

Peace Now, she disclosed, will mount vigils and demonstrations on behalf of peace, so that settlers and their supporters do not have the field to themselves.

BBYO SPRING CONVENTION

B'nai Brith Youth Organization's recent spring convention at Camp Lakeland near Buffalo, N.Y. marked the end of another successful programming year. Shown from left are Judy Freedman, Adam Shulman, Avery Benmergui, Erin Chaim, Keri Wetstein and Shayna Lambert.

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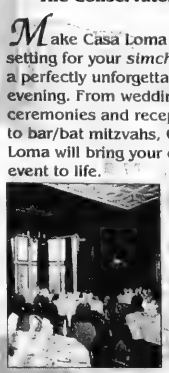

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Sandler sets out agenda

Federation names president

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — It was out with the old and in with the new, as the UJA Federation switched leaders at its annual meeting last week.

Alan Sandler took over as president of the UJA Federation from Joseph (Joey) Steiner in an unopposed election, held at the Atkinson campus of the Associated Hebrew Day Schools.

Setting out his agenda, Sandler said, "Jewish family education spread across the entire spectrum of Jewish education facilities must be accelerated...Time is of the essence."

Services for the "Jewish vulnerable, especially the elderly," remain a key focus for the federation. "We need to link chaplaincy services and synagogues to the frail elderly who have become homebound," he said.

Citing the "high correlation between a Jewish identity and identification with Israel," Sandler said "a massive inflow of funds supporting an Israel experience for every young person in this community will forge this relationship."

He also suggested that sending teachers to Israel would "increase their passion" in the classroom.

The incoming president closed his remarks with a reference to the patriarch Abraham, who rushed out of his tent to welcome three strangers.

"We must rush forward to the hesitant stranger. We must welcome them in. We must create that sense of community, that sense that no one is ever left out," he said.

Reflecting on his two-year stint as president of the federation, Steiner said he went into the job with the intention of "enhancing the quality of Jewish life here and overseas."

Alan Sandler

He called Toronto's Israel at 50 celebrations "unequalled anywhere in the world except for Israel," bringing "diverse elements of the community together."

During his term as president, ground was broken for a new CHAT high school; the Bathurst Jewish Centre, rescued from near bankruptcy by a federation bailout, has re-emerged as a key community facility; the Bloor Jewish Community Centre has remained the major focus of the downtown community; and the federation is actively seeking a new site for a Jewish student centre at the University of Toronto, he said.

Earlier, David Engel gave a brief description of the federation's finances, saying last year's fundraising campaign is projected to reach $40.5 million. The campaign enjoyed "a quantum leap in giving" – a jump of $4 million in one year. That total leaves the federation on target for its goal of $50 million, he said.

Turning to the endowment fund, Engel said it has grown to $55 million in the last two years, including a jump of $6 million in the last two months.

No financial documents were released at the annual meeting.

In other business, federation spokespersons paid tribute to Jehudi Kinar, who is winding up a four-year posting as Israeli consul-general to Toronto and western Canada.

Kinar responded with a heartfelt speech in which he credited his wife, Ruti, "for always being there," and in which he described the Toronto Jewish community as "warm and hospitable."

Kinar, who served in San Francisco before being posted to Toronto, said for a community of its size, Toronto remains "unified." He said he hoped to see "more tolerance in Toronto outside the framework of UJA Federation, and not just when it concerns Israel."

In other business, Harry Gorman was honored with the Ben Sadowski Award of Merit for his work as a community volunteer, while Peter Ekstein received the Phil Granovsky Award for Campaign Excellence.

Recipients of the Shem Tov Award for excellence in volunteer service were: Sandra Atlin, Richard Cummings, Igor Korenzvit, Sydney Loftus, Marilyn Raphael, Lawrence Smith, and Edith Sobel.

Tammy Anklewicz and Bruce Leboff received the Leadership Development Awards.

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Greater Toronto Area

UJA Federation Funwalk draws about 15,000

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
CJN Staff

TORONTO — Some 15,000 people made the trek from Nathan Phillips Square to Ontario Place – walking, in-line skating, or riding in strollers and wagons – as participants in UJA Federation's Israel Funwalk '99.

One of the highlights of the funwalk, which offered entertainment for all age groups – inflatables for jumping for the very young, karaoke and plenty of live music – was the participation of Steven Page, the lead singer of the Bare Naked Ladies, one of the hottest rock groups in North America.

His fans screamed and cheered, when he entered Nathan Phillips Square. The Toronto-born Page kicked off the walkathon by singing both O Canada and Hatikvah.

He later told *The CJN* that he was glad to be involved in a Jewish community event. "A lot of people don't know that I'm Jewish, he said." Much to their delight page, Page posed with several young fans for pictures once the walk got under way.

Other local celebrities on hand for the walk were CFRB radio food show hosts Avrum Rosensweig and Marty Galin, who were the MCs of the festival stage at Ontario Place and Adrienne Gold, host of the fashion television show, *Images*.

The route of the walk wound through the Spadina-College area, which was the centre of Jewish Life in Toronto in the early decades of this century. A klezmer band played at the old Kiever shul, a renovated synagogue in the heart of Kensington Market.

Marchers were escorted by the police as well as the YOWIES (Yidden on Wheels), a Jewish motorcycle club. Arthur Geller, 74, who said he was the oldest person to be riding a Harley Davidson, told *The CJN* he was attending the funwalk for his grandson.

The walk culminated with a kosher barbecue and an afternoon of musical entertainment at the festival stage at Ontario Place. Many of the youngsters capped off the day by cooling off in the water park.

Walk organizers estimate that about $200,000 was raised by the walk.

Corey Mandell, who co-chaired the walk with Harvey Cooperberg and Fran Grundman, told *The CJN* that the turnout was terrific, and with the great weather and the commitment of the volunteers, Funwalk '99 was one of "best days ever in the history of this annual community event."

Funwalk participants Joshua Dloomy, 10 (left) and Oren Weinstock, 11, students at Associated Hebrew Day Schools' Kamin campus, sing a Backstreet Boys' tune at Ontario Place. [Barbara Silverstein photo]

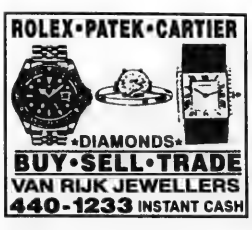
CORRECTIONS

The story on the 1999 National Bible contest (*CJN*, June 3) contained the following inaccuracies:

Grades 7 and 8 winners – Shalom Naumann and Leah Breslow tied for second place; it was reported that Shalom was second and Leah third.

Supplementary school winners – Jeffrey Heifetz tied for second, not third place. Further, the supplementary students were in grades 5 to 8, not grades 5 to 7 as reported.

The event was jointly sponsored by the Jewish Education Council of Montreal, the Board of Jewish Education of Toronto, the Canadian Zionist Federation and the Jewish National Fund.



Editorials and Letters

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Harris' opportunity

Forty-five percent of Ontario's voters last week returned Mike Harris and his Progressive Conservative party to the government benches in the Legislature at Queen's Park with approximately 57 percent of the seats in the Legislative Assembly (59 of 103). We congratulate Premier Harris and his colleagues for their victory, the first such back-to-back majority victories in Ontario in some 30 years.

Indeed, we congratulate all the individuals, winners and losers, who stood as candidates in the election. Running for office demands tremendous sacrifice. In the partisan tumult of an election campaign, the public rarely sees the high personal cost, the many private heartbreaks and hardships that vote-seekers inevitably experience in the tiring house-to-house and telephone stumping that is both the chief burden and the chief glory of our electoral system.

But now the campaign is over.

The people of Ontario have clearly and fairly chosen. The order and expectation of the day is good government. And there is a great deal of work to be done.

We and the public will be vigilantly watching as the newly elected government tackles Ontario's pressing issues: repairing the health-care system; restoring confidence at all levels of the educational system – elementary, secondary and post-secondary; infusing balance and compassion to the delivery of community, social and welfare services; stewarding the economy through any future global buffetings; eliminating the annual budgetary operating deficit, and reducing the cumulative debt.

We will also be watching as the newly elected government responds to its strongly implied campaign promise to provide equal funding for non-educational, health and related support services to all children in Ontario's non-Catholic, independent schools.

Though it seems that Premier Harris completed his wide-sweeping, structural, social and fiscal reforms in his first term of office, he undoubtedly still has plans for additional policy reforms and legislative initiatives in his second term of office.

Among the reforms the premier may still have on his agenda, we respectfully suggest that he add the reform of public example. He has a wonderful opportunity now to steer public behavior as well as public policy.

To the notion of "common sense" that he assiduously planted over four years in the public mind and onto the public agenda, he should now add the notion of common kindness, common civility, common goodness, common generosity.

The way to do this is for the premier to publicly demonstrate his personal rejection of "mean, lean and nasty" as a governing ethos.

A good first step in this direction would be for Premier Harris to symbolically toss into the garbage bins of history, along with the worn, faded streamers and torn political posters, the disquieting, cynicism-inducing, negative attack postures of the just-concluded election campaign.

The premier's example would surely be followed by his colleagues in the Legislature and then by other public figures in other positions of public trust and responsibility. That single change in behavior would have as long-lasting and beneficial an impact on the quality of life in Ontario, and perhaps beyond, as any economic or other governmental policy change he and his cabinet might implement.

In all its deliberations over the next four years, we wish the government good luck and good judgment.

WISDOM OF THE AGES

"Please, as your goodness is great, forgive the trangressions of this people." *(Parshat Shelach Lecha)*

Dry Bones

IN ROUND ONE VOTERS GOT A LONG LIST OF POLITICAL PARTIES...
AND WE EACH TRIED TO PICK ONE OF THEM
IN ROUND TWO BARAK GETS A LONG LIST OF POLITICAL PARTIES...
AND HE TRIES TO PICK ALL OF THEM

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News about the porthole girls on the St. Louis

Re "Remembering the *St. Louis*" (*CJN*, May 13): The name of the two girls looking out of the porthole, in the picture, was Spanier and they were twins from Germany. After the ordeal they were taken in with their parents by Holland and sent to the refugee camp Westerbork.

The father, Dr. Fritz Spanier, became head of the medical staff. After the invasion of Holland by Germany, Westerbork became a concentration camp under SS command and Dr. Spanier became the *Lagerarzt*. The family stayed in Westerbork until liberation. After the liberation, Spanier was asked by the Canadian Army, medical branch, to form a medical team to go the British Zone to treat survivors of the camps. That group was stationed for a while in Bergen-Belsen.

Mrs. Spanier and the girls went to Amsterdam and emigrated from there to the United States. The last I heard, the two girls lived in New York City.

Only after the German captain threatened to ram the *St. Louis* onto the Scottish coast, did Britain convince Holland, Belgium and France to agree to split the passengers between them.

Some historians have claimed it was the scare of the oil spoiling the coastline of Great Britain that motivated them to allow some of the refugees to land, not the fate that would await them in Germany.

Robert Engel
Toronto

Barak did not win in a landslide

It has been reported that Ehud Barak won the recent election in a landslide. I find this strange considering that there was only a six to seven percent shift of the electorate from the previous election. Not a huge number at all.

It also behooves us to look at the Jewish vote (not that I wish to disenfranchise Arab Israeli citizens – but obviously, we must be concerned with Israel as a Jewish State). If we temporarily extract the Arab votes, which comprise about 10 percent of the total vote, and which were certainly overwhelmingly for Barak, we can focus on the Jewish response. Now we find that Barak won by a margin of two percent – 46 percent to 44 percent – no landslide by my calculation! On the other hand, in the previous election, Benjamin Netanyahu garnered 51 percent to Peres' 39 percent of the Jewish vote. Netanyahu had a 12 percent plurality of the Jewish vote. He did not just squeeze in!

At least I am comforted to see that Barak did have a majority of the Jewish votes – even if it was small – and that national policy is not decided by the Arab vote. Of course, that will only be the case if Barak does not make his coalition dependent on the 10 Arab party seats.

Ernie Greenwald
Toronto

National Bible Contest augurs well for future

All of us associated with the recent National Bible Contest were very pleased to read the write-up in *The CJN* (May 27).

In the spirit of *hakarat hatov*, we believe it is important to give recognition to all of the sponsoring organizations, without whose support this annual educational event could not take place. Along with the Jewish Education Council, the longtime sponsors are the Toronto Board of Jewish Education, the Canadian Zionist Federation, the Jewish National Fund of Canada, and a new sponsor this year, Shalom-K Tours.

A development that is very gratifying to the educators and organizers is the increasing involvement of recent graduates of the Bible Contest and of our day schools. In addition to Carolyn Gehr, we mention, in particular, Shawn Zelig Aster, Ron Wald and Deborah Abecassis, who served as judges and presenters, as well as several university students who led workshops. This surely augurs well for the future.

Arlazar Eliashiv
Lois E. Lieff
Co-ordinators, 1999 National Bible Contest

Virtual centre for research at Technion

Re: Peter Munk Article (*CJN*, May 27).

It stated that the money raised in honor of Mr. Munk will be used "to build" the Peter Munk Centre for Research, Innovation and Technology. I wish to advise that no centre will be built, as it will be a virtual centre. All funds raised will be directed to present and future ongoing scientific research being carried out at the Technion, with funds for the research coming from the centre.

My reference with respect to the 51st anniversary was in relation to the State of Israel and not the Technion, as the university is presently marking its 75th anniversary.

It was not Peter Munk who had given the funds for a garden in front of a student dormitory, but rather Nicholas and Hedy Munk who donated the gardens.

Arnold Recht
President, Canadian Technion Society

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures. Letters sent by e-mail must also include the sender's municipal address.

Perspectives

Yiddish fabulist had an original view of the universe

By BARUCH COHEN

Fables are considered the domain of Aesop, LaFontaine and Krylov, but the genre also has a tradition in Jewish literature.

In Hebrew, we have the parable of the trees who seek a king (Judges 9-8-16) and the rich man-poor man fable with which the prophet Nathan admonishes King David after the Bathsheba episode (Samuel 1:12:1-4). King Solomon is supposed to have known 3,000 fables (Kings 1:5:12-13), none of which the Bible cites. However, the Talmud does record some animal fables.

In the Middle Ages, Hebrew was enriched by the fables of Berechiah (circa 1300) who, with his volume *For Fables*, containing 119 animal fables, established himself as one of the leading fabulists of the medieval period. Although fables were written in Hebrew and Yiddish in the interim, it was not until the 20th century that Jewish literature had another superb writer of fables, this time one who wrote in Yiddish.

Yiddish poet Eliezer Steinbarg (1880-1932), was a writer of children's fables, songs and stories, and a noted Hebrew-Yiddish educator. His fables resemble classical European fables, but with his use of traditional Hebrew literary material, Yiddish folklore and expression, and the ethics of Yiddishkeit, they become Jewish. Steinbarg's mastery lies in his skilful use of the nuances of Yiddish, his inventiveness and sensitivity to sounds, his comic playfulness, his surprising rhymes, and his characterizations.

Yiddish poetry was affected – always – by differences in regional sensibility. Romania, one of the richest repositories of Yiddish folklore, birthplace of Yiddish theatre and cabaret, also brought forth two great neo-folk poets, Steinbarg and Itzik Manger. It is obvious how much Steinbarg's poetic fables owe to Jewish fabular and midrashic literature. As for Manger – who wrote under the name of Itzik, rather than Itzhak – he candidly shaped his poems and ballads from the material of the Aggadah and earlier folk bards and singers.

Yet the words of these two poets show how deceptive the concept of "folkishness" can be. Much of the humor and charm of Manger's ballads derive, not from their simplicity, but from their wicked juxtaposition of cultivated European ideas and forms, with the idiomatic usage of marketplace Jews and worn coin of fairy tales. Steinbarg, whose unyielding perfectionism kept his work from publication throughout most of his life, achieves spectacularly witty and dramatic effects under the guise of spontaneous narration. Paradoxically, the neo-folk poets are the most refined of all modern Yiddish literary craftsmen.

Steinbarg was born in 1880 in Lipkany, a small Bessarabian (Romania) town. Like his cousin, the Hebrew author Judah Steinbarg, he became a teacher, and he directed the Hebrew-Yiddish school of Lipkany until 1929. (The current Montreal Holocaust Memorial Centre (MHMC) exhibition Splendor and Destruction has the story of Lipkany before World War II.) Steinbarg was known primarily as an author of *meshalim*, or parables, which became quite popular in eastern Europe in the 1920s through the dramatic public readings of Herz Grossbart.

At the time of his death in 1932, Steinbarg was a leader of the cultural activities of the Jews of Czernowitz, Romania. His book of parables, *Mesholim*, was published a few months after his death.

A desire to 'mend the world'

Steinbarg came under the influence of a teacher steeped in Kabbalah. He received a rich Jewish education. He acquired the knowledge of Russian literature and European modern philosophy on his own, chose teaching as his profession, and was for many years director of the Hebrew-Yiddish school in Lipkany, his beloved shtetl that was the town of his birth.

In 1920, at the age of 40, he moved to Czernowitz, where his house on Negruzzi Street became the symbol of Yiddish literature. In 1928, upon a call from the Jewish community of Rio de Janeiro, he moved to Brazil and served as director of a Jewish day school. In 1930, he returned to Czernowitz, feeling that he could not find in Rio de Janeiro the proper climate of Yiddishkeit so necessary for his creative spirit.

I.L. Peretz's home on Zegliana Street in Warsaw and Steinbarg's home in the attic on Negruzzi Street in Czernowitz were the homes and symbol of Yiddish culture. Both represented the fountain of Yiddish literature, and both writers were responsible for it within the border of their countries.

Peretz and Steinbarg were very different in temperament. Peretz was called the Eagle, Steinbarg, the Dove.

The trend of assimilation of Brazilian Jewry was a decisive factor in his return to Czernowitz. Immediately upon his return, he started his activities as a literary critic in the periodicals of the Yiddish literary scene.

For those who understood and enjoyed Yiddish literature, and appreciated the importance of I.L. Peretz's contribution and influence on the cultural Jewish life in Poland, Steinbarg had the same importance and prestige – 20 years later – within the Jewish cultural life in Romania during the years immediately following World War I.

The first volume of Steinbarg's fables, published in 1921, was an instant success. The artist, Arthur Kolnik, enriched the volume with his drawings. It was a "deluxe" issue. One of the best known Romanian Jewish authors and literary critics, Barbu Lazareanu, wrote in *Dimineata* (The Morning), the prestigious Bucharest daily: "Finally, we are in the presence of a classical Yiddish literary work without precedent in Romanian literature!"

In 1932, when Steinbarg's *Mesholim* were collected and published a few months after his death, the book became a bestseller. It was translated into Romanian in 1947 and into Hebrew in 1954, and in part, into German, French, Hungarian, Polish and English. A volume of Steinbarg's short stories was published in Czernowitz in 1936 and a supplementary volume of fables was produced in Tel Aviv in 1956.

Steinbarg's fables are not rehashed moral precepts set in rhyme; they arise out of an original view of the universe. He is the outstanding master of the Yiddish fable in both content and form. He does not rebuke fully or satirize temporary foibles, but rather, gives expression to his own pessimistic vision of man and his destiny. The basis for his social themes is his recognition of man's search for the ideals and joy of life, for happiness. He enriched Yiddish with new idioms and with reshaped proverbs. His plots and rhymes are occasionally comic in spite of his serious theme.

The last stanza of *The Bayonet and the Needle* is a good illustration:

[B]ut now the needle starts to laugh,
and it may still be laughing yet,
with ha, and hee, and ho ho ho:
"When I pierce linen, one stitch and then another, lo –
I make a shirt, a sleeve, a dress, a hem.
But people, *you* can pierce forever
what will you create from them?"

(Translated by Curt Levant, *Voices within the Ark: The Modern Jewish Poets*, Avon Books, New York, 1980).

Steinbarg's *Mesholim* are not in Krylov's style of fables with rhyme and life-wisdom. They, rather, spring from an inner feeling for justice and desire to "mend the world." As a Bund member, his heart was always with the working people.

Steinbarg's *Mesholim* are at times not only in the spirit of the Proverbs (*Mishlei*), but rather, closer to the wisdom of Kohelet. Steinbarg's greatness and uniqueness stands, not in his teaching of ethics and morals only, but in his enriching the Yiddish language with a new rhythmic sweetness. His language raised Yiddish to the highest lyrical beauty.

To this date, the Yiddish Scientific Institution of New York (YIVO), lists a total of 22 editions published with hundreds of Steinbarg's fables, poems and songs. Pre-eminent are his poems for children and youngsters. His first book was published in 1921. The last one was published in 1977 in Rehovot, Israel.

The Israeli artist Nahum Guttman illustrated two books, one in Hebrew, in Israel in 1954, and one published in Yiddish, in Montevideo, Uruguay, in 1970. Essays and literary critics on his work have been published in numerous Yiddish literary journals, and in English, French and Hebrew literary journals as well. University professor Dov Sadam, the well-known Israeli critic, wrote: "Steinbarg's work is a call for loving kindness and joy to fill in every human soul" (*Eliezer Steinbarg: Mesholim (Fables) Introduction.* Published in Tel Aviv, 1969, by I.L. Peretz Publishing House).

Steinbarg died on March 27, 1932. He was 52 years old. Fifty thousand people attended his funeral, Itzik Manger among them. Czernowitz was mourning her finest literary figure. The Romanian Jewish community lost a unique poet and a unique Jew.

On his tomb – a large stone – is engraved (the work of his friend, the artist, Arthur Kolnik) the following stanza from one of his fables:

"Fellows, sad, mournful is that broad
capacious world,
Bitter! Let's delight ourselves with a
fable

(my translation from Yiddish)

These words express Steinbarg's legacy, his ethics and his vision.

Baruch Cohen is senior research associate for Jewish Research and a speaker at the Montreal Holocaust Memorial Centre.

Opinions

Back to Berlin

Up till now, Ignatz Bubis, chair of the organization of German Jewry, has been the high-profile representative of our people. He has recently been rivaled by a famous person who returned to Germany from the United States some months ago. He is Michael Blumenthal, who was U.S. secretary of the treasury from 1976 to 1979, under then-president Jimmy Carter.

Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

A native of Germany, born near Berlin in 1926, young Blumenthal emigrated with his family in 1939 to Shanghai, one of the few places to which Jews still were admitted.

Eventually the family landed in the United States, where Blumenthal made his way in spectacular fashion, and gradually reached the inner circle of American politics. Now, some 20 years later, he has returned to the land of his birth and has accepted the post of director of the new Berlin Jewish Museum.

I do not know Blumenthal personally, but I certainly know a good deal about his family, some of whom belonged to the most distinguished figures in German Jewish history. Amongst them were Rahel Varnhagen (1771-1883), who was perhaps the best known Jewish figure in the early days of German Jewish emancipation. Another well-known member of the family was the composer Giacomo Meyerbeer (1791-1864), who became all the rage in Paris in the early part of the 19th century.

Blumenthal recently published the history of his family in a book that has quickly reached bestseller status in Germany. He not only comes from a distinguished family, but its members also have good genes. His father died in San Francisco at the age of 101.

The Berlin Museum that Blumenthal hopes to develop is located in the renovated centre of Jewish life in Berlin. Here stands the famed New Synagogue, whose cupola dominates the Berlin skyline, and here also are located the offices of the Berlin Jewish community. The museum will no doubt add to the attractions of resuscitated German Jewry, once it reaches its full potential.

"German visitors to the museum," says Blumenthal, "will learn once again what German Jewry was once about and what they lost." In his efforts to make the museum a central attraction for the city, Blumenthal will have the help of Jeshajahu Weinberg, the director of the Holocaust Museum in Washington.

What are Blumenthal's first reactions to living in Germany? He says: "At first sight a relationship between Germans and Jews is almost nonexistent.

"What astonishes me is the fact that when I come to Germany I come as an American, but, when I leave, I leave as a Jew. Doubtlessly, it will take yet another generation before the Germans will really come to terms with their past."

Apparently, it is Blumenthal's intention to help them achieve this goal. Indeed, if he can manage the transition from secretary of the treasury of the United States to director of Berlin's Jewish Museum, everything is possible.

Eurovision puts the world on hold

Forget about the makeup of the new government. Forget about whether Ehud Barak is off to a good start as prime minister-elect. Forget about the current drought. Forget about Arieh Deri and the growing power of Shas.

Robert Sarner in Jerusalem

Forget about the deepening divide between the secular and the Orthodox. Forget about the continuing carnage on the roads. Forget about the quagmire in south Lebanon. Forget about the increasing prospects of Israel surrendering the Golan Heights to Syria. Forget just about everything dominating the headlines here on any given day.

Well, almost forget. Admittedly, in the land of incessant reality bites, it's impossible to totally block out the news for very long. But for a while there, just over a week ago, many Israelis came pretty close to such temporary relief.

The improbable cause was a quaint European song contest. To be sure, Eurovision, which is held every year in late May, is an already well-established fixture on the Israeli calendar. But this time around, interest in the event reached a near fever pitch as it was hosted in Jerusalem, with Israel the defending champion.

As the performers and delegations from the other 22 countries competing began arriving in Israel, along with hundreds of foreign journalists who came for the event, the local media were rife with Eurovision-related stories. This was clearly a Major Event. Only a king's ransom or the mightiest of inside connections could get you tickets for the big show. Even tickets to the three dress rehearsals were extremely hard to come by.

Israel was squarely in the grip of Eurovision mania. Maybe it was relief from the insufferably long election campaign the country had just endured. Maybe it was the weeks of advance hype and media coverage (especially on Israel Television that was producing the show) that helped account for the public frenzy surrounding the competition.

There was great speculation about how Israel's entry, a male group called Eden, would fare. No less important, was how the Jewish state, as the hosts of this year's Eurovision, would look in the eyes of the anticipated 150 million TV viewers in 30 countries watching the event.

Many of you must be scratching your heads in bewilderment, wondering what's all the fuss over a song festival. Especially one so often derided as a monument to kitsch, glitz and musical mediocrity. You obviously have not spent much time in Israel in late spring.

Regular readers of this column may recall that a year ago, I wrote about the massive euphoria and swelling of national pride triggered by Israel's victory at the 1998 Eurovision in England, thus winning the right to host the event this year.

This being Israel, even such a seemingly innocuous event like Eurovision, is not immune to the country's socio-political forces. Hours before show time, extra police and border guards were deployed to seal off the area around the International Convention Centre, site of the event, to protect it from furious haredi Jews who had threatened to prevent a final dress rehearsal from taking place on the Sabbath.

Eurovision had already earned the wrath of the haredim because of a planned performance by Dana International, the transsexual who captured the Eurovision title for Israel last year. International, born Yaron Cohen into a traditional Yemenite family, was vilified by the haredim for her sex change operation.

In the end, the evening went off without a hitch. Israel may have finished in fifth place with its song, but it scored top marks for its production of the three-hour extravaganza. It broke several TV ratings records in Israel.

Between 10:30 and 11 p.m., 52 percent of Jewish households were tuned in to Eurovision. By comparison, 12 percent were watching the series *Chicago Hope* on Channel Two.

The high point of the event won by Sweden, was not the 23 songs, few of which I'd ever want to hear again. Most spectacular was the view of Jerusalem presented at the beginning of the broadcast. The city has never looked so breathtaking as it did in the filmed sequence that featured a nocturnal procession of dancers prancing past the city's landmarks aglow in special lighting. Israeli talent was also on view between songs as organizers offered a creative mix of first class animation and video of biblical and modern-day scenes of Israel.

Eurovision offered a welcomed respite while it lasted. Now it's back to the hard-boiled reality of daily life. At least until a Saturday evening late next May when you can be sure much of the nation will be glued to their TV sets watching the 45th Eurovision live from Sweden, rooting for Israel's entry to return home triumphantly.

Forming a new Israeli consensus

The results of the elections showed that despite hoopla, the creation of a Centrist party was not the prelude to a revolution in Israeli politics.

Gerald Steinberg in Jerusalem

The head of the party, former Defence Minister Yitzchak Mordechai, dropped out of the contest for prime minister at the last minute, after polls showed that he had almost no support. The party received six seats (five percent) in the 120-seat Knesset. When measured against the expectations, this was hardly a success.

However, in other ways, the election outcome marks a major change. Ehud Barak defeated Netanyahu by a wider margin than expected – 56 percent to 44 percent, and this was the greatest difference between the major candidates and political blocks for almost two decades. It would seem that in this election, the stalemate was broken with a clear victory for Labor and Barak.

However, upon closer analysis, the picture is far more complex, and the stalemate in Israeli politics remains. In the first place, Barak's victory was primarily a rejection of Netanyahu's personality and divisive governing style, rather than an endorsement of different policies. Unless Barak learns to be a team player, he could also find himself out of a job in a few years.

Furthermore, analysis of the Knesset vote shows that the divisions in Israeli society are wider than ever. Shas – the Sephardi haredi party headed by Arye Deri, who was recently convicted of corruption – received a record 17 seats, making it the third largest party in the Knesset. Shinui, a party headed by a coarse journalist whose platform was based entirely on anti-religious hatred, got 6 seats.

A record 15 parties will be represented in the new Knesset – including two Russian and three Arab parties. This tribalism is not the basis for stability or a foundation for the consensus necessary for making the difficult decisions.

At the same time, the two major parties – Labor (renamed One Israel) and Likud – continued to lose support. Likud went from 32 to 19 seats (only two more than Shas), and Labor has 26 seats. Ehud Barak may have defeated Netanyahu by a wide margin, but he will need the support of many smaller parties in order to govern.

However, there are some signs that Barak seeks to avoid the type of narrow governments that trapped both Benjamin Netanyahu and the late Yitzhak Rabin.

Barak has the opportunity to turn the very weakness of Labor and Likud into a strength, forcing them to work together for their own survival.

The new prime minister is seeking to put together a new kind of coalition, in which no single party will be in a position to dictate terms or hold the government hostage by threatening to withdraw. Shas may have 17 seats, but if Barak can create a coalition of 80 MKs (including Likud and the National Religious Party), the power that any one party can wield will be limited.

Similarly, the militantly anti-religious Shinui party will probably find itself outside the government, along with the radical Arab parties and the far right.

A wider government will also help keep Labor's old-guard and power brokers away from state funds and political power. With so many coalition partners, many Labor politicians, including Shimon Peres, Yosi Beilin, Haim Ramon, and former treasury minister Shohat will have to settle for limited roles. Barak may have done well in the elections, but their party did not.

Thus, in this way, a major realignment in Israeli politics may emerge after the elections. The core, based on a Likud-Labor alliance, can form the foundation of a strong government, which can make and implement difficult decisions facing Israel. On the basis of consensus, Barak can lead a united Israeli government into negotiations with the Palestinians and with Syria. Concessions will be accepted, where justified, but Barak will also have strong support for holding firm when Israel's vital interests are at stake.

Domestically, Barak knows that he cannot afford to alienate the entire religious and traditional population, whose strength continues to grow. The alliance between the moderate Meimad religious party and Labor was a small step in this direction. By incorporating members of this community into the decision making process, without giving each party a veto or access to the public treasury, the new prime minister can also help bring the religious into the mainstream of Israeli political life. Such a consensus-based coalition will be able to start narrowing the religious-secular divide, without allowing the extremists on either fringe to block the process.

To make the most of his options, Barak will have to display considerable leadership, making clear and sensible decisions, and then defending them before the public. If Barak provides this leadership in addressing the critical national issues, both foreign and domestic, he should be able to sustain the optimism that emerged after the elections.

The Kirshner File

Birobidzhan: the failure of a Soviet Jewish homeland

Popularly known as Birobidzhan, the Jewish Autonomous Region was formally established by Josef Stalin in May 1934 as the supposed national homeland of Soviet Jewry.

Sheldon Kirshner in Toronto

A backwater in a sparsely-populated area of Siberia, it was designed with the express purpose of creating a territorial enclave where a secular Jewish culture rooted in Yiddish and socialist principles could thrive. Its creators also hoped that Birobidzhan would be a shield against Zionism and resolve a variety of problems besetting Jews in the Soviet Union.

Though it still exists, albeit in a straitened fashion, Birobidzhan was a signal failure in social engineering, never attracting significant numbers of Jewish settlers. In 1939, Jews constituted barely 20 percent of its population. By 1989, when the Soviet Union was on the brink of dissolution, the proportion of Jews had dropped to under five percent. Given the fact that 800,000 Soviet Jews have emigrated in the past decade, one can safely assume that the percentage of Jews in Birobidzhan has still further decreased.

As Robert Weinberg observes in *Stalin's Forgotten Zion* (University of California Press), a useful primer on the subject, Birobidzhan was the culmination of a Communist party effort to solve the so-called Jewish problem.

It was an unlikely project. Before the 1917 Bolshevik Revolution, both Vladimir Lenin and Stalin had vehemently argued that the Jews were not a nation, lacking the prerequisites of nationhood: a territory and a common language. Indeed, their solution to the Jewish problem had been assimilation, the integration of Jews into Soviet society.

Why, then, did Moscow opt for a Jewish homeland in the wilds of the Far East?

Under the impact of war, revolution, civil war and pogroms, the Soviet economy descended into chaos in the 1920s. Concerned about the dire economic straits of the Jewish masses, the government encouraged their settlement on the land. By transforming them into farmers, Moscow assumed it could change the occupational profile of the Jews, the majority of whom were in petty commerce, retail sales and small-scale handicraft production.

The idea was not new. The czars, from Alexander I onward, had half-heartedly attempted to "normalize" the socio-economic profile of Jews. But by 1914, only some 50,000 Jews (or three percent in the Russian Empire) were tilling the land.

The Communists thought they could do better. They believed that the "productivization" of Jews – a Zionist objective as well – would promote the integration of Jews into the emerging socialist economy and weaken grassroots anti-Semitism. This was in line with Moscow's policy of normalizing the status of non-territorial minorities by creating official enclaves for them.

To Soviet ideologues, the settlement of Jews in Birobidzhan – an area approximately the size of Belgium which Russia had annexed in 1858 – would transform shtetl Jews from petit-bourgeois shopkeepers and unskilled laborers into productive citizens contributing to the building of Communism.

The government had another good reason for luring Jews to Birobidzhan, which was populated by indigenous Siberian peoples and by Russians, Koreans and Ukrainians who had settled the region in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. It possessed untapped natural resources, lay in the path of the Trans-Siberian Railway and was strategically important due to Soviet fears of possible Chinese and Japanese expansionism.

During the mid-1920s, Moscow formed two organizations to publicize Birobidzhan. The first settlers arrived in 1928, attracted by incentives ranging from discounted travel and food subsidies to credit and tax exemptions.

Strangely enough, the authorities did little to prepare the newcomers, who had little or no agricultural experience, for the hardships of a forbidding landscape.

Nor, as Weinberg points out, did they provide the settlers with decent housing, potable water, barns, livestock, tools and equipment. Further, primitive medical facilities were frequently located far from the new settlements.

Many settlers, therefore, dropped out. Those who persevered usually gravitated toward Birobidzhan, the capital city of the Jewish Autonomous Region. There, ironically, they found jobs in the retail and service sectors and in government offices.

Life in the Jewish Autonomous Region gradually improved, although insufficient housing and food and inadequate medical and sanitary facilities continued to plague both rural and urban residents. A 1937 report stated that Birobidzhan, the city, still lacked a sewage system and public lighting.

Despite these shortcomings, the Jewish Autonomous Region became a centre for the production of cement, tin, bricks, paper products and clothing. Birobidzhan itself grew into a town of 30,000 by 1939.

Weinberg estimates that over 1,000 foreign Jews, mainly from Europe and North America, settled in Birobidzhan from the late 1920s to the mid-1930s. Awareness of the region in the Diaspora was promoted by the Association for Jewish Colonization in the Soviet Union (ICOR), which had over 10,000 dues-paying members in the 1930s.

ICOR raised funds for the purchase of tools and equipment for the fledgling collective farms and factories in the Jewish Autonomous Region, and even published a Yiddish newspaper, *Nailebn*.

Of course, Zionists actively disparaged Stalin's paradise, claiming that it could not satisfy the cultural and national aspirations of Soviet Jewry.

In accordance with its policy of elevating Yiddish as the bedrock of secular, proletarian Soviet Jewish culture, Moscow decreed that all government documents, posters and advertisements should appear in Yiddish. In addition, a Jewish theatre was opened, and Yiddish-language schools were built.

The purges unleashed by Stalin in 1936 had a devastating effect on Birobidzhan. Prominent Jewish officials were arrested after being charged with counter-revolutionary activities. In the surreal atmosphere of the times, one functionary was accused of trying to establish the Jewish Autonomous Region as a centre of Jewish culture in the Soviet Union!

Matters went from bad to worse. Stalin's emphasis on Great Russian patriotism resulted in the closing of Yiddish schools and synagogues, in Birobidzhan and elsewhere. Assimilation, once again, became the overriding goal of the Communist party.

For propaganda purposes, Stalin did not destroy the institutional and legal foundations of the Jewish Autonomous Region. But he ended the concerted effort to stimulate Jewish migration.

Weinberg does not entirely blame the government for the failure of Birobidzhan. By the mid-1930s, opportunities for upward mobility abounded in the Soviet Union, and hundreds of thousands of Jews from shtetls migrated to cities in the Russian heartland.

For a brief period after World War II, there was a resurgence of government interest in Birobidzhan. But the revival, such as it was, came to an abrupt halt in 1948 against the backdrop of the infamous Doctors' Plot.

In the dying days of the Soviet Union in the early 1990s, there was yet another revival of modest proportions. But in Weinberg's view, Birobidzhan's future is bleak.

So much for the Jewish Autonomous Region.

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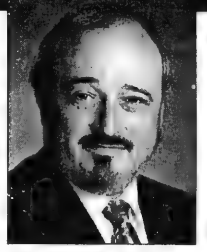

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JEWISH EDUCATION
The Next Generation

By ELLIOTT MALAMET

The beast of modernity

Since the Enlightenment, all traditional religions have had to undergo a complex series of negotiations with what can be loosely termed "secular modernity." What do you do with the increasingly powerful effects of pluralism, perceived by some as progress and by others as corrosive? That is the central question that faces Jewish education today, and as I have suggested previously, has not been addressed in anything close to a satisfactory manner.

Various strategies of encounter have been attempted with the beast of modernity. There is at one end of the spectrum a kind of resigned surrender, where the message of God-given commandments and the obligation to follow an ancient moral code has been trashed in the name of cultural accommodation. This is another way of saying that secularism has stormed the gates, the battle is more or less lost, and we must now sue for the best terms possible (reduced anti-Semitism, maybe marry Jewish).

At the other end lies the ever defiant resisters of the Zeitgeist, for whom the problem lies in simply thickening the walls of the fortress in order to keep out the invader at all costs, and repel the effects of pluralist contamination.

The middle ground exemplifies what the sociologist Peter Berger calls the process of "cognitive bargaining," in which certain purist notions of faith are relinquished but other ideas are desperately maintained. Here the believer's internal compass would perhaps balk at the thought that the Bible is unerringly true and the miracles in it are literal, but it would stubbornly cling to the theory that the Torah reflects some kind of divine input, and that the Talmud is authoritative, but still a product of its own time in certain respects. Such an allowance of uncertainty, while intellectually honest, is of course fraught with peril, as people who hold this view will readily admit. In Berger's words: "One needs a very long spoon to dine with the devil of doubt; without it, one is liable to end up as dessert."

Ironically, all of these positions are linked by their reactionary nature. From the chassidic enclave to the proudly intermarried, the agenda is being set from the outside. It is the secular other who sucks dry our attention and energy, whether we are happy participators in its largely mindless carnival or bitter protesters of the proceedings.

This phenomenon was prescientily captured by Rabbi Abraham Heschel in 1958: "It is customary to blame secular science and anti-religious philosophy for the eclipse of religion in modern society. It would be more honest to blame religion for its own defeats. Religion declined not because it was refuted, but it became irrelevant, dull, oppressive, insipid." Here he identified Judaism's penchant for faulting the outside world instead of shouldering the blame for its own substitution of stifling habit in place of spiritual quest.

Rabbi Heschel was not alone in his analysis. Recently, Rabbi Moshe Eisemann, of the Ner Israel Yeshivah in Baltimore, similarly cast doubt on modernity as the villain: "We will miss the mark if we look outside ourselves for the sickness and therefore for the cure."

If Judaism is, as many of us believe, a religion filled with meaning and morality, wisdom and warmth, caring and courage, then we must display the security that such rhetoric entails.

Instead of focusing on the "evil empire" of Hollywood and McDonald's, it is time to patiently and painstakingly demonstrate to our children, in deed more than word, the beauty of our faith, and to bring out in full measure the meaning of Wordsworth's wonderful phrase: "What we love, others will love and we will show them how."

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

Anne Frank and mass media

One of the most important documents about the Holocaust appeared in 1947 with the publishing of *Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl*. Since then, the classic has appeared in dozens of languages, thousands of classrooms and on stages and movie screens around the world.

After the war, Otto Frank, the only survivor of the eight inhabitants, found his daughter's diary and published it in Dutch as *Het Achterhuis* (The Annex) **[http://www.gale.com/gale/cwh/franka.html]**. After its translation into English, this is the version that became familiar to millions of readers. When Otto Frank died in 1980, the diary was re-examined to prove its authenticity. Following that, new and controversial versions of the diaries were published with material never seen before by the public **[http://www.annefrankonbroadway.com/anne-cgi/af?play/diary.html+HI]**.

The Critical Edition (1989) and The Definitive Edition (1995) restore diary entries which Otto Frank thought unsuitable to print 50 years earlier. It included passages on Anne's relationship with her mother and her thoughts on the role of women **[http://remember.org/educate/afrank.html]**.

One new excerpt: "I look upon our life in hiding as an interesting adventure, full of danger and romance, and every privation as an amusing addition to my diary. I've made up my mind to lead a different life from other girls, and not to become an ordinary housewife later on." Rita Goldberg takes a personal and scholarly look at the changes and concludes that "Anne Frank lives on, through a diary made richer because her father is no longer around to protect her **[http://www.bookwire.com/BBR/Life-&-Letters/read.Review$915]**."

Of course, the diary has had an incredible impact in other media. In 1955, the diary came to the stage, and was given the Pulitzer Prize and virtually every other theatre award. Forty years later, the play was remounted on Broadway with Natalie Portman as the lead **[http://www.csmonitor.com/durable/1997/11/18/feat/arts.1.html]**. This version of the play also included new material that Otto Frank edited out. The show's producers have created an excellent Web site that includes a history of the book and the play **[http://www.annefrankonbroadway.com/]**.

Shortly after its first stage success, the story moved to the screen as the memorable *The Diary of Anne Frank* (1959) with Millie Perkins, Joseph Schildkraut and Shelley Winters **[http://us.imdb.com/Title?0052738]**. For the many other film and television mini-series, go to the Internet Movie Database **[http://us.imdb.com/]** and search for "Anne Frank".

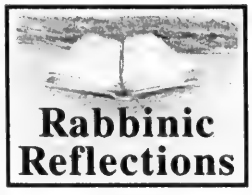
More recently, *Anne Frank Remembered* won the Academy Award for Best Feature Documentary **[http://us.imdb.com/Title?0112373]**. Using previously unreleased archival material in addition to contemporary interviews, the story of the Frank family is presented along with a fully rounded portrait of Anne. *Time* magazine called it a"harrowing, inspiring film. It alerts us that "villainy is the rank soil in which heroism can flower" **[http://us.imdb.com/TUrls?COM+0112373]**.

Whether in book, play, movie or even musical form **[http://www.annefrank.com/events/concert.html]**, the central message of Anne Frank continues to move and inspire new generations.

"It's a wonder I haven't abandoned all my ideals, they seem so absurd and impractical. Yet I cling to them because I still believe, in spite of everything, that people are truly good at heart."

***

Mark Mietkiewicz is a Toronto-based television producer who writes, lectures and teaches about the Jewish Internet. He can be contacted at [mdm@inforamp.net].



Rabbinic Reflections

By RABBI MORDECHAI BULUA

'Chinam' explained

This week's Torah reading relates the incident of the 12 spies. Moshe sent 12 men, heads of their respective tribes, to spy out the land which God promised they would capture for their own. Unfortunately, 10 of the 12 brought back such a dismaying report that the Jews lost heart and broke down weeping.

To this, God, according to the Talmud (Ta'anis 29a) responded, "You cry tonight for no reason; on this very night in the future I will give you cause to cry for good reason." That night was Tisha b'Av. On that night, both the first and second Temples were destroyed.

What caused the spies to act as they did? The Zohar explains that the spies realized that once they lived in Israel under a central government, they would lose their power and position.

The Mishnah in Pirkei Avot (4:28) says: "Envy, inordinate desire and the search for glory remove a man from this world." Indeed, the desire to retain honor and glory brought a premature end to the spies who died a terrible death.

How then should a person achieve honor? Pirkei Avot gives the answer. (4:1) Ben Zoma says: "Who is honorable? He who honors his fellow men." The Talmud (Eruvin 13b) says: Honor flees from him who runs after honor. Honor pursues him who flees from honor.

A man once came to his spiritual leader and said: "Rabbi, they say that if you flee from honor, honor will pursue you. How is it that I keep running away from it, and yet it has never caught up with me?"

With a twinkle the rabbi replied, "the trouble is that you are always looking back over your shoulder to see if honor is running after you. That is why it will not follow you."

The words the Talmud (Ta'anis 29a) uses to describe the sin of the Jews in the incident of the spies is "*bechiah shel chinam*," that they cried for no reason. Amazingly, the same Hebrew word *chinam*, is used as the reason for the destruction of the second Temple. The Talmud explains (Yoma 9a) that the second Temple was destroyed because of *sinat chinam*, because of hatred of one's fellow Jew for no reason.

I believe the usage of the word *chinam*, to describe both the sin of the Jews in the incident of the spies and their sin during the second Temple period, is not "without reason."

Judaism teaches us that there is a reason for everything in life. Every emotion has its time and place, as it says in *Kohelet*, Ecclesiastes: "there is a time to cry and a time to laugh; a time to love and a time to hate." We are allowed to cry, but only at certain times, such as at the death of a loved one, God forbid, or on Tisha b'Av. We are allowed to hate, but only truly evil people, such as Amalek and the Nazis. Our feelings and actions must always be based on sound reason.

According to Rabbi Yechezkel of Kozmir and Rabbi Abraham Isaac Kook, first chief rabbi of Israel, there is one exception to this rule. The second Temple, which was destroyed because of *sinat chinam*, hatred without reason, they say, will only be rebuilt when there is *ahavat chinam*, love without reason; when Jews show their concern for others, even when they differ from them in their values, ideas, and levels of observance, simply because they are fellow Jews.

Rabbi Bulua is the chaplain at Chateau Westmount and Le Strathmore.

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יישר כוחכם

A cautionary parable

***The Conversion*, by Aharon Appelfeld (Random House, $31).**

Books
Bernard Baskin

After Amos Oz and A.B. Yehoshua, Aharon Appelfeld is probably Israel's third best known novelist. Born in Czernowitz, now part of Ukraine, he was imprisoned at the age of nine in a Nazi concentration camp. He escaped and hid in forests until he was discovered by Russian troops, who trained him as a kitchen boy.

Appelfeld immigrated to Palestine in 1946. His books, written in Hebrew, have been translated into many languages and include the internationally acclaimed *Badenheim 1939* and such provocative novels as *Unto the Soul*, *The Retreat*, and most recently *The Iron Tracks*.

His novels are comparatively brief. Many of them deal with Jews just prior to the Holocaust, who delude themselves into thinking that they will be safe and that the Nazi madness will inevitably disappear.

The Conversion, the author's 12th novel to reach English translation, is set in Neufeld, a small Austrian town. Over the years, most young Jews there have converted to Christianity, which is the only way they can find advancement in their work and receive a measure of respect and friendship from their neighbors.

A local priest, Father Mercer, takes pride in the many Jews he has brought to the Christian altar, as church bells ring out in triumph.

Karl Hubner, with his mother's approval, converted in order to facilitate his advancement as a municipal official. But he is troubled with nagging feelings of guilt and with memories of half-forgotten Jewish traditions and rituals.

Regarded with suspicion by the town's Christians and aware of the insecurity and self-imposed isolation of many of his fellow converts, he is left with an awkward sense of alienation.

Appelfeld writes, "At first the other converts were pleased that Karl had converted. But over the years he observed that they seldom showed themselves in public, preferring to lead their lives in seclusion. They were never eager to meet with childhood friends."

When his aunt Frenzi, a former cabaret singer and actress, suddenly dies, Karl attends her funeral in a small provincial town. Despite the scandal attached to her name because of her numerous affairs, she had remained loyal to Judaism and despised apostates.

There, in the village of his untroubled childhood, Karl is welcomed by Gloria, the non-Jewish housemaid who had devotedly nursed his parents when they were dying. His reunion with her leads to mutual affection and provides a pathway to increased pride in his Jewish origin.

"Later, sitting in his room, Karl realized that Gloria was adhering scrupulously to every act of religious observance that his mother had been accustomed to doing, not omitting a thing.

The thought frightened him, and for a moment he wanted to go to her and say, 'You aren't obliged to observe all the commandments and customs. The dead are separate from us. You mustn't assume their fate.' But those words slipped from his mind, and to his surprise he saw again the long corridor of the synagogue, in whose darkness they used to light memorial candles."

When the municipal government in a redevelopment project decides to abolish the Jewish market area, Karl vehemently defends the Jewish shopkeepers. In the face of the anti-Semitic storm that results he resigns from his coveted position.

Karl and Gloria, now lovers, leave Neufeld en route to the larger and more liberal city of Krakow, Poland. They get off the train, however, at the Austrian village where Karl's mother was born. There they try to live peacefully with their neighbors. But they come to a violent and tragic end in a tide of anti-Semitic fury.

In this cautionary parable conversion and assimilation mean a loss of self esteem, and are a fruitless attempt to win acceptance in the eyes of the majority. The book is also a powerful indictment of Austrian anti-Semitism prior to the Holocaust.

Above all, the reader is left with the portrait of a sensitive and frustrated protagonist in search of meaning and identity, but unable to find inner meaning or peace.

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Canada's UN role an area for concern: CIC

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Canada's position on Israel at the United Nations could have serious consequences for the Jewish state, according to Brian Morris, executive director of the Canada-Israel Committee.

Morris was speaking at Shaarei Shomayim Congregation at a program sponsored by the synagogue's brotherhood and by the Entertainment and Cultural Connection.

Until recently, Morris said, Canada has voted in favor of Israel, or at least abstained. That policy has changed, however.

"It is no secret," Morris said, "that [Foreign Minister] Lloyd Axworthy wants the Nobel Peace Prize. He tried with the anti-mining campaign; he tried to play broker during the war with Serbia. Now he thinks that the Middle East is the best bet."

This is reflected in the change in Canada's stance at the UN, he said.

It is important to realize that the UN "is a club with its own rules. The resolutions don't have to be fair – they just have to get majority support," he said.

The situation is a concern, Morris said, because the Arabs are trying several new tactics in their diplomatic war with Israel.

Morris said he is appalled at the decision to convene a meeting in July to discuss the possibility that Israel's leaders can be considered war criminals.

He was referring to a resolution passed by the UN in February and supported by Canada calling for a conference in July to discuss whether the fourth Geneva Convention, which prohibits any country that has waged a war of aggression from forcibly occupying territory, applies to the territories occupied by Israel after the Six Day War.

"The Arabs have never been able to take Israel to the International Court at The Hague, because those accusations don't hold up. The Arabs or Jordan started the wars, and the disputed areas have always been mainly Jewish. Only Jordan expelled populations; Israel never did."

The February emergency session of the UN was convened at the request of the Arab League, "something that wasn't done for Yugoslavia or Africa," Morris pointed out.

Those at the session resurrected Resolution 181, the original UN resolution of 1947, which partitioned Israel into two states, a resolution that the Arabs never accepted.

"Canada is being hypocritical," said Morris. "If you support a bilateral approach to the peace process, as Canada says it does, you can't allow the negotiations to be sideswiped by the Arabs going to the UN anytime they are not pleased."

Both the Oslo and the Wye agreements have dispute resolution mechanisms built in. The Arabs have never invoked them, Morris said.

The inherent danger of all this, he said, is that if a Palestinian state has already been created (through Resolution 181), then Israel is an occupying power, and the Arabs can take Israel to The Hague, and can pressure the UN to declare Israeli leaders to be war criminals.

"The harm to Israel and the Jews would be irreparable," Morris said. "The United States is vehemently opposed to it. We can't forgive Canada if it votes for that meeting."

In the question period, former Ontario cabinet minister David Rotenberg noted that the Palestinian Covenant itself says that Resolution 181 is null and void.

What must be remembered, Morris said, is that world sympathy is with the Palestinians. "The only thing that helps is taking politicians to Israel. They come back totally changed."

The United States, Morris added, still supports Israel. "For the first time, the American ambassador to Israel took a suite in Jerusalem, and is meeting Jewish groups there."

Jewish future in Vilna said to be in doubt

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The future of the Jewish community in Vilna, once known as the Jerusalem of Lithuania, is in doubt, said Vivian Felsen, an artist who attended a Yiddish course there last year.

At a Pioneer Women's meeting in the Borochov Centre, she showed color slides she took of the city, which was the centre of eastern European Jewish culture in the 19th century and the early decades of the 20th century.

Felsen said the 3,500 Jews in Vilna are mostly elderly and many are poverty stricken, existing on pensions of $30 to $50 a month.

She said they also face anti-Semitism: in Lithuania some deputies in parliament are openly anti-Semitic.

Felsen, a member of the Friends of Yiddish, said she was one of four Torontonians in the summer course, which was designed to revive Yiddish in Vilna, one of the city's main spoken languages before the Holocaust.

One-third of the students in last year's Yiddish course were not Jewish. The course is being given again this summer.

Felsen said she was anxious to visit the birthplace of her maternal grandparents. Ninety-four percent of the Jews were killed in Lithuania during the Holocaust, the highest rate in any country, she said.

Heaping praise on the faculty of the course, she said one staffer took pains to point out to the young non-Jewish Lithuanian students what their grandparents had done to the Jews.

Felsen said she saw many monuments to commemorate Jews, which had been erected by the Lithuanian government.

There is a daily minyan at a Vilna synagogue attended by 50 Jews, because a London Jewish businessman pays $500 a month to keep it going, she noted.

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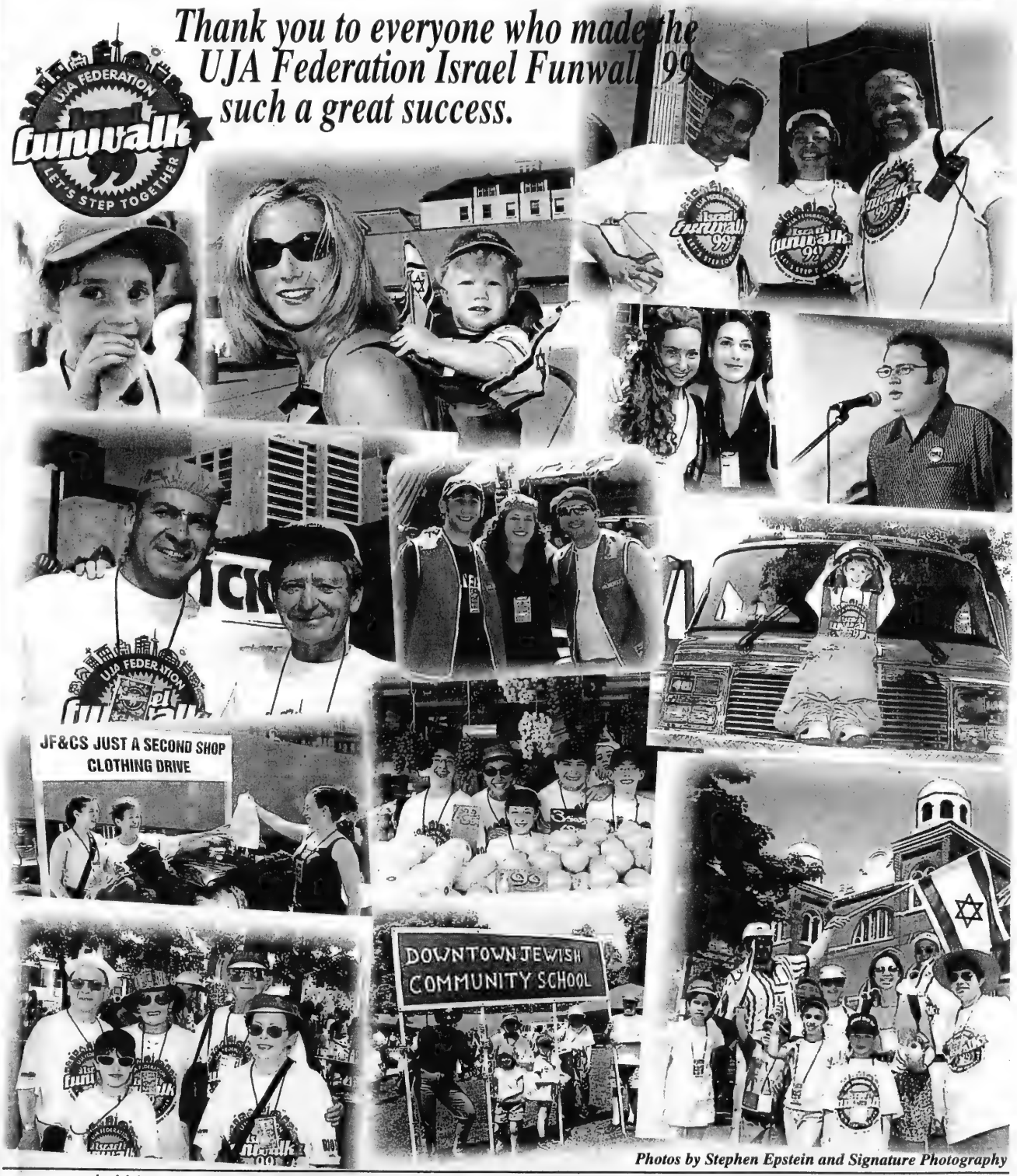

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Kiever shul marks 85th year

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — The Kiever Synagogue, located in the Kensington Market area, recently celebrated its 85th anniversary at a Sabbath service.

The real name for the beautifully preserved synagogue, which in 1981 became the first Jewish facility in Ontario designated as a historical heritage site, is the First Russian Congregation Rodfei Sholem Anshei Kiev.

To commemorate the 85th anniversary, new mantles were commissioned to cover the nine sefrei Torah, as well as a parochet (covering for the Aron Kodesh), two shulchan covers, a lectern cover, and other religious objects.

These will complement the shul's original Zodiac paintings, religious objects, stained glass windows, early-century architecture and photographs, which present a visual look at the past.

On view at the shul are the ceremonial key used when the synagogue was dedicated, the antique corner sink used for washing hands, and the cornerstone from the original house. A large marble wall marker contains the names of the original founders, and there are eight panels of marble yahrzeit dates and names dating back to the 1920s.

At the turn of the century, small shuls, called shtieblach, were sprinkled in and around Centre Avenue, in the area called the Ward. These shtieblach were formed by males who came from the same eastern European areas.

Founded by immigrants from the Kiev region of Russia, the Kiever shul's families were first associated with congregation Shaarei Zedeck. A dispute over burial rights led to the resignation of several members, who then formed Chevra Rodfei Sholem. The congregation held prayers and meetings in the homes of members.

David Pinkus, son of Isadore Pinkus, one of the synagogue's founders, said the synagogue was granted letters to patent it as a religious congregation in 1914, which permitted the members to purchase land. In 1917, Louis Bossin bought a house at the corner of Dennison Square and Bellevue Avenue. In 1921, a second house was acquired by the congregation.

Architect Benjamin Swartz designed a synagogue to be built on the site of these houses. The structure was completed in 1927, and the building has remained largely unchanged. The mortgage on the synagogue was $16,000.

David Pinkus, president of the Kiever Synagogue is seen in the sanctuary of the 85-year-old shul.

The synagogue has separate seating for men and women. It has a membership of some 150, and 450 to 500 people attend the High Holy Days services.

Services are held on Shabbat, Jewish holidays, and for special occasions. Pinchas Gutter serves as the honorary chazzan.

Members of the executive include Sol Feingold, vice-president; Myer Orzech, second vice-president; and Max Pinkus, treasurer.

As part of a celebration of Kensington's history, Heritage Toronto will unveil a plaque in the park in Bellevue Square opposite the shul, on June 21 at 3 p.m. The plaque will have the history of the Kensington market area and a copy of a photograph called *Buying Poultry on Kensington Avenue – 1922*, which hangs in the synagogue's social hall.

MINYANIM IN THE GTA
WEEK OF JUNE 11-17/'99

Synagogue	Address & Tel.	Fri. Night	Shabbat	Sun. A.M.	Daily A.M.	Daily P.M.
Beth Jacob V'Anshei Drildz (O)	147 Overbrook Pl. (416) 638-5955	7:00 PM	9:00 AM	6:45 & 7:30 AM	Mon. Thurs. 6:40, 7:30 Tues. Wed. Fri. 6:45, 7:30	8:50 PM
Beth Tzedec (C)	1700 Bathurst St. (416) 781-3511	6:00 PM	8:45 AM	9:00 AM	7:45 AM	6:00 PM
B'nai Torah (O)	465 Patricia Ave. (416) 226-3700	7:00 PM	8:45 AM	7:00 & 8:00 AM	Mon. Thurs. 6:50, 7:30 Tues. Wed. Fri. 7:00, 7:25	8:50 PM
Chabad Lubavitch Community Centre (O)	770 Chabad Gate (905) 731-7000	7:00 PM	9:30 AM	8:00 & 9:00 AM	Mon. Thurs. 6:50, 7:30 Tues. Wed. Fri. 7:00, 7:30	8:50 PM
Clanton Park Synagogue (O)	11 Lowesmoor Ave. (416)633-4193	7:00 PM	9:00 AM	7:30 AM & 8:15 AM	Mon. Thurs. 6:50, 7:15 Tues. Wed. Fri. 7:00, 7:25	8:50 PM
Darchei Noam (Rec.)	15 Hove St. (416) 638-4783	----------	10:00 AM	----------	----------	----------
Pride of Israel (C)	59 Lissom Cres. (416) 226-0111	7:00 PM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	7:30 & 8:30 AM	7:00 PM
Shomrei Shabbos (O)	583 Glengrove Ave. W (416) 787-1631	7:00 PM	9:15 AM	7:30 & 8:30 AM	6:45 & 7:30 AM	8:50 PM
Soiel Congregation (R)	2399 Folkway Dr. (905) 820-5915	7:30 PM	10:00 AM	----------	Tuesday 7:00 AM	----------
Temple Sinai (R)	210 Wilson Ave. (416) 487-4161	8:15 PM	10:00 AM	9:30 AM	7:30 AM	----------

This is not a comprehensive listing of the synagogues in the Greater Toronto area. The information is provided by the Vaad Harabonim of Toronto and the Toronto Board of Rabbis. The Vaad and the Board will periodically revise the listings. For statutory holidays, please call the Synagogue for any changes in times.

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CHAT breaks ground for major expansion

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — To whoops of joy from current students, the odd tear from former students and enthusiastic applause, philanthropist Anne Tanenbaum ceremonially broke ground for a massive renovation and extension of the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto (CHAT).

The 45,000-square-foot expansion, which will double the size of the current school, will include 21 new classrooms, a library, a computer centre, an athletic wing, a central atrium cafeteria, and a total renovation of the current building.

The facility will be called the Anne and Max Tanenbaum Education Centre.

It will serve a student body which has grown from 200 to an expected enrolment of 1,100 in the 1999-2000 school year.

School president Baila Lubek called the groundbreaking "both a culmination and a beginning."

She noted that 40 years ago, a group of people "worked to establish a community Hebrew high school, which would offer an education which would encompass Jewish traditions and teachings together with a general studies curriculum."

It was to be, and is now, Lubeck said, a place where a student "can explore Judaism in an open atmosphere."

CHAT reflects the successful partnership between the Toronto District School Board (and its local predecessor the North York School Board) and UJA Federation, with its "financial, experiences and human resources," she said.

Stephen Freedhoff, who was praised earlier as a tireless and dedicated worker for CHAT, noted that Anne Tanenbaum, who will celebrate her 90th birthday later this year, had attended that morning the brit milah for her 19th great grandchild.

Anne Tanenbaum, assisted by her son Larry, prepares to break ground for the renovated and expanded CHAT campus. [Stephen Epstein photo]

Students cheer

"Thank you for making our dreams come true," he told her.

To cheers from the students, Freedhoff said that the renovation would "eliminate the portables, eating in the corridors, and sweltering from too much heat or no air conditioning."

Marty Rochwerg, a parent and also an active worker for the school, praised CHAT for being "open to all who want an excellent Jewish education, where we expect acceptance and respect for classmates, whatever their level of observance."

This tolerance, he said, is "fundamental for the unity of the Jewish people."

Headmaster Paul Shaviv spoke about CHAT's "vision, which is almost limitless." He called CHAT graduates "the educated backbone of the Jewish community.

"We don't educate the Orthodox, the Conservative, the Reform or the Reconstructionist – we educate Jews."

CHAT, he said, is a leader in North American Jewish education.

In its widest perspective, he went on, "every Jewish school is part of the post Holocaust rebuilding and healing of the Jewish people. Every student of every Jewish school is a precious part of Jewish history."

Norman Grill, a past president of CHAT, acknowledged the help and hard work of Mel Finklestein, Bernie Ghert, and Marty Goldberg.

Greetings on behalf of the State of Israel were brought by Jehudi Kinar, outgoing Israeli consul general to Toronto and greetings from UJA Federation were expressed by Alan Sandler.

A choir of CHAT students, conducted by Orly Kresh, presented a musical interlude.

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Beth Jacob V'Anshe Drildz	Ilana Kelman	6 pm
B'nai Torah Synagogue	Rebbetzin Rochel Leah Marcus	6:30 pm
Clanton Park Synagogue	Dr. Shoshana Kurtz	5 pm
Kehillat Shaarei Torah	Joyce Tradburks Margaret Klompas	11 am
Shaarei Shomayim Congregation	Ilana Sober	5 pm
Shaarei Tefillah Congregation	Rebbetzin Sarah Stern	5 pm

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Greater Toronto Area

BJE says goodbye to executive director

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO – At a somewhat bittersweet reception at the Lipa Green building last week, UJA Federation, the Board of Jewish Education (BJE) and the Toronto Jewish education world said farewell to Rabbi Jeremiah Unterman, for the past two years executive director of the BJE.

Rabbi Unterman, in an interview before the reception, told *The CJN* that while the Toronto Jewish community is "wonderful, [and] I have made many good friends here," he felt that the position didn't afford him the satisfaction of hands-on teaching.

He has accepted a senior educator's fellowship at Bar-Ilan University, where he will "take courses to retool as a day school principal."

The opportunity to spend a year in Israel was "too good to pass up," he said.

Rabbi Unterman said that during his tenure there were considerable strides in such areas as family and supplementary education, and special education. Staff has been added, and a comprehensive study of special needs children is underway.

Discussion has begun about a community supplementary high school, which he feels is essential, "especially since 75 percent of high school teens receive no Jewish education whatsoever."

The BJE has begun to pay more attention to providing increased funding to She'arim and Zareinu, and "is looking at expansion of both, and we are thrilled about the ongoing success of CHAT."

Finally, next year a pilot project will start in several of the day schools, called reflective practice.

He explained that "it seeks to train educational staff to address the non-academic needs of the children, to care for the students at a level akin to being a parent, with love and guidance."

Rabbi Unterman is concerned that "not enough leaders from the different spectrum are communicating with each other.

"We need to look for ways to pull together."

Some day, he said with a grin, people will recognize that "God is not over my right shoulder, and the devil isn't over my left one."

Rabbi Jeremiah Unterman chats with Zita Gardner, principal of Leo Baeck Day School, at his farewell reception at the Lipa Green Building.
[Photo courtesy of UJA Federation]

At the reception, attended by representatives of UJA Federation, BJE staff, educators, and friends, Rabbi Unterman was praised for his ability to work with those from all segments of the community, whether he agreed with them religiously or not.

Past BJE chair Sandy Brown, current president Shirley Worth, and BJE staffer Yael Seliger commented on his commitment and passion for Jewish education, and his "pluralistic vision," as Seliger described it.

He was presented with a book by UJA Federation, and by 18 trees planted in Israel by Jewish National Fund, which were announced by Ben Prossin, executive director of JNF, and Col. Yaen Vered, shaliach to JNF. Vered said that Rabbi Unterman's Judaism was "a Judaism without adjectives."

Rabbi Unterman said that he was grateful for the "friendships, wisdom, and kindness he experienced with colleagues and friends.

He said that the story of Miriam and Aaron slandering Moses, in the weekly Torah portion, showed that a true leader must act with humility, and respect for others, without compromising their own principles.

"They must treat their staff with respect and consideration, and then the success of the community will be assured.

"Thank you for the way you treated me this evening," he concluded emotionally.

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Associated Hebrew Schools launches new campus

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Parents, students, faculty, board and administration members, alumni and the community, came together recently to formally celebrate the opening of the Neptune Campus of Associated Hebrew Schools.

The 35,000-square-foot building has 12 classrooms, four pre-school rooms, a library, a multi-purpose room, offices and seminar rooms.

The school, which can serve 400 children from pre-school to Grade 6, is near capacity.

Even the students helped prepare for the event by creating special art projects which were displayed on the walls and on tables outside the auditorium.

Aurelia Ostro, president of the parent-teacher council, told the nearly 250 people attending, that all of the current students will get a special T-shirt, saying, I Got Here First.

Associated, she said, is proud that "its graduates are in all fields, and on all boards in the community."

Program chair Robin Gofine, said the Associated staff and its parent and student body is "like an extended family that grows from generation to generation," adding that many families had attended the school for several generations.

Representatives of the Posluns, Singer and Zagdanski families, who not only gave generous gifts, but worked hard to raise more funds, were presented with mezuzot, specially fashioned by Brenda Gasner Lass.

Keynote speaker Rabbi Haskel Lookstein, spiritual leader of Congregation Kehilath Jeshurun in New York, and principal of the Ramaz School, said it was "awe inspiring" to be present at the official opening, as he was three years ago at the beginning of the fund-raising effort for the construction of the new building.

Rabbi Lookstein said that the significance of what Associated has accomplished for its students is exemplified in the Book of Ruth, which is read in the synagogue during Shavuot. Those lessons, chesed and philanthropy, "are taught by example. The lessons of ethics and morality are caught, not taught."

Knowing the proper thing to do is important, Rabbi Lookstein said, but going the extra effort is what counts.

Both Orpah and Ruth were good and kind people who didn't want to abandon Naomi after the death of her husband and sons. At Naomi's urging, Orpah returned to her family. Ruth, however, stayed.

"The first reaction of both of them was to stay. They both had good intentions – but Ruth stuck to it," he said.

It is that effort that makes the whole difference in history, the rabbi said. Because of it, "Ruth's descendent David, was the ancestor of the Messiah.

"Abraham, who ran to greet and offer hospitality to strangers, even though he was ill, was told by God that his seed would be like the stars in heaven, and Rebecca was chosen as a wife for Isaac because she exerted herself to feed the camels as well as the travellers.

"Day school too takes extra effort – two curriculums, two faculties, a second language, longer hours, more expense," the rabbi said.

So too does *ahavat Yisroel* take extra effort. "It is no trick to love those who agree with you. It is much harder to love all those Jews with whom you don't agree with."

Referring to the Israeli election, which had just taken place, he said that "Shas has to love Meretz. Meretz has to love Mafdal. Labor has to love Benny Begin."

Without internal *ahavat Yisroel*, he warned, "Israel is in big trouble. It won't matter what happens with the Arabs."

Congratulating those who had donated large amounts to the new school, Rabbi Lookstein noted that "after a building is built, it takes lots of extra effort to keep it running."

Reform conference adopts new statement of principles

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — As a result of a new statement of principles adopted at a recent conference in Pittsburgh, Reform Judaism will emphasize traditions such as kashrut and Sabbath observance.

This is the gist of the reaction of most of the 12 Canadians who attended the four-day conference of the Central Conference of American Rabbis. The principles, subject to a lot of debate to clarify language, were approved by a vote of 324-68 on the final day.

The emphasis on tradition will not mean any immediate change in Reform congregations across Canada, but in the long run may mean more acceptance of kashrut and Sabbath observance, said Rabbi Paul Golomb, executive director, Canadian Council of Reform Judaism.

The only Canadian on the task force which drew up the principles, Rabbi Michael Stroh of Temple Har Zion, said the statement avoids specifics.

"I don't think Reform Jews will stop driving their cars on Shabbat, or avoid putting on their lights," said Rabbi Stroh.

The final vote, which approved the principles on a four-to-one basis, was an accurate indication of the way the Canadian rabbis voted, said Rabbi Golomb.

"The new principles are much bigger news in parts of the United States than in Canada, where the Reform movement has been more attached to tradition," said Rabbi Elyse Goldstein, director of Kolel Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning.

The new statement reflects fairly what Canadians of Reform persuasion are already doing, she said.

The laity in Canada will react rather quickly to the direction to be more observant, particularly in view of the massive publicity for the principles in the United States, she said.

Though he does not favor general statements, Rabbi Dow Marmur of Holy Blossom Temple, said he approves the emphasis on tradition, observance and inclusiveness, outlined in the principles.

"We will not turn any Jew away," he said.

At one point, a draft of the statement had approved kashrut and the wearing of kipot and tfillin during services but this was dropped in the final version.

The task force worked on the statement for two years and along the way it underwent six drafts and garnered more than 30 amendments.

It is a great change from the 1885 statement of principles, also adopted in Pittsburgh, which said kashrut and dietary rules no longer applied.

Among other things, the document affirms the importance of studying Hebrew, promotes lifelong Jewish learning, calls for observance of mitzvot, urges observance in some form of Shabbat and holidays, and encourages tikkun olam (social action) and tzedakah.

"The principles will liberate Reform Jews to say there is nothing in the Torah which is barred to me," said Rabbi Richard Levy, outgoing CCAR president.

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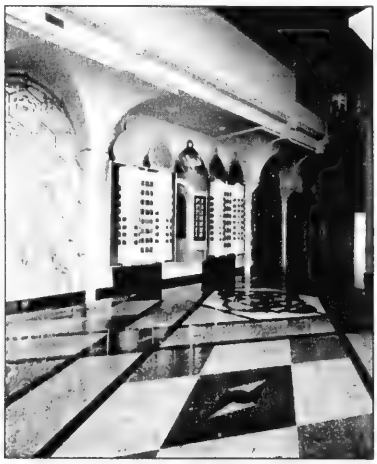

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Greater Toronto Area

Transport survivors to meet

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO —As children, they escaped the Holocaust on the *kinder* transport, and now, 61 years later, they are returning to Vienna for a week-long stay as guests of the Austrian government.

The group of 11, including some wives, leave for Vienna on June 19, although some will attend a reunion of *kinder* transport escapees in London, England, before going on to the Austrian capital.

In Vienna, they will meet the mayor, be dined and be taken on a tour of the city, as part of a program that includes a visit to the cemetery where some of their parents are buried. Meetings with high school students, and services at a local synagogue are also included.

The Canadian group is quite a diverse one, including Martin Maxwell, 75, who later joined the British army and took part as a glider pilot in the raid on Arnhem.

Maxwell, the president of National Home Products Ltd., which imports razor blades from Israel and earned a certificate from the Canadian-Israeli Chamber of Commerce, got to England as a boy of 14.

Another member of the group, Lisa Collier, was on a *kinder* transport which left for England on August 8, 1939. She is the only one of four surviving members of her family who came to Canada. The others live in the United States, Australia and Israel.

Brothers Arthur and Walter Steuerman were separated when they reached England. Walter was sent off with younger children. Their wives are joining them on the trip to Vienna.

Arthur Steuerman, who lost his parents at Auschwitz, was interned as a friendly alien when he arrived in Canada 59 years ago.

Paul Heiman, a *kinder* transport escapee, and his wife, Trudy, who escaped on foot in Czechoslovakia are both going to Vienna. They met 42 years ago in Toronto, by chance, when Paul offered Trudy a ride home since there was an hour-long wait for a bus in those days on Wilson Avenue.

They discovered they had lived parallel lives in their escape from the Nazis.

A keyboard player, Heiman entertained the troops with his own band following a bout of war work. The Heimans attended the first reunion of *kinder* transport people in England 10 years ago.

Max Kingston, 70, hopes to find out if the home where he was born in Lakenbach, Austria, and the synagogue he attended with his family, are still standing.

On an earlier trip to Vienna, 35 years ago, he learned that his mother died in Theresienstadt and his father in Auschwitz

Kingston and his older brother Egon who is deceased, lived with a family in Edinburgh, Scotland, for five years, before Kingston joined Egon in London as a cabinet maker.

Now semi-retired, Kingston came to Canada 31 years ago where he managed a lumber mill.

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"אנחנו הילדים של
חורף, שנת שבעים ושלוש,
חלמתם אותנו לראשונה עם שחר בתום הקרבות,
הייתם גברים עייפים שהחזו למזלם הטוב,
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הבטחתם אביב ופריחות
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שיר מרגש מאוד, ואם אינכם מכירים אותו- כדאי להקשיב לו ולהתרגש. אז קודם כל , בתור מי שנולדה לו בת ב -1974 לא הבטחנו! לא רק שלא הבטחנו, אלא שהזדעזענו כאשר חיים חפר שם בפי יהורם גאון את המלים "אני מבטיח לך, ילדה שלי קטנה - שזו תהיה המלחמה האחרונה". איך אפשר להבטיח שלא תהיה מלחמה! כאילו שזה תלוי רק בנו. זה , כמו שאומרים, אלמנט הפאתוס הישראלי.- זוכרים דברים כאילו הם גדולים מהחיים. אבל זו רק הערה שולית, כי באמת באמת- כולנו רצינו שלום וקיוינו לכל מה שהשיר קיוה.

ועכשיו לדברין של אהוד ברק: " אני, שלבשתי מדים משך עשרות שנים כדי להגן על חיי ועל חיינו, אני, שהקשבתי לדממת המוות של חברי, חיילי, מפקדי ופיקודיי, אני שעמדתי מהוסס ומפוחד ונרתע בפני דלתותיהן של משפחות שכולות.הבטחתם לקיים הבטחות, אומר השיר, ואני מבטיח הלילה לקיים את ההבטחות".

יש לי הרבה כבוד לאיש הזה על דבריו ועל דרך חייו,ואני מקווה ומתפלל שיוכל להמשיך את מה שהתחיל מורו ורבו, האיש שהביא אותו לפוליטיקה הישראלית, יצחק רבין.

שבר ענן :

ידידי מרדכי בן דת, עורך CJN, תיאר כך את התוצאות:

"There has been a thunderclap of change in Israel."

שבר הענן הזה, לדברי מרדכי, יהדהד בכל העולם היהודי ובעולם כולו. ניתן להניח שהעולם המערבי יתמוך במנהיג ליבראלי כמו ברק, ואולי לכן גם יתמוך בדרישות בטחוניות מוצדקות של ישראל, בניגוד לנתניהו שגרם לפריחה וגרוד לכל מנהיגי העולם החופשי.

ומה עכשיו:

הבעיה הרצינית הראשונה שעומדת בפני ברק, לדעתי, נובעת מההבדל בין מה טוב לשלום בבין מה שטוב לבוחריו אין שום ספק שבוחריו בצדק מאמינים שאין הוא מוכן לכפייה דתית ולשחטנות חרדית, , שאכן הגיע הזמן לתרבות ישראלית חדשה. מכאן החתמת עצומות שלא לכלול את ש"ס בממשלה. מאידך גיסא- ש"ס הינה מפלגה מאוד פראגמאטית בנושא השלום , ותמכה ללא בעיה בהסכם אוסלו. מאחר וברק הינו אסטרטג מעולה, יתכן שקודם יבנה ממשלה צרה, ואחרי ש"ס (שחייבת להיות בשלטון כדי לממן את מכונת החינוך שלה) תגלה שאין היא לשון המאזניים, יצליח לצרף אותה לקואליציה בלי שתשלוט במשרד הפנים או בכל נקודת כוח אחרת. בקיצור, מחכים לנו חודשים מעניינים. אבל שישאר בינינו.

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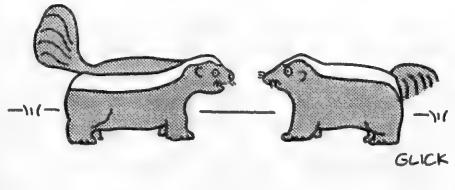

"Gee, people are so afraid of a little shpritz!"

Greater Toronto Area

Hadassah-WIZO honors Barbara Amiel Black

By SHEILA DROPKIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Barbara Amiel Black recently expressed her opinions about current Israeli issues at Toronto Hadassah-WIZO's annual Youth Aliyah luncheon.

In referring to the Israeli elections, Amiel said she was disappointed at former prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu, whom she accused of being intransigent over petty matters and unnecessarily provocative.

"His drive to retain power at any cost," she said, "distorted his judgment. He tried to please everyone and betrayed all."

Barbara Amiel Black

Wishing Prime Minister-elect Ehud Barak well, she said that in the long run it wouldn't really matter who won. "Ultimately all Israeli governments will have the same hurdle to jump – mainly the refusal by the Arab nations to accept Israel as a fact.

"The best we can hope for in our lifetime is a series of armistices," she said, adding that she believes it will take many generations before there is true peace between Israel and her neighbors.

Israel's ultimate "war aim" is peace, she said, but the goal for the Arabs, on the other hand, is to defeat Israel.

She then provided examples of what she described as the Arabs' continuous and open hatred of Israel, including the deliberate omission of Israel from maps, deceitful and inciteful remarks by leaders of the Palestinian Authority, hostility by so-called moderate Arabs, the labelling of the Yad Vashem Holocaust memorial as a "centre of lies," and distortions in the history textbooks used by Arab children.

Looking at the situation in Kosovo, she said that to compare it with the Holcoaust is "muddled and flabby thinking.

"I am not indifferent to the suffering of the Kosovars, but to suggest in any way that they are equal to the Jews' suffering under the Third Reich is inconceiveable. The Jews didn't have the luxury of deportation [to a safe haven]; they were deported to concentration camps."

She cautioned that everyone "must politely listen to Israel's critics and refute them with knowledge."

She concluded by saying that she carries her own shame for not standing up strongly enough for Israel, both inside and outside the Jewish community. "Today is a good time to begin."

Proceeds of the luncheon will help fund the Netanya Technological High School, the Ben Yakir Youth Village for troubled teenage boys, and the Hadassah-WIZO Canada Research and Residential Institute in Jerusalem for developmentally disabled children.

Other speakers included Canadian Hadassah-WIZO national president Patricia Albert, Toronto president Sharon Kroft and Toronto Youth Aliyah campaign chair Ros Lewis. In addition, Ruti Kinar brought greetings on behalf of her husband, Jehudi Kinar, Israel's consul general to Toronto.

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Panelists at women's seminar preach financial awareness

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Knowledge is power, was the consensus among four panelists at a recent seminar on Financial Empowerment for Women.

The seminar, presented by Jewish Women's Federation and UJA Federation Women's Campaign at the Lipa Green Building, featured tax accountant Charlotte Haber, succession and tax planning expert Deborah Stern, family lawyer Anne Freed, and estate planning lawyer Tammy Anklewicz. Paula Stark, investment adviser at Nesbitt Burns, moderated the discussion.

"I'm sure you'd feel more comfortable talking about intimate issues like your sex lives or health matters, than you do talking about money," said Stark. "Tonight we're here to let you know that it's okay to ask, it's never too late to ask, and that no question is too unimportant."

Money will not take care of itself, she stressed.

Haber, who advises women in situations of divorce, widowhood and new business ventures, discussed the importance of knowing where family assets come from, how they grow, other sources of income, and the control one has over those issues.

A business, even an unincorporated one, may provide an opportunity to pay discretionary salaries to spouses and children, thus providing tax benefits, she noted.

The spouse who serves as employer (or whose family serves as employer) has greater power, she said. Divorcing women who no longer receive a salary from their husbands' business have little or no power, but their power is greater if they are shareholders and/or hold directorships, she said.

Haber advised women to, at minimum, understand the sources of their cash flow, and if possible to increase their involvement in the business.

She also advised the audience to become involved in investment decisions, read the business section in the newspaper and make sure RRSPs are built up in their own names.

Anklewicz, the estate planning lawyer, focused on the importance of planning ahead.

Marriage contracts don't have to take away the romance if they're approached properly, Anklewicz believes.

In a case study of a 26-year-old dentist, a marriage contract could "protect Zayde's gift" (inheritance money used to buy a home) and keep the couple's practices separate, at the same time specifying that "everything else we build together we will share."

If a couple moves to a different jurisdiction, Anklewicz noted later, their marriage contract should be reviewed by a local matrimonial lawyer.

The dentist might also want to update her will. Following marriage her entire estate goes to her husband unless she has indicated otherwise, explained Anklewicz.

Taking the case further, it would also be in order for the dentist's parents to examine their wills and powers of attorney, given the implications of the marriage – not to mention their son's upcoming move to the United States.

Having a Canadian resident as executor could avoid negative tax implications, Anklewicz noted.

For the next generation up in the family, illness is a concern. If the grandfather has to go into an institution, will there be enough money to maintain him and his wife in two separate places?

Also, the grandfather needs a power of attorney (and an alternate if his wife, his first choice, becomes incapacitated). Otherwise, she may not be able to sell their jointly owned home without an expensive and lengthy legal process, Anklewicz explained.

"If we don't take control when we're young and healthy...or older and not so healthy but when we still have our capacity," she said, "we can be in a situation where the government comes in and takes control over our financial affairs."

Women had better know who their lawyer, accountant and family investment adviser are, said Anklewicz. "Nothing's worse than a lack of knowledge and a fear to ask for help."

Stern, a partner in KPMG, discussed RRSPs, and reminded self-employed women that they should be paying themselves a salary, as long as it is reasonable and for services actually rendered.

The rule of thumb regarding borrowing to make an RRSP contribution, is to do so only if the loan can be repaid within a year, or if you are temporarily in a higher tax bracket.

Stern also noted that unused contributions may be carried forward and put in the RRSP any time before the contributor turns 69.

Freed, the family lawyer, believes financial knowledge can help a marriage stay intact. It is also very helpful in the event of marriage breakdown, she noted.

"Know what you're signing and why," Freed advised. "If you're remortgaging a house for your husband's business, understand all the ramifications, both good and bad. Ask all the questions you need to."

Freed also noted that it's not too late for married women to have a marriage contract drawn up. For engaged women, she recommended not leaving it till the last minute.

"If in doubt, simply make an appointment to see a lawyer for a consultation. Two hundred and fifty dollars may be well worth it."

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Zack Fenwick, 10 (left) and Cori Fenwick, eight, both from United Synagogue Day Schools, are all smiles after their parents, Paul and Debbie, bought bids for a recent walk-on on the set of the TV show *La Femme Nikita*. The episode will air in September. Shown with them is Peta Wilson, star of the show.

A Tribute to Israel

The Canadian Jewish news

HUMANE, HUMANITARIAN AND A HAVEN

The 3-month-old crisis in Kosovo has not only tested the resolve, emotions and morality of the west, it has tested the very values that western society purports to live by. Israel's response to the crisis has been humane and humanitarian. In the above photo we see a refugee from Kosovo clutching her recently born infant. Her Israeli obstetrician, part of a 70-member Israeli medical team, is standing beside her. The Israeli medical team set up a 100-bed field hospital in Macedonia for refugees from Kosovo. At right, is the first group of more than 100 Muslim Kosovar refugees arriving in Israel where they have found shelter and haven. It is fitting therefore, that we use these photos as the springboard for the ensuing 11 pages of *A Tribute to Israel*.

[Israel Sun photos]

Tribute to Israel

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Israel braces itself for record number of visitors

By GAIL LICHTMAN
WZPS

The Wall is to be adapted to accommodate increased numbers of visitors while preserving its sanctity. [Joseph Serge photo]

The year 2000 is presenting the State of Israel with a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to be the spiritual, cultural and religious showplace of world tourism, with the anticipated four to six million visitors being touted as the answer to Israel's flagging tourism industry – the needed boost to put this sector back on track after three years of slumping numbers.

There is no doubt that with an estimated input of $3.4 billion into the Israeli economy and the creation of some 50,000 new jobs, the 2000 boom has all the makings of a tourism bonanza. But it also has the makings of a disaster. Will Israel be prepared to accommodate more than double the number of tourists it presently gets? No room at the inn could prove just as disastrous as not enough guests.

At the beginning of 1998, the Israeli government established the Israel 2000 Authority within the Ministry of Tourism, to coordinate, supervise and encourage the relevant government ministries and authorities to plan and prepare for the year 2000. In addition, a joint interministerial committee, including the ministries of Tourism, Foreign Affairs and Religious Affairs, was established to work in conjunction with various churches in coordinating millennial events and festivities.

In 1998-99, $92.5 million was allocated to tourism infrastructure development around the country. Of that amount, $62.5 million is being invested in projects directly connected with the year 2000.

A major focus of this development is Jerusalem, for as the spiritual centre of the three great monotheistic religions – Judaism, Christianity and Islam – that city is Israel's major tourist attraction. More than 80 percent of all tourists to the country– approximately 60 percent are Christians and 27 percent are Jews – visit Jerusalem for an average of four days.

In light of the great importance Christianity attaches to pilgrimages to the Holy Land in the year 2000, and as a result of the expected visit of Pope John Paul II, the Ministry of Tourism estimates that Christian tourism will make up approximately 65 percent of all tourism to Israel in the year 2000.

Working with the Jerusalem municipality, the Government Tourist Corporation and the Company of East Jerusalem, the Ministry of Tourism has established a steering committee to oversee tourism development in the Holy City. The committee will develop tourism infrastructure for hotels, new tourist sites and commercial attractions.

Some 20 percent of the ministry's overall tourism budget has been designated for Jerusalem, with additional sums being provided by the other partners, as well as the Jerusalem municipality.

The main projects (costs in U.S. dollars) are:

The King's Valley — At a cost of some $12.5 million, the Kidron Valley, which is bordered by the Mount of Olives, the Garden of Gethsemane, the Temple Mount and the Ben Hinnom Valley, is to be turned into the King's Valley open air museum by creating a geographical, chronological tourist route with walkways and roads linking the valley's various sites. These include the City of David, the Ophel Promenade, the Lion's Gate, Gethsemane and the Gihon Spring.

The City Centre — Jerusalem's downtown is set for a $5-million infrastructure facelift designed to create a variety of new attractions, places of entertainment and accommodations.

The Old City — Some $2.5

Continued on page 27

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Tribute to Israel

Israel 2000: Will there be enough room at the inn?

Continued from page 26

million is slated for improving existing tourist sites and preparing them to receive large numbers of visitors.

The Western Wall — The Wall will be adapted at a cost of $3.5 million to accommodate increased numbers of visitors while maintaining its sanctity.

Illumination of Sites — About $32.5 million is being invested in illuminating Jerusalem structures with distinctive architectural character in order to beautify the city. When completed, this project will illuminate some 100 unique structures all over town, including the walls of the Old City, Mishkenot Sha'ananim, the Nablus Gate, and the Mount of Olives. In addition, more tourist signposts will be going up, as well as a tourist information centre next to City Hall.

Hotel Promotion — There are about 8,000 hotel rooms in Jerusalem today. Another 2,000 rooms are currently under construction, with building permits issued for an additional 2,000. The Ministry of Tourism is promoting hotel building in different areas of the city, and hopes by the year 2006 to add up to 10,000 rooms.

In addition to infrastructure, the ministry is working on promoting Jerusalem as a tourist site to the world at large. A $26 million a year media campaign for 1999 and 2000 will include advertising, seminars for travel agents and the production of posters and brochures.

But the big question remains – will Israel be ready? And ready for what numbers?

At a meeting in Jerusalem in March 1999, Monsignor Librio Andriatta, director of the Vatican's official travel agency, told Israel's minister of tourism, Moshe Katsav, that he expects six million Christian pilgrims to come to Israel during the year 2000, an increase of more than 50 percent over the figures the ministry has been using as the basis for its planning.

Jerusalem hoteliers were delighted, having suffered through the past year with prolonged periods of under 50 percent occupancy. But critics say that the ministry's preparations for even four million visitors won't be ready in time, let alone six million. And the larger figures could result in a nightmarish shortage of accommodations.

Shlomo Ilya, director of the Israel 2000 Authority, expressed fears that Ben-Gurion Airport will not be able to handle increased traffic, and urged the government to make urgent plans to improve conditions at the airport in order to facilitate the arrival of tourists. Shortly after he spoke out, the government announced that border control would be moving from the responsibility of the police to the Ministry of the Interior.

Ilya also has nightmares about access to Christian holy sites, which are concentrated mainly in the Old City, where the narrow roads present serious transportation problems. He claims that the infrastructure just cannot accommodate more taxis and buses, and that gargantuan traffic jams are likely to ensue.

Despite the problems envisioned, the Ministry of Tourism and those in the industry remain optimistic, choosing to focus instead on the great opportunity that the year 2000 holds to put Israeli tourism back on the world map.

Arab women in the Old City, where $2.5 million is slated for improving existing tourist sites. [Joseph Serge photo]

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TRAVEL TALK

BY BILL GLADSTONE

ISRAEL GEARS UP FOR MILLENNIUM WAVE

The Israel Government Tourist Office in Toronto recently launched a $250,000 marketing campaign aimed at persuading Christian Canadians to visit Israel during the coming Christian millennium year.

A series of print ads urge Canadians to celebrate the start of the world's next thousand years in Israel — "the land where time began" and "the official destination of the millennium." The ads are intended for the *Toronto Star, Globe and Mail* and several Christian publications.

The radio spots drive home a similar message by declaring that "Here in Canada, we measure time from day to day, week to week," but "Israel measures time from century to century, millennium to millennium."

Visitors to Israel are bound to notice the heightened preparations for the millennium. In many areas, but especially in Nazareth, Bethlehem and the Galilee, much construction of new roads and hotels is evident. Many homes and hostels are being converted to hotels to accommodate the wave of tourists.

* * *

Israel Trip for Students: Toronto Jewish high school students are invited to join a unique summer program in Ulpan Akivah, Netanya, Israel. Participants receive a complete immersion into Israeli culture and society with extensive touring, encounters with Israeli youth, seminars with leading Israeli public figures, and Hebrew lessons.

The subsidized cost, including flight, is $3,000. July 5 to 31. Contact Itia Golan, 905-886-6770 or Israel Experience, 398-6931.

* * *

New Hotel in Eilat: It's for good reason that the Red Sea port city of Eilat is sometimes called the Miami Beach of Israel. The recent opening of Herods Palace, a 330-room Sheraton luxury hotel, along with two other new facilities, will bring Eilat's hotel room total to roughly 12,000. The city's population is 50,000, which roughly translates into one hotel room for every four residents.

Herods Palace centres on historical themes from room decor to staff costumes, and includes a 64-room lifestyle and fitness resort as well as a meetings facility slated to open this summer. Incidentally, Eilat's sparkling new Sheraton has a Toronto connection as it was designed by Yoav Igra, a Toronto resident for some 30 years.

* * *

Frequent Flyer Bonus: El Al recently announced a reciprocal frequent flyer agreement with American Airlines — the first time Israel's national airline has entered into such an arrangement.

The agreement allows members of El Al's Matmid and Loyal Traveller Club to accumulate and redeem bonus points on all American Airlines and American Eagle flights. Accordingly, American Airlines Advantage members can also earn and exchange mileage for award tickets on El Al.

For further information, see the El Al web site at www.elal.com.

* * *

Let There Be Light: Beit Shean, one of Israel's most popular tourist attractions, is the site of the country's largest continuing archeological excavations. Beit Shean, located in the Jordan Valley southeast of Haifa, is a sort of Middle Eastern Pompeii — an ancient city buried beneath tonnes of earth. Much of Beit Shean has been uncovered, revealing Roman houses, streets, an amphitheatre and other impressive ruins.

Until now, Beit Shean has been a daylight destination: it's just too dark for visitors to enjoy once the sun goes down. However, the town recently hired an illuminations expert to brighten things up in order to attract restaurants, hotels, and, of course, tourists.

* * *

Crusaders at Israel Museum: Opening in July at the Israel Museum, Jerusalem, is Knights of the Cross: In the Path of the Crusaders. This exhibition provides a comprehensive history of the Crusades and their impact on the Land of Israel, through sculptures and reliefs, illuminated manuscripts, reliquaries, coins and many other art objects from the Crusader period.

The show commemorates 900 years since the First Crusade and the founding of the Crusader Kingdom. Until November. [www.imj.org.il.]

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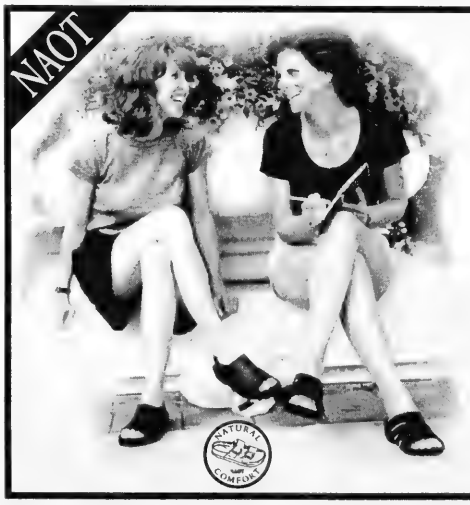

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Tribute to Israel

Realizing a vision: 'Hebrew-speaking' seeing-eye dogs

By RUTH HEIGES
WZPS

Motti Barzilai is the picture of confidence as he strides along the streets of Tel Aviv, gently issuing commands in Hebrew to Charlie, a chocolate-colored Labrador Retriever.

It's hard to believe that for 13 years Barzilai never left his home in Safed on his own. The fact that he can do so today is all due to Charlie, a "graduate" of the Israel Guide Dog Centre for the Blind.

"Isn't he the most beautiful dog you've ever seen," asks Barzilai, making it sound more like a statement than a question.

Though he had learned to use a long cane, Barzilai disliked the image this projected, preferring to navigate, instead, with his hand on the shoulder of a family member. A guide dog was out of the question. The woman who had once trained them in Israel had died years before, leaving no successor, so only those with a sufficient command of English and the financial means could obtain such dogs by travelling to the United States.

In spite of having been left visually impaired after a childhood mishap, Barzilai led a rich life, ultimately studying music and becoming director of a conservatory in Safed. Within the limited bounds of his world, he found ways to cope when he totally lost his residual vision 17 years ago.

While determined to continue leading a full life, he couldn't have known that a young Israeli had embarked on a mission; one which would have great impact on Barzilai's world. Noach Braun had plans to become a guide-dog trainer and mobility instructor, so that "Hebrew-speaking" dogs could be trained in Israel for appropriate candidates.

As he sits in the quiet gardens of the training centre, located at Moshav Beit Oved, near Rehovot, Braun finds it hard to explain what fired his determination to become a trainer. Having been a dog trainer during his army services and later working at the Hai Bar Nature Preserve, he was simply "looking for an occupation that would combine working with animals and people."

The long and difficult path he had to travel to accomplish this would have daunted anyone without such a sense of mission, but Braun and his future wife, Orna, whom he had met while living on Kibbutz Kabri, set off for the United States on a quest.

"I had no idea that the various training schools are in such intense competition with each other and that they are almost paranoid about taking in new people," Braun explains. "As an Israeli, and with no financial resources, I might as well have been from another planet."

Meanwhile, he started volunteering at the Jewish Guild for the Blind in New York, and contacted the Israeli Consulate in the hopes of connecting up with someone who could help him. This turned out to be Norman Leventhal, who had been involved in the Soviet Jewry Council of Greater Philadelphia. He received a call one day from the consul in charge of the Soviet Jewry desk.

"The name of the consul was Yeshaya Barzel," Leventhal relates, "and he told me that he had never met anyone so focused on what they wanted to do in life. I told him I had never met a blind person and didn't have a dog, but I'd be glad to meet the young man and help

Continued on page 30

Exhibit makes merry

The jugs in which King Herod of Judea imported his wine from Italy. An Egyptian brewery model from the second millennium BCE.

These items are among the artifacts inaugurating the Israel Museum's millennial celebrations this summer. Spanning a period of 5,000 years, the exhibition, Drink and Be Merry: Wine and Beer in Ancient Times, traces the history of wine and beer in the land of Israel.

Featuring rare loans from international museums, the exhibition covers the period from the fourth millennium BCE to the Byzantine period in the fifth and sixth centuries CE., concentrating on history and archeology in ancient Israel.

The exhibition opens June 3 and runs through Jan. 1, 2000 in Jerusalem.

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Tribute to Israel

Dog trainer helps blind Israelis lead a full life

Motti Barzilai, with his guide dog Charlie, a "graduate" of the Israel Guide Dog Center. [WZPS photo]

Continued from page 29

him if I could."

Once Leventhal and Braun met in December 1986, both of their lives changed. Through the combined efforts of the Jewish Guild for the Blind and Lions International, a partnership achieved by Leventhal, Braun was accepted for training at Pilot Dogs in Columbus, Ohio. This included arranging an annual grant for him that would be forgiven, gradually, if and when he returned to Israel and established a training centre. Ultimately, his wife Orna also participated in a course. Then, Leventhal arranged for Braun to undergo further training in England, at the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association.

"Noach kept in close contact with me," says Leventhal, "and I started to learn a little about why it was so important to have a guide dog centre in Israel. It didn't take much convincing to realize the importance of this humanitarian endeavor."

As a result, Leventhal and his wife travelled to Israel, met with guide-dog owners, and learned firsthand of the importance of having a school for training guide dogs in Israel. "Soon after, I made the decision to create a non-profit organization so we could raise funds to start the school, as Noach would need funding when he finished his training."

Soon, the man who had never met a blind person before nor owned a dog, established the Israel Guide Dog Centre for the Blind, a U.S. tax-exempt organization that supports the school and training centre in Israel. Between Leventhal's unflagging work in the United States and the dedicated work of Noach and Orna Braun in Israel, the lives of at least 20 blind Israelis and their families change every year.

At Beit Oved, operations are a family affair,with Orna supervising (and cleaning) the kennels and teaching the dogs discipline, and Noach involved in both training the dogs and overseeing a massive volunteer effort. The latter includes a large network of families who take care of puppies for a year, until they are old enough for training.

The centre has seven brood dogs, two at the centre and five with adoptive families, with each being bred once a year. In addition, suitable puppies are sent in from around the world; primarily Golden Retrievers, Labradors, and some German Shepherds. Veterinary expenses are covered by the centre. All supplies are provided to the foster families and to the centre, and the dogs are visited monthly to monitor progress. At the end of a year, the families hand the dogs over to commence the training process.

Once the dogs arrive at the centre, they are evaluated for temperament and other factors. If one is found unsuitable, the foster family is given first-refusal rights for adopting the dog. Then, those judged as good candidates start the six-month training program.

Braun has sponsored additional Israelis to become dog trainers and mobility instructors, and they now work with him. "I never again want it to happen – that Israel is left with a vacuum in this field," he says vehemently.

During the training period, the instructors work with each animal, both in the placid atmosphere of the moshav and in the noise of the city. They ride escalators in busy malls, travel on buses, go out into jostling crowds, banks, restaurants, grocery stores – every conventional, real-life environment where the dogs will be expected to serve.

Finally, the exciting day arrives when they are introduced to their future owners. Currently, the centre has living facilities for four people at a time. They spend three weeks at the centre with their designated dogs, learning how to work together as a team. Then, an additional week of instruction takes place in their own homes, with the trainer living in for that week.

This painstaking process yields only about 20 successful guide dogs per year, while about 80 people are waiting for them at any one time.

By the end of 1998, about 100 Israelis will have achieved their personal independence. One such graduate phoned the centre at the end of the first week on his own with his dog, having just returned from a walk in Tel Aviv: "It was like I was flying. I feel that I'm free as a bird."

(See http://www.israelguidedog.org. on the Internet or write to igdcb@nni.com. In the United Kingdom aka@clara.net).

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Tribute to Israel

Sophisticated technology helps solve country's water crisis

By SIMON GRIVER
WZPS

The nightmare scenario in which Israel would run out of water has finally been laid to rest, thanks to a sophisticated range of technologies that have been able to compensate for the lack of rainfall in the region.

This, together with efficient water management, has ensured that optimal use is made of the limited amount of water that Israel does have.

"Israel's water resources simply cannot meet future needs," explains Meirav Azulai, spokesperson for the government owned Mekorot Water Company, a public utility which has overall responsibility for developing the country's national water supply systems. "Consequently, we have had to focus on new technologies and more efficient systems."

The Heart of the Problem

At the heart of Israel's water problem is a semi-arid climate with regional and seasonal rainfall inequalities. Northern Israel enjoys a relatively generous annual average rainfall of 700 millimitres while the south receives just 20 mm in a year. But the abundant rainfall in the north and centre of Israel, though similar in amount to the annual precipitation in Western Europe, falls in just a few heavy storms between November and March. In addition, during the long, hot rainless summers, much of the water that is saved is lost through evaporation.

During 1997, Israelis used about two billion cubic metres of water. Mekorot supplied two-thirds of this amount, while municipalities and regional councils supplied the remainder from local wells. Agriculture used nearly half of the water consumed in Israel, domestic use accounting for 40 percent, and industry and other uses for the remainder.

Aquifers and the National Water Carrier

About one-third of the country's new water comes from the Sea of Galilee and the River Jordan which feeds it, while nearby, a third is contained in the Ta'ananim-Yarkon underground water arabesque which lies beneath Israel's inland plains between Haifa and Tel Aviv.

"In 1997 alone, we pumped 27 million cubic metres back into this and other aquifers," says Azulai, "to ensure that the underground water table did not get too low."

Israel has done remarkably well in making a limited amount of water go a long way. The National Water Carrier is one of the country's outstanding achievements, carrying water from the relatively wet north to the parched south. The invention of drip irrigation on Negev kibbutz Hatzerim in the 1960's was another factor in "making the desert bloom" and enabling the country to become self-sufficient in food, as well as export $1.5 billion (US) worth of fruit, vegetables, flowers and cotton each year.

Minimizing Water Loss and Inducing Rain

Computerized remote-controlled systems, as well as state-of-the-art monitoring, minimize water losses – a major problem even in the developed world. New seismological technologies have also assisted Mekorot in locating new underground wells. Furthermore, cloud seeding, which involves pilots flying into clouds and injecting them with iodine, thus inducing the clouds to release more water, has increased rainfall by an estimated 15 percent. Nevertheless, with Israel's current population of six million set to double in the next 40 years, it doesn't seem possible that water supply can keep pace with demand.

Purifying Sewage Water

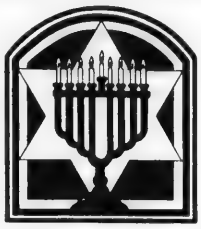
But there are technological solutions. The first is sewage. A purification process has been developed which enables urban effluence to be cleaned and used for agriculture. Mekorot officials claim that the reclaimed water is clean enough to drink, but at present the Ministry of Health only allows the water to be used for agriculture. In 1997, Mekorot supplied Negev farmers with 129.4 million cubic metres of reclaimed water from the Greater Tel Aviv area. This amount is set to increase with sewage purification plants currently being constructed by the Ashdod, Netanya, Afula and Carmiel municipalities. Not only does sewage reclamation make a substantial amount of water available, it also offers environmental benefit as vast amounts of sewage are disposed off.

Desalination

However, the recycling of sewage water alone will not be able to meet Israel's future water demand. The real solution is desalination. Israel already has 24 desalination plants in the south, transforming the salty waters of the Red Sea and the saline geothermal waters beneath the Negev and Arava into fresh drinking water. In 1997, Mekorot supplied 44,000 cubic metres of desalinated water, including half of Eilat's water supply.

Yitzhak Kiriati, head of the Israel Export Institute's agricultural department, sees the country's pioneering reverse osmosis desalination technology as a major potential export industry.

"At present it costs us $1.20 to desalinate each cubic metre of water," he observes. "With technological fine-tuning and the construction of larger scale facilities we can probably get that cost down to 70 cents a cubic metre. For a development country like Israel, that's a small price to pay for guaranteed water supplies. But for the other countries in the Middle East and developing nations with a scarcity of water resources, desalination is probably too expensive a solution. Nevertheless, it can be an effective regional solution in some poorer countries that want to develop, say, a tourist infrastructure in an arid location."



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Tribute to Israel

The Galilee is a big attraction for Christians

By JOSEPH SERGE
Travel Editor

About six million visitors – mostly Christian pilgrims – are expected to visit Israel next year to mark the millennium.

The majority of these visitors will undoubtedly visit the Galilee region of Israel, where tradition holds Jesus spent most of his life.

Starting in Nazareth, this region can be done in a day on an organized tour, although a serious visitor will want to take more time.

Cruising on the Sea of Galilee. [Joseph Serge photo]

Nazareth, traditionally the site Jesus grew up in, probably holds much disappointment for the pilgrims who flock here. The narrow streets are busy, and developments clutter the otherwise pretty hillside.

Of course, there are many churches here of various dominations. The most significant is the Basilica of the Annunciation – a modern structure built on the site where tradition holds an angel appeared to Mary and told her she was pregnant (the annunciation).

(Most of the churches here and other parts of Israel were built on traditional sites of some religious significance. Whether or not you believe the event in question took place on that site depends on your level of cynicism.)

You should know that the early Christians – many of whom believed in the imminence of the Messianic Age – did not attach any significance to the sites of Christ's life. It wasn't until the fifth century that Christians visited the Holy Land and started to build churches.)

This basilica is on the site of an 18th-century church, which itself was built over a fifth century Byzantine church. The basilica hosts a collection of murals depicting Mary and Jesus, donated from Christian churches worldwide. Unfortunately, the Canadian contribution is probably the least imaginative.

For the record, the Greek Orthodox operate another church, St.Gabriel's, where they claim the annunciation took place. Of significance here is a spring which supplies Mary's Well, which is said to have healing powers.

Just northeast of Nazareth is Cana, the site Christians believe Jesus performed his first miracle, turning water into wine at a wedding. Of course, a church stands at the site this miracle took place, this one a Franciscan church. Since this church was built on the site of an ancient synagogue – the tradi-

Continued on page 33

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Tribute to Israel

Churches commemorate sites of Gospel stories

Continued from page 32

tional meeting place for Jews of Christ's era– it is likely that the miracle did in fact take place here.

Not far from here is an excellent panoramic site, Mount Tabor. Christians believe this is the site of Jesus' transfiguration, when he was seen talking with Moses and Elijah. Two churches on the summit – one Franciscan, one Greek – commemorate this event. At a height of 580 metres, the view is absolutely stunning.

North of Nazareth is Tiberias and the Sea of Galilee (Kinneret). It is in Capernaum in Tiberias that Jesus began his ministry, and some of his apostles were fishermen from this fresh-water sea.

Tiberias is also one of Israel's holiest cities to Jews as it was here that the Mishnah was completed and vowels, and punctuation added to the Hebrew alphabet.

In Capernaum you can visit the remains of an old synagogue. Across from this is St. Peter's Church (Terra Sancta), a small church built in the shape of a fishing boat.

Down on the Sea of Galilee, you should take a boat ride. After a day travelling through the hot, desert climate, this 35-minute peaceful ride is sure to be refreshing.

Sticking to the "when in Rome..." tradition of travelling, you might want to try a St. Peter's Fish dinner in Tiberias, although it isn't cheap.

North of Tiberias is Migdal (Magdala), the birthplace of Mary Magdalene. Of course a church marks the site of her house.

Slightly further north is Tabgha, a serene place which houses the Church of the Multiplication of the Loaves and Fishes. Built over a fourth-century church, the current building was built in 1936. At the foot of the altar is an ancient mosaic depicting two fish and a basket of loaves.

Another church, the Church of the Primacy of Peter, is supposed to be built on the site where Jesus appeared to Peter following his resurrection. There is a flat rock in front of the altar, which it is said was the table at which Jesus and his disciples ate.

The Church of the Mount of Beatitudes commemorates the place Jesus gave one of his more popular sermons.

The River Jordan at Kibbutz Kinneret is green, lush and beautiful. Many Christians, like this group of Eastern Orthodox, make a special pilgrimage to this point on the river to be baptized. [Joseph Serge photos]

Finally, not far from Tiberias, is Kibbutz Kinneret, which many Christian pilgrims flock to because of the baptism site on the River Jordan. The river here is very green, lush and beautiful, and if you time it right you can watch groups of new Christians being baptized. Already-baptized Christians also walk in to get their feet wet in the "holy water".

What they might not know, perhaps, is that Jesus would have been baptized a lot further south near Jericho in the West Bank, but for strategic locations that area is closed to visitors.

Egged Tours runs day-long visits to these sites from most hotels in Jerusalem or Tel-Aviv. Although be warned, they are quick "now you see it, now you don't" tours. The only good thing is that after visiting these sites you can climb back on the bus and close your eyes for the two-hour journey back to Jerusalem.

If you do manage to stay awake, there's a fair amount of interesting sites along the main road, including lots of fruit-filled kibbutzim, and various Bedouin settlements along the dry, sun-drenched desert.

Joseph Serge travelled to Israel courtesy of El Al, and in Jerusalem was a guest of the Sheraton Plaza Hotel.

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Tribute to Israel

OMISSION

In the story "The Art of Ketubah Will Live Through the New Millennium" (*CJN* Party Supplement, June 3), we inadvertently misidentified the artists of the ketubot pictured. The one at left, Pri Hagefen, was done by Rebecca Shore, and Land of Israel is by Ardyn Halter.

The Science Garden is full of wonder and adventure

By RUTH HEIGES
WZPS

A wave machine rises into the sky; the TrampoLuna cuts one's weight to only one-sixth, simulating the feeling one might have walking on the moon; a full rainbow materializes in full-circle glory, rivaling nature in a way that would have cheered Noah.

Scientific experiments have burst out of the laboratories of the Weizmann Institute of Science, transforming part of the pastoral campus into a landscape which children might see as a giant's playground. For the young, it's a day at a theme park. For the inquisitive, it's fun with science on the grandest scale imaginable. For all, it's an experience filled with wonder.

Based on the success of a pilot consisting of 30 hands-on installations manifesting scientific principles, the internationally renowned research centre has given over a number of acres of its campus in Rehovot to an expanded adventure of 100 installations for children, youth and their families.

Some of the installations represent ongoing research at the institute, with all laboratory elements replicated. These include elaborate water systems and arrays of solar collectors, the latter used for powering some of the exhibits or serving as a functional element. The water height of a solar-powered fountain, for instance, is dependent upon available sunlight. Visitors are able to manipulate the various components and observe the immediate effects of their actions.

The Boyo is designed as a giant yo-yo in reverse, where the visitor does the moving while the yo-yo stays in its cradle. [WZPS photo]

"The word experiment shares the same root as the word experience," notes Hanan Alon, vice-president of international affairs and public relations. "We have tried to create a visit that is just that – turning our world of research and experiment into an unforgettable experience, which we now invite the public to share."

The name, The Clore Garden of Science, might make for a hard sell

Continued on page 35

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Tribute to Israel

Increasing our sense of wonder

Continued from page 34

when you next bring your children to Israel. The promise of a genuine adventure, however, should quickly persuade them.

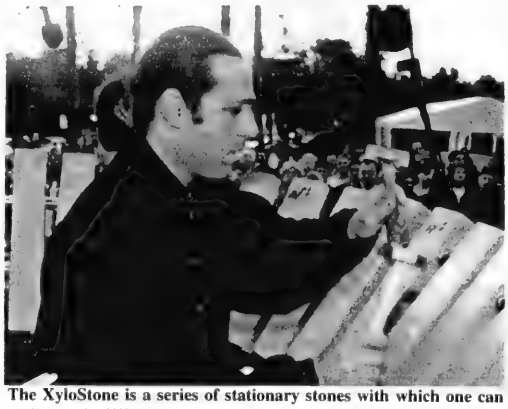
Going well beyond the "please touch" concept of some science museums, the visitor is even invited to climb onto some of the installations to activate them, such as the gigantic Archimedean Screw, which makes water flow *up*.

It also goes beyond the scale of similar concepts at the science centres in India and the New York Hall of Science, where the outdoor installations are an adjunct to the buildings housing the main exhibits. Blessed with both space and Israel's temperate climate, over 90 percent of the Weizmann facility is outdoors, with indoor areas simply providing ancillary services such as a restaurant and gift shop.

"Not only is the sky not the limit, it is an element in the presentations," notes Dr. Moshe Rishpon, director of the Youth Activities Section, which operates the Clore Garden of Science. "The sun, for example, is the necessary partner to the Full Rainbow, while a sprinkler system provides the water.

"In another installation," he adds, "the sun's rays on a model of the planet earth, positioned on the correct axis, show the status of a day and night around the world. For other phenomena, we've created exhibits from our imaginations, like the Monkey Man, whose crazy gyrations demonstrate chaos theory. Cumulatively, we are trying to convey a single unifying message – that, through enlightenment, science can increase our sense of wonder."

For now, installations represent only the physical sciences. But thought already is being given to how some of the breakthrough biological and other research being conducted at the institute can be manifested in the future. Meanwhile, the expanded park is expected to attract some 150,000 visitors annually, compared to the 20,000 who visited during the pilot stage.



The XyloStone is a series of stationary stones with which one can make music. [WZPS photo courtesy of the Weizmann Institute]

The institute has also created a self-guided tour around other parts of the campus. The Levinson Sci-Trek features 11 ViewPoints at key locations, chosen for their significance to the history of the institute or to the scientific research conducted in the nearby labs. At each station, the visitor can enjoy a multimedia presentation on the science and the sites around that particular ViewPoint.

Finally, visitors also have the opportunity to meet "the ghost of Chaim Weizmann" in a multi-media program starring Ha'im Topol. The show is presented in the auditorium of the new Levinson Visitors Centre, which also features a coffee shop and a gift shop.

By the spring of 1999, it is hoped that restoration work on Weizmann House will have been completed. Curiously, the home of Chaim Weizmann – a scientist and Israel's first president for whom the institute was named – which is adjacent to the campus, had not been part of the institute's domain until 18 months ago. Since receiving responsibility for this historic home from the government, the institute has undertaken renewal of the house and its grounds. Upon completion of the renovation, Weizmann House will also become part of the visitor's experience.

"The art of today is the environment of yesterday, and by the same token, the science of today is the environment of tomorrow," was the philosophy expressed by the late Prof. Amos de-Shalit, whose vision led to the establishment of the institute's Youth Activities Section.

This distinguished nuclear physicist, who was a dedicated educator, maintained: "Both have to be taught to children in order to provide for the continuity of the human race and to develop respect for its place on earth."

Creation of the dynamic new visiting experience is fitting testimony to this concept.

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Jewish National Fund a major force in early Israeli film

By HILLEL TRYSTER
WZPS

Probably the most famous footage associated with the birth of the State of Israel 51 years ago, is that of David Ben Gurion reading the Declaration of Independence.

That we have this image in our mind's eye, is due to photographer Natan Axelrod, proprietor of the Carmel newsreel. The fact that he was on hand at all may be credited largely to the Jewish National Fund (JNF) for having kept Axelrod and his enterprise afloat over the years.

Though Axelrod was apparently not the only cameraman there, and though his original soundtrack seems to have gone astray (most documentaries since then feature a badly synchronized, independent sound recording), it is his vantage point that has survived.

JNF was a major force in local film from the lean years of World War II, playing a greater role than is generally realized in the minor boom of the late '40s and early '50s, and supporting a fairly steady stream of documentaries, news items, and sometimes entire newsreels. Interesting documentary work was sometimes also purchased from foreign filmmakers, if considered useful or relevant.

In the late '30s, JNF was approached by a German immigrant, Lasar Duenner, who offered his services as a filmmaker. JNF was warned that Duenner was unreliable and prone to exaggeration, but luckily the warning was not heeded, for this inauspicious beginning blossomed into the most prolific of all JNF film relationships, lasting several decades.

Immediately after the war, Duenner shot large quantities of color 16 mm footage (he was among the first in the country to specialize in the medium) and is responsible for much of the post-war, pre-state color films.

JNF's *Land of Hope* (1945-46), the surviving print of which unfortunately lacks cinematography credits, opened with horrific European concentration camp scenes and an address by future U.S. Ambassador to Israel James McDonald. In stark contrast, the rest of the film showed the work of "upbuilding" in Palestine, with narration by then up-and-coming American actor Jose Ferrer. The emphasis in *Behind the Blockade* (1947), as one might guess from its title, was also "upbuilding," in spite of British restrictions on Jewish immigration, and was narrated by Hollywood actor John Carradine.

In 1946, JNF brought to the screen a dramatic episodic feature, *The Great Promise*, which was designed to reach a wider audience. The film devices used by Polish director Joseph Leyets, may seem transparent to today's audiences, but *The Great Promise* nevertheless remains a highly worthy effort and has become a valuable document of its time.

The film opens in a concentration camp, where three Jewish Brigade soldiers encounter a Holocaust survivor who has lost all hope. The stories they each tell him of life in Palestine are clearly designed to communicate as much information about the country as possible.

One soldier tells of his last home leave in his settlement during harvest time; another tells of a little girl brought from Europe who eventually adjusts to a life of freedom on a kibbutz. The third soldier tells the story of a trip he took up the Jordan River's course from north to south, through the Hula Valley, the Naharayim power plant, all the way to the Dead Sea.

Hot on the heels of *The Great Promise* came a full-length feature film, *My Father's House*. This important film of the mid-'40s was written by Meyer Levin, who later made his historical documentary *The Illegals*. It was directed by Herbert Kline, who had made *The Forgotten Village* with writer John Steinbeck in 1941, and was produced by both men.

Whether this description aptly reflects precisely who did what remains a moot question, as Kline and Kevin quarreled bitterly over the credits, and before it was all over, one JNF representative went on record as saying that he had never worked with two such difficult people.

My Father's House told of a young Holocaust survivor who comes ashore as an "illegal" immigrant to Palestine, and refusing to believe his father has not survived the war, searches for him all over the country – a deliberate device used to exhibit various features of the *yishuv* (the pre-State Jewish community in Palestine) – including the Dead Sea Works and the Palestine Philharmonic Orchestra. The cameraman of this excellent film was Floyd Crosby, an Oscar-winner for the 1931 film *Tabu*.

Many kibbutz members at that time were amateur photographers, and some of them attained a professional level. One of the most prominent was Mishmar HaEmek's Yoel Lotan (Yolek). His color footage of the kibbutz during the War of Independence was so outstanding that JNF sponsored its transformation into a documentary entitled *Heritage*.

In 1950, JNF also assisted the UJA/Foundation Fund in its dramatic production of *Song of the Negev*, inspired by the resistance of Beit Eshel (one of JNF's 1943 Negev outposts) during Israel's War of Independence. The director was again Joseph Leytes, and the film's high point was a self-sacrificing dash by a defender of the settlement to retrieve a package of medical supplies and food. He was inadvertently parachuted into no-man's-land.

The longed-for transformation from war refugee to war hero had finally been achieved.

On Campus

Journalists examine their craft

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Shi Davidi of Canadian Press, Rebecca Eckler of the *National Post* and Leah Rumack of *Now* magazine are not much older (in some cases, younger) than the students they addressed at the recent Afterword conference.

The trio offered tips and encouragement to some 30 aspiring media types in the session Young, Jewish and Jobs in Journalism, at Canada's first national Jewish student journalism conference.

The three-day event, held at B'nai Brith Canada headquarters, was the brainchild of Dave Gordon, who had attended a similar conference in New York.

"I thought it was great," said Ryerson Polytechnic University journalism student Amy Lerman. "It was neat to meet other journalism students and a good opportunity to hear journalists."

Speakers included *Toronto Sun* editor Lorrie Goldstein; CBC's Evan Solomon, co-founder of *Shift* magazine; radio talk show host Marsha Lederman of Talk 640; Mitchel Raphael of the *National Post* and CKLN Radio; CBC's Ralph Benmergui; filmmaker Simcha Jacobovici; Daniel Horowitz, editor of B'nai Brith Canada's *Jewish Tribune*; TV Ontario's Steve Paikin; author/poet Libby Scheier; *CJN* editor Mordechai Ben-Dat; the *National Post*'s Eliot Zimelman; and Michael Posner of the *Globe and Mail*.

Being a journalist can be one of the most fun jobs or one of the worst, said Davidi, 23. "You get access to things the general public doesn't, but it also means following people around who don't want to talk to you."

He advised students to write for their campus publications, as a good way to develop their own style.

Eckler, 25, found it "unhelpful" for teachers to stress how difficult it is to get a job in journalism.

Always put something personal or quirky in cover letters, she suggested. "Use your connections. If you don't have any, make some."

Students should make the most of their jobs, she said. Before writing for the *Post*, Eckler served water to guests as an unpaid intern for *Pamela Wallin Live*. Once she spoke up, she began researching and producing shows, which led to a full-time job.

Some of her tips were:

- Act smarter than you are. If you don't recognize a name, pretend you do, then "race to the Internet" to find out more.
- Be nice. Try not to get involved in office politics.
- Work hard, hard, hard.

Rumack – a 26-year-old with a nose ring, blue hair and fingernails to match – said being young isn't a disadvantage in alternative media.

But she almost blew her chance at *Now*. Having worked at the gay magazine *Xtra* as a student, she was asked to write something for *Now*'s Pride Day issue on looking different and being lesbian.

"I can't, because I'm not," she answered.

"I heard this death silence," she said. She tried to recoup. "Let me write something else. If you don't like it, you don't have to take it." Her quick thinking led to an interview and a job. "It was the smartest 10 seconds of my life."

In the final session, Lorrie Goldstein and Evan Solomon spoke on Crossing the Distance of Jewish Words: Jewish Presence in the Media.

Preparing for the session was educational, Goldstein said. The *Toronto Sun* editor hadn't realized how much he wrote about his Jewishness until a computer search showed 145 entries dating from 1989.

"Jewishness is part of who I am," he said. "It comes through in my writing."

Solomon has concluded that journalism is a Jewish quest, because of its storytelling and question-asking aspects. "Judaism is the only culture that has ever used literacy as a rite of passage," he said.

During the question period, Solomon noted that he and his *Shift* co-founders, then in their early 20s, had "stupidity" and adaptability on their side. "If you really know, you become afraid," he said. "Just go for it."

Goldstein is inundated with submissions at the *Sun*. He probably throws out "stuff that's pretty good because the person hasn't gotten my attention first. How to get my attention? Call and call and call and call."

Likely candidates to work at the *Sun* are "bright, curious, articulate...not poisoned with ideology."

Michaella Etienne, a student at the University of Moncton, appreciated the speakers' generosity in sharing "the tricks of the trade."

It was interesting to hear how some of the speakers began their careers, added York University student Zack Medicoff.

For Keren Markuze, a communications major at Concordia entering broadcast journalism at the University of Southern California, the conference served as "sort of a refreshing reintroduction to journalism."

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Monday, June 14, is deadline for June 24 issue and Monday, June 21, is deadline for July 1. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Saturday, June 12

ISRAEL'S ASTRONAUT

Send Forth Scouts: An Israeli Astronaut Explores a New World! Canadian Friends of Tel Aviv University and Beth Tzedec Synagogue, in conjunction with State of Israel Bonds, present **Col. Ilan Ramon**, Israel's first astronaut, 8:45 a.m. services at Beth Tzedec. Ramon speaks from the bimah during Shabbat services and will mingle with congregants during kiddush following services. 787-9930.

Sunday, June 13

TOWARD A JUST SOCIETY

Beach Hebrew Institute, in partnership with Canadian Council of Christians and Jews (CCCJ) and the Edward Bronfman Family Foundation, presents the CCCJ video, *Toward a Just Society: A Half Century of Race and Ethnic Relations in Canada* followed by discussion on life in the Beach community within a multicultural context. Participants include **Elyse Graff** of CCCJ and **Rev. Brian Prideaux.** 2 p.m., 109 Kenilworth. 694-7942.

HELLER HONORED

Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue Appreciation Breakfast honoring choir director **Charles Heller** for 20 years of service to the synagogue, following services at 9:15 a.m. Musical program features guest cantors and choirs. Adults $8, children under 10, $4. Reserve. 633-3838.

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Bereaved Jewish Families of Ontario dedicates a Rose Garden in honor of their beloved children, 2 p.m., Earl Bales Park. **Sheila Browne** 638-7800, ext. 202.

JEWISH MEDITATION

Exploring Jewish Meditation workshops with **Barry Bender, Yaakov Lefco** and **Chashi Skobac**. No prior meditation experience necessary. 1-5 p.m. at Beth Jacob Synagogue, 147 Overbrook Pl. No charge, donations accepted. Sponsored by Jews for Judaism and Jewish Campus Services. **Rabbi Michael Skobac** 905-761-0040.

YIDDISH FILMS

Yiddish film comedy *American Matchmaker* and film short *I Want to be a Boarder* presented by Friends of Yiddish and Toronto Jewish Film Society, 5:15 p.m., Jackman Hall, Art Gallery of Ontario. Introduction by **Shlomo Schwartzberg**, director of programming, Toronto Jewish Film Festival. Guests $7.50.

FASHION TEA

National Council of Jewish Women of Canada, Toronto Section, Spring Into Summer Fashion Tea, 1-4 p.m., at the home of **Dr. Arthur** and **Nancy Ameis**, in support of Israel Family Counselling Association. Fashions, boutiques, dietary laws observed. $18. 633-5100.

BAZAAR-GARAGE SALE

Fundraiser sale, new and gently used items, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Aish HaTorah. 949 Clark Ave. W., Thornhill. Rain or shine!

FROM JUDGES TO KINGS

Kehilat Shaarei Torah series, The Man Who Would Be King, with **Rachael Turkienicz,** concludes with David: The Seeds of Success, 8 p.m., 2640 Bayview Ave. 229-2600.

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Giant indoor garage sale, books, housewares, jewelry, toys, appliances, clothing. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Temple Sinai. Proceeds to Youth Projects.

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Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am rummage sale of children's, men's, women's clothing, housewares, books and more, 9 a.m. to noon.

Monday, June 14

A TORONTO 'FIRST'

The New Leadership Group and the community outreach committee of Jewish National Fund of Toronto host a unique event at Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue at 8 p.m., when **Rabbi Shmuel Boteach**, author of *Kosher Sex*, speaks for the

Continued on page 39

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What's New

Continued from page 38

first time to a Toronto audience. For tickets, **Lil Jacobson** 638-7200.

A MUSICAL INTERLUDE

Cranbrooke Friendship Club presents A Musical Interlude featuring soprano soloist **Miriam Eskin** in a program of Yiddish,Hebrew and popular Broadway tunes, 12:30 p.m., Winchevsky Centre, 585 Cranbrooke Ave. $5 includes lunch. 789-5502.

Tuesday, June 15

DOLLAR DAZE

Aquarius chapter, Jewish Women International, Dollar Daze Auction Sale at Adath Sholom Synagogue, 864 Sheppard Ave. W. 6:30 p.m. silent auction and merchandise tables, 8 p.m. live auction. Tickets at door $3. 781-5594 or 783-3569.

Wednesday, June 16

IDEAS AND IDEALS

The Ideas and Ideals of the Lubavitcher Rebbe in Word and Song – guest speaker **Rabbi Mendel Lipskar**, executive director of Chabad activities in South Africa; **Chazzan Schneur Zalman Baumgarten**, accompanied by **Gershon Wachtel** on the piano along with a string quartet. 7:45 p.m., Chabad Lubavitch, 770 Chabad Gate, Thornhill. Couvert $18. RSVP 905-731-7000.

MUSICAL AWARD

Presentation of the Ben Steinberg Musical Legacy Award and spring recital concert featuring award-winners violinist **Daniel Bard** and soprano **Karen Wierzea** 8 p.m. at Temple Sinai.

LICHTENBERG CONCERT

Friends of Yiddish presents **Lenka Lichtenberg** and friends: In Concert, celebrating the release of *Deep Inside*, a CD by the Toronto singer-songwriter. Program of original and Yiddish songs, accompanied by all-star seven-piece band. 8 p.m. Ford Centre for the Arts, Studio Theatre. Tickets $10 at box office and Ticketmaster 870-8000.

Thursday, June 17

KENSINGTON CABARET

Ashkenaz presents the Kensington Cabaret starring master showman **Joel Grey**. Cocktails 6 p.m., dinner 7 p.m. , show at 8:30 at Sheraton Centre, Grand Ballroom. A fundraiser for Ashkenaz: A Festival of New Yiddish Culture. 703-6892.

And What Else Is New

TEXTILE ART EXHIBIT

An exhibition of the Judaic textile art of **Elaine Glassman** on display at the Silverman Heritage Museum, Baycrest Centre June 16 to Aug. 21. Torah covers, parochets (ark curtains), chupahs, embroidered and handpainted tallitot, liturgical pieces, all commissioned by synagogues and on loan to Baycrest for the exhibit 785-2500, ext. 2802.

BREAST HEALTH

Mount Sinai Hospital's Marvelle Koffler Breast Centre is offering 2½-hour education sessions for women who have not been identified with cancer. The AstraZeneca Breast Health Program promotes healthy lifestyle choices with an emphasis on breast health and the early detection of breast cancer. Session is free and available at different times during the day. For class dates and times, AstraZeneca Breast Health Program, 586-5190.

THE VILLAGE SHUL

Village Shul, 1072 Eglinton Ave. W. 785-1107.

Jewish Meditation course starts Monday, June 14.

Starting Wednesday, June 16, **Lori Palatnik** conducts her popular 48 Ways to Wisdom class – part of a personal growth series.

Open House. Saturday, June 19. See the new shul, bring your family.

Family Shabbat, singing, Torah trivia, parshah, praying together, 10:45 a.m. first Saturday of every month.

Introductory Kabbalah class, 9 p.m. Wednesdays.

PHOTO CONTEST

Your special photo of Israel-Jerusalem is wanted for a Photo Contest, with prizes awarded in categories: The Many Faces of Israel, Modern Israel, Historical Israel, Artistic Impressions. All photos submitted will be on display at the Jerusalem Pavilion June 26-30 at Bloor Jewish Community Centre. Entry deadline is June 18. Contact **Sherry Plant**, for details. 633-6224, ext. 114. Sponsored by B'nai Brith Canada and Bloor JCC.

PARADE WORKSHOP

The Ashkenaz and Minsker Parade workshop Sunday, June 20, 10:30 a.m. at the Bloor Jewish Community Centre. Create Minsker themes and props for the Ashkenaz Festival's parade. 921-6996.

THE PERFECT SYSTEM

A three-part seminar for the atheist, the agnostic and the believer, revealing the secrets of cause and effect to bring peace to our lives and the world. Part I June 21; Part II June 22; Part III June 23, all at 7:30-10 p.m. Kabbalah Centre 631-9395.

VENDORS WANTED

For garage sales/flea markets in Earl Bales Park, Sunday, July 4 and Aug. 22, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. **Brian Waterman** 395-7873.

JF&CS GROUPS

Jewish Family & Child Service groups. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215

Looking Ahead, for recently separated and divorced individuals begins July 6; Adolescent Social Skills group begins July 7 for 8 weeks; Today's Woman: Making It Happen, to improve self-esteem begins June 22.

SINGLES SCENE

Beach Blast Volleyball, 25-40 group, Sunday, June 13, 8 p.m. $10. RSVP **Sarit** 905-669-5499 p.m. only.

Summer Sizzler Dance Party, 30-50 group, Sunday, June 27, 8 p.m. at Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue $7 advance, $10 at door. To reserve, call **Sarit.**

SINGLES EVENTS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 40

FOR SENIORS

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: June 13, 27, Sunday dances 7-9 p.m.; June 14, 28, Casino Rama; July 4, community garage sale and flea market, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.; July 5-11 Catskills. 395-7881.

Singers needed – A small senior entertainment group needs singers. Rehearsals Wednesday afternoons. **Fred** 633-2877.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: July 27, trip to Kingston, cruise, entertainment; Aug. 25, morning cruise, matinee of *Move Over Mrs. Markham* at Gryphon Theatre; Oct. 12, *West Side Story* at Stratford. **Lena** 785-5773. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). June 10, video; June 17, Chinese restaurant 6 p.m.; June 24, **Prof. Sara Ginaite** lecture on her experience in the Resistance in Lithuania; Sunday, Aug. 1, dance with Teddy Band, for tickets **Malka Colla** 630-5771. **Jerry Bengall**, president, 905-707-7334.

New Image 50 Plus seniors dance, ballroom music tapes by **Murray Jacobs**, Saturday, June 12, Earl Bales Community Centre. Members $3, non-members $5. **Helen** 633-0397.

Young at Heart Seniors Catskills trip to kosher Raleigh Hotel, 10 days starting July 23. German restitution accepted. Double occupancy $1,399.95, single $1,675. Reduced medical comprehensive. Tips and gratuities included. **Helen** 635-6343.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Health Fair 1999, Navigating the Community, Thursday, June 10, 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Guest speaker **Susan Kadis**, ward councillor, York Region; the Comedy Guys; special healthy lunch.

Father's Day dance dessert party, Wednesday, June 16, 1-3 p.m., **Margarita Maslov** and **L. Rabinovich**. Members $5, non-members $7. Tickets at Ticket Desk.

Intergenerational Dance, celebrating International Year of the Older Person, Thursday, June 17, 1:30-3:30 p.m. Dance to favorites of the past and present. Featuring Universal Sound Entertainment. Partners not required.

Do you speak Hebrew? Join Israeli Club Etrog every Tuesday at 7 p.m. for movies, lectures, dances, sing-alongs, bingo, picnics. June 15 is bingo. Programs conducted in Hebrew. **Anna** ext. 110.

Movie, *One True Thing*, Sunday, June 13, 2:30 p.m.

ABOUT PEOPLE

NAMED DIRECTOR

Carolyn Rose of Willowdale has been elected to serve a one-year term as a director on the board of the Ontario Dental Hygienists' Association (ODHA) representing Toronto North. A registered dental hygienist, she brings a broad range of experience and knowledge to the position. Established in 1963, the ODHA represents the interests and needs of more than 5,000 dental hygienists across Ontario.

A 90TH BIRTHDAY

Max (Motel) Sivak celebrated his 90th birthday this past Passover. Sivak immigrated to Montreal from the Ukraine as a teenager in the mid-1920s where he met his future wife **Chienke Levine**, also an immigrant from eastern Europe. They each made aliyah to Eretz Yisrael, where they married and joined a kibbutz, returning to Montreal shortly before the outbreak of World War II.

Sivak has been active in the Farband Labor Zionist Alliance and the Canadian Jewish Congress. His memoirs are being archived in a Life Writing series by Wilfred Laurier University Press. He moved to Toronto a year ago (Chienke died 2½ years ago) to be closer to his daughter, **Mia Gladstone,** who lives in Peterborough, and his son, **Jacob**, who lives in Waterloo, as well as grandchildren and great-grandchildren living in Toronto. He is seen below with his two youngest great-grandchildren, **Ayelet Chen Lustgarten** and **Jennifer Hylee Martow**.

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Bassett falls to Grits; Young coasts to win; CJC presses Harris

Continued from page 3

the NDP's Norm Jesin. Kwinter polled 19,475 votes, to 8,829 for Hausman and 3,472 for Jesin.

Winning the riding seemed easy for Kwinter, but the battle to become the Liberal candidate there wasn't. He was challenged for the nod by fellow Liberal Annamarie Castrilli in a nasty fight that saw several anonymous anti-Semitic missives directed at Kwinter.

Instead, Castrilli ran for the Conservatives in Parkdale-High Park, where she was soundly defeated by high-profile Liberal Gerard Kennedy.

A big upset took place in St. Paul's, where Citizenship and Culture Minister Isabel Bassett was defeated by Liberal Michael Bryant by over 4,000 votes. The riding, which at the federal level has been a bellwether for years, includes affluent neighborhoods like Forest Hill, and is about 20 percent Jewish.

Bryant focused on the working class areas east of Yonge Street and south of St. Clair Avenue, and won a lot of support there.

Broadcaster Larry Solway of the NDP polled 3,369 votes, considered respectable given that St. Paul's is not traditionally New Democrat territory.

In Willowdale, the victory by David Young, a Jewish former North York Board of Education trustee, wasn't a surprise. The riding was held previously by Attorney General Charles Harnick, who announced earlier this year that he would not seek re-election.

Young polled just over 22,000 votes, to 18,500 for his nearest rival, Fahimeh Mortazavi of the Liberals. Jewish NDP candidate Mikael Swayze received 1,846 ballots.

In Eglinton-Lawrence, two high-profile MPPs slugged it out, but Liberal Mike Colle came out on top, defeating Michael Parker by over 6,000 votes. Jay Waterman of the NDP received 1,377 votes.

The new riding includes the heavily Jewish Bathurst Street corridor between Chaplin Crescent and the 401, a large Orthodox population in the Bathurst-Lawrence area, and many chassidic families south of Wilson on Bathurst.

Parker was among the few Tories to publicly state that he supports government funding for private schools.

In Oak Ridges, home to over 7,500 Jewish residents, most of them in Richmond Hill, Tory Frank Klees cruised to an easy win, part of the PC sweep of the 905 region.

Klees almost doubled his nearest rival, Liberal Vito Spatafora, a long-time Richmond Hill councillor, by 27,000 votes to 14,689. The NDP's Chris Moise got 1,774 votes.

York Region's booming Jewish community lost two representatives who had been in cabinet and may return there: Al Palladini and David Tsubouchi, both of whom were re-elected but in largely non-Jewish ridings.

Vicky Wylson-Sher, a Jewish community activist in Hamilton, ran as a Liberal in Wentworth-Burlington, but lost to Tory Toni Skarica by over 11,000 votes.

The Ontario region of Canadian Jewish Congress extended its congratulations to Harris, saying the premier "clearly won a mandate" to continue his course.

Region chair Keith Landy said Congress will hold the premier to his pledge to discuss the provision of health services in independent and religious schools.

Landy added that the Jewish community will keep pressing for public funding of the core curriculum in private schools.

"If [Harris] is fair-minded on this issue, then he will come to the realization that this is something the community is entitled to," Landy told *The CJN* the morning after the election.

Congress had identified four issues of concern to the Jewish community in the election: funding the non-religious curriculum and health services in private schools, social housing, elder care, and hate on the Internet, which the federal government recently said it would not regulate.

SINGLES EVENTS
Singles Events is an advertising feature of *The Canadian Jewish News*
Deadline is Wednesday, 4:00 p.m., 8 days preceding issue date.
For rates or to place an ad, please call
TANYA at (416) 391-1836
***The CJN* encourages readers to direct any queries they may have on an upcoming event to the event's organizers.**

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Scene in Ottawa

By G.K. SIMCOE

Last week we began a two-part exploration of parliamentary travel.

We concluded that there was some benefit to participation in obligatory meetings of the Inter-Parliamentary Union and the like; considerable value in the travel associated with House of Commons or Senate committee business; and virtually no merit in the Team Canada enterprise.

Now, let's make good on the promise to consider the juicy side of parliamentary travel – political junkets. Strictly speaking, political junkets are trips sponsored by third parties, which are offered to MPs or senators.

Of course, that's a broad definition, and the legitimacy of the trips within that category varies widely. Some politicians refuse to participate on such excursions as a matter of principle, while others seek out every opportunity to "score a freebie."

Some trips are heavy on the glamor and thin on the substance. Parliamentarians are showered with attention and souvenirs throughout the trip. If they return to Canada exhausted, it is only due to the brief respites between meals.

On the other extreme, there are trips sponsored by groups who can barely scrape the funds together to organize a parliamentary trip, however modest.

For its part, the Jewish community routinely sponsors trips all over the world. During its heyday, various Soviet Jewry groups frequently brought parliamentarians over to the former Soviet Union to meet with Refusniks – to great effect.

Today, both Canadian Jewish Congress and B'nai Brith organize tours to Washington and Europe to focus political attention on the issues pertaining to the Holocaust and Nazi war criminals. The Canada Israel Committee's parliamentary trips to Israel are amongst the most sought after on the Hill.

Good or bad, what all of these programs share in common is the need to "sell" their products to politicians in the most effective way possible and nothing creates a more powerful impression than the product itself.

American politicians have huge budgets which can be used for fact-finding missions. An MP's budget barely covers the cost of a skeleton staff. Canadian politicians rely on junkets to learn about the world.

It's good to know that Israel and other issues of importance to the Jewish community are on the itinerary.

Coast to Coast

Holocaust symposium held

By WENDY GOLDBLATT SCHNEIDER
Special to The CJN

HAMILTON — The Hamilton Holocaust education committee recently held its annual symposium on the Holocaust at McMaster University.

The event, now in its sixth year, has become increasingly popular, attracting more than 400 high school students from numerous schools in the area.

Unlike previous years, when students from all disciplines were invited to attend, schools, this year, were asked to restrict attendance to 15 students from the history department only.

Keynote speaker Rabbi Joseph Polak of Boston, gave an engaging presentation. A child survivor, he addressed issues of particular concern to young people.

He asked them to imagine what it would be like to have their lives uprooted, to be forced to attend separate schools and then to watch the disappearance of classmates, who were taken from their homes in the middle of the night.

Questions

Striding up and down the aisles of a large university classroom, the rabbi asked probing and provocative questions like, who did the students think took the family sofa or drank his unfinished glass of orange juice?

"When I know who drank my orange juice," he said, "I will know who perpetrated the Holocaust."

His message came across loud and clear. He said it was not the SS, nor unspecified Germans who ransacked his family's home; it was their Dutch neighbors, who had lived next to them for years.

Students were equally engrossed by Polak's account of his family's experience in the Star camp at Bergen Belsen and on a lost transport that tragically departed from the camp just days before the arrival of the allied forces.

During the second part of the symposium students were divided into groups to hear further testimony from other survivors.

Holocaust education committee member, Bev Lasky, explained that there is a sense of urgency as local survivors are aging and find the prospect of recounting painful personal memories year after year increasingly difficult.

This year, for the first time, five survivors were asked to come in from Toronto to make up the difference.

"We've always felt that teaching the history of the event is not our job," Lasky said. "My goal is that students remember just one thing; That they can say to their children and grandchildren, that it really happened because they heard it from a survivor."

Gesher launches Holocaust exhibit

By DAVID LITVAK
Special to The CJN

VANCOUVER — The Gesher project is launching an exhibit of painting and poetry created by Holocaust survivors and their children.

The Gesher exhibit, to be held at the Holocaust Education Centre, runs from June 20 to mid-September

The Gesher project is an intergenerational program designed to create bridges between Holocaust survivors and their children.

Alina Wydra, a psychologist and a child of Holocaust survivors is a founding member of the Gesher project. She said the idea for the group came about as a result of discussions she held with Dale Adams-Segal, a writer who does healing workshops with writing.

Wydra had been had been helping trauma victims in the native community and decided she wanted to take her work to her own community, she said.

Local artist Linda Dayan Frimmer, who had previous experience with cultural bridging through a collaborative project for strengthening ties between native and Jewish communities, and writer Reisa Schneider were invited to join Wydra and Adams-Segal in the founding of Gesher, which means bridge in the Hebrew.

Gesher aims to bridge the gap between Holocaust survivors and their children through an interdisciplinary therapeutic approach, which combines writing and painting with psychology.

At the Gesher project's inaugural meeting, which included the four founders and 18 others, participants discussed themes of the Holocaust. and explored their experiences through writing and painting.

The creative output of this and later meetings developed into the Gesher exhibit. A book is also planned.

"It was amazing for survivors to hear what children of other survivors had to say, and it resulted in a lot of new understanding and connection," Wydra said.

For more information about the exhibit, call 604-733-4321 or e-mail posthuma@axionet.com.

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CANADIAN JEWISH CONGRESS ONTARIO REGION

is inviting applications for the following position:

Family Education and High School Outreach Coordinator

The candidate who fills this position will be responsible for coordinating the Family Education and High School Outreach distance learning programs. The individual will be responsible for recruiting program participants, developing educational materials, monitoring teens in the High School Outreach program, accompanying the teens on their Israel Experience program in the summer of 2000, and planning semi-annual Shabbatons.

Successful candidates for this entry-level position will possess the following:

- **A strong Jewish background and commitment to the Jewish community**
- **A background in informal Jewish education**
- **Experience working with teenagers**
- **Strong organizational and computer skills**
- **Excellent interpersonal skills**
- **Willingness to travel within the province**

Submit applications to:

Bernie M. Farber, Executive Director
Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario Region
4600 Bathurst Street 4th Floor
North York, Ontario M2R 3V2
Fax: (416) 635-1408

Only successful applicants will be contacted for an interview.

Application Deadline: 8 July 1999

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Peace prospects welcome

By RUTH E. GRUBER
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

ROME — When Yechiel Bar Chaim, the Paris-based Yugoslavia program director for the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC), checked his e-mail last week, he found a message from a Yugoslav correspondent.

"PEAAACCCE!" the message said. "The Yugoslav Parliament accepted!!!!!!!"

The prospect of a halt to NATO's air war against Serbia came as welcome news to Yugoslavia's 3,500 Jews, who throughout the NATO campaign have shared the same fears as their Serbian neighbors.

"I am desperate, hopeless, and very, very tired," Belgrade Jewish community activist Misa David told the 600 delegates to the General Assembly of the European Council of Jewish Communities, held in Nice at the end of last month.

"The people in Yugoslavia, suffer twice – from [President Slobodan] Milosevic's regime and from the NATO bombing."

Jews now share fears for the future in a country whose infrastructure has been pulverized, whose economy has been shattered, and whose social and political order is in turmoil.

"As a Jewish community, we are trying to prepare a program for the future," David said in an interview. "But we will need help from all Jewish organizations."

A first priority, Bar Chaim added, would be to help the Yugoslav Jews currently being hosted in Budapest, to return home. About 200 of these people went on to Israel.

Other JDC priorities include:

• emergency cash relief for the elderly, who include as many as 800 destitute Holocaust survivors;

• new shipments of medicine to replenish the pharmacy in Belgrade, which was set up long before the conflict, and was maintained with the help of World Jewish Relief;

• refurbishment of the kitchen in the Belgrade community and the possible opening of soup kitchens in the Belgrade and Novi Sad communities; and

• expanded non-sectarian medical aid, to supplement medicines already provided for the sick and wounded in the Pristina Hospital and for autistic children in Belgrade.

Throughout the NATO campaign, Yugoslav Jewry's strong central organization helped sustain a semblance of normality for Jews in Belgrade.

Electric power and water were cut; bombs and missiles destroyed buildings, roads and bridges; ear-splitting air raid sirens sent people for shelters; and food and other consumer goods were either rationed or in short supply. But Jews kept up a proud facade of business as usual.

This was partly the result of contingency measures adopted months before the air strikes began. Besides arranging for hundreds of Jews to travel to Hungary, these measures included assembling stockpiles of medicine and other essentials, and making provisions for temporary housing for people afraid or unable to stay in their homes.

"We stopped most communal activities for about a month after the bombing started," David said, "but then we started up again.

"The Maccabi sports club began operating again, the choir went ahead with its rehearsals," he said. "We even kept publishing the community newsletter."

Community leaders in Belgrade, David said, maintained daily phone contact with the eight smaller communities in the provinces and provided emergency aid if needed.

Yugoslavia's Jews, though not strong supporters of Milosevic, tended to share the basic Serbian political position on the war.

As such, they felt isolated from much of the Jewish world. They complained about "one-sided" support by foreign Jews and Jewish organizations for the Kosovar refugees and the NATO bombing campaign.

Some Belgrade Jews also expressed disappointment that the Israeli ambassador to Belgrade closed the embassy and left Yugoslavia shortly after the beginning of the air strikes.

"It is difficult for me to understand what the west intended to do with this type of campaign," one community member, who did not want to be quoted by name, told *JTA* before the peace accord was reached.

"The NATO attack essentially killed any opposition. It gave Milosevic the excuse to abolish normal civil rights, to impose martial law, tough restrictions on everyone," the community member added.

"I hate Milosevic, but I hate the bombing – you cannot maintain a pro-western position when you are under such attack. He admitted, however, that Yugoslavs, Jewish or not, were largely in the dark about what had happened in Kosovo.

"I know what the western news reports say, but I cannot believe it. Or, probably, we don't like to believe it."

Barak prefers Shas

Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

JERUSALEM — Sources in One Israel say that Prime Minister-elect Ehud Barak has decided he prefers Shas to the Likud as a coalition partner, because the positions presented by Likud leader Ariel Sharon are guaranteed to obstruct any progress on the peace front, while Shas will be a loyal partner in a coalition aimed at making a breakthrough in the peace process.

But the "open door" to Shas, as Barak called it in an interview, creates a new difficulty, as Meretz and Shinui hold fast to their position that they will not serve in a coalition that includes Shas.

According to Shlomo Ben-Ami, a top negotiator for One Israel, Deri's resignation from the Knesset and from the political leadership of Shas, satisfies him that Shas is no longer tainted by having a convicted criminal at its head. "I wonder what else Deri has to do? Is anyone suggesting that his phones be wiretapped to make sure nobody is consulting with him?" Ben-Ami asked rhetorically.

However, despite the apparent progress – including Shas sources saying that arrangements are being made for a Barak meeting with Rabbi Ovadiah Yosef, the spiritual leader of Shas – One Israel has a problem with two of its more natural coalition partners, Meretz and Shinui, who are sticking to their guns about not serving in the same government with Shas.

In related developments, Prime Minister-elect Ehud Barak was scheduled to meet alone with Yisrael b'Aliyah leader Natan Sharansky to discuss cabinet portfolios, even though Sharansky's representative to the coalition talks is still complaining that One Israel's government guidelines concerning settlements are unacceptable.

But One Israel sources say there is no crisis in the negotiations with Yisrael b'Aliyah.

Yisrael b'Aliyah's chief coalition negotiator, Yuli Edelstein, has said that "it goes without saying" that the Interior Ministry will be going to his party.

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'Righteous' status sought for Jersey hero

By DOUGLAS DAVIS
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

LONDON — Unlike the legendary Oskar Schindler, Albert Gustave Bedane's acts of courage were not enacted in the horror-filled world of wartime Poland.

His heroism was played out on British soil – on the Nazi-occupied Channel Island of Jersey, which now glories in a reputation as a tax haven and home to the super-rich.

After a result of the efforts of an amateur historian in Jersey, the London-based Holocaust Educational Trust has launched a campaign to convince the Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial in Jerusalem to make Bedane a Righteous Among the Nations.

Most of Jersey's pre-war Jewish population had left before the Nazi invasion in June 1940.

A total of 12 islanders who were registered as Jews, were deported. The Jewish community of Jersey now numbers about 150.

When the Nazis invaded the tranquil island, Bedane, a French-born veteran of World War I, was a successful physiotherapist with a thriving practice in Jersey's capital, St. Helier.

During the occupation, which ended in 1945, German officers frequently sought out Bedane in his rambling five-story home – now a hotel – to soothe their aching limbs.

What the Germans did not know, was that while Bedane was treating them in his clinic, much of the rest of the building was hiding escaped prisoners of war, escaped slave laborers – and a small, middle-aged, Dutch-born Jewish woman, Mary Erica Richardson.

While Richardson is the only Jew definitively known to have been saved by Bedane, it is assumed that he also harbored others during the war.

If any of the people he kept secretly at his home had been discovered by the Nazi occupiers, Bedane knew he would have been shot.

Among those "guests" was Richardson, the Jewish wife of a retired, non-Jewish British sea captain, who hid in an ancient stone cellar barely 4½-feet high.

She had escaped from the back door of her apartment while her husband, pretending to be senile, had kept the Germans who had come to arrest her waiting at the front door.

Despite efforts to find her, in which Nazi officials were aided by Jersey's attorney general and local police, Richardson remained safe in Bedane's home until the Nazi retreat at the end of the war.

The only surviving guest that Bedane sheltered, is 87-year-old Francis Le Sueur, an islander who was wanted by the Germans for his activities in the Jersey underground.

Now living near the town of Dinard in northern France, Le Sueur vividly recalls playing cards with Richardson before he decided to take his chances and escape to France.

Jewish woman in hiding

He also remembers his first encounter with Bedane. "When I arrived, he showed me into a windowless room, little bigger than a cubicle, which had perhaps once been used for patients. Bedane said to me: 'You're going to stay in this room and I don't want you to come out.' But I was just one of many, many."

Recently, Le Sueur described how Bedane had confided in him that Richardson was hiding because she was Jewish.

"I remember we discussed this matter quite fully, as the question of race and religion was, and still is to me, a matter of small importance."

Bedane's wife, Clara, died during the war, and his daughter Valerie May, was last heard of living in Australia in the 1950s.

Not surprisingly, perhaps, the anxiety of the period took its toll on Bedane.

He collapsed soon after the war and was admitted to a hospital, where he was diagnosed as suffering from the delayed effects of chronic stress.

Suffered chronic stress

When he died in 1970 at the age of 76, his acts of selfless heroism were neither recognized nor rewarded by the west.

His sole memento was an inscribed gold watch, a gift from the Soviet government in appreciation for the Russian slave laborers he had saved.

Richardson and her husband left the island immediately after the war.

The last trace of her is a letter she wrote to Bedane from a clinic in Austria thanking him for having saved her life.

The Holocaust Educational Trust, headed by Lord Janner, has only recently learned of Bedane's wartime heroism through the efforts of a 42-year-old Jersey property dealer and amateur local historian, Frederick Cohen.

"As president of the Jewish community in Jersey, I felt I had an obligation to record the story," Cohen said in an interview.

"And once I started, I carried on until I had completed the record."

Janner says his organization is submitting Bedane's name to Yad Vashem because it is satisfied, having seen the documentation and having heard the evidence, that "he was a hero and should be honored."

The request to Yad Vashem has also been endorsed by Britain's former chief rabbi, Lord Immanuel Jakobovits, and David Cesarani, director of the Wiener Library, a London-based Holocaust documentation centre.

"Little was known until now, but he saved many lives, including that of Mrs Richardson, for whom he risked everything," says Janner.

According to Janner, Bedane "fulfils every criteria for recognition" by Yad Vashem. "There was never any suggestion that he sought or received payment or reward for his courageous acts," he adds.

CORRECTION

In the story on the Jewish Museum in Berlin (*CJN*, June 3), the museum's e-mail address should have read: recherchen@jmberlin.de.

The CJN regrets the error.

Canadian Jewish Book Award Winners

GERALD TULCHINSKY
author of
BRANCHING OUT
The Transformation of the Canadian Jewish Community

Winner of the Joseph & Faye Tanenbaum Award for Canadian Jewish History

and

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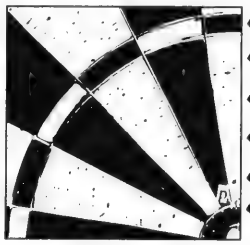

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The Week in Israel

May 31

• The U.S. State Department called the plan to extend the borders of the Ma'aleh Adumim four miles westward to Jerusalem, "a provocative act by an outgoing government."

• Prime Minister-elect Ehud Barak opposes the construction of new Jewish settlements in the West Bank, but would allow for the natural growth of existing ones, according to the coalition guidelines he drew up. The Likud, National Religious Party and Meretz gave their preliminary approvals to the guidelines.

June 1

• For the first time since his defeat, outgoing Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu met with Barak. In an hour-long breakfast meeting, the two men discussed security and political issues during the transfer of power.

June 2

• Netanyahu convened an emergency meeting of the security cabinet to hear from army officials about stepped-up Hezbollah operations in south Lebanon in the wake of the withdrawal by the South Lebanon Army (SLA) from the Jezzine enclave in the south.

June 3

• The SLA completed its withdrawal from the Christian Jezzine enclave north of the security zone. Ending 14 years of control over the enclave, the SLA left a trail of abandoned equipment as it made a hasty retreat to Israeli positions within the zone.

• Eighteen Palestinians and six IDF soldiers were injured as a result of violent demonstrations in the West Bank and Gaza as a Day of Rage protesting Israel's settlement policy. The Palestinian Authority (PA) did not manage to rally the crowds it had anticipated.

June 4

• Ehud Barak warned PA Chairman Yasser Arafat against a resumption of terrorism. Speaking in the wake of the Day of Rage, Barak said the government would not be intimidated and that if attacks resumed, there would be no peace process.

Files from JTA and Ha'aretz.

Vancouver child finishes near top in Israel competition

Continued from page 1

Barzilai said he studied for four months for the competition, which covered issues including the principles of Israel's declaration of Independence, the history of Jerusalem, the wars of Israel, aliyah, authors and poets of Israel, and Jewish ethnic communities. The study guide was produced in English, Hebrew, French, Russian and Spanish.

Barzilai said he chose to enter the competition "because of the knowledge," and because his 13-year-old brother, Zohar, was here last year. "He inspired me."

"I think it was a great achievement," said Dr. Yaacov Eliav, director of the International Centre for Jewish Identity at BIU. "[The students] gain quite a lot. We took a difficult topic, Jewish heritage, and we succeeded. From all over the world, they were so eager to come. It's great fun."

The trip officially began on May 24, with touring in the Tel Aviv area. The group then toured the north and south of the country. "Jerusalem was my favorite place," said Barzilai. His parents are Israeli, but this was his first trip to Israel. "It's the thing that connects me the most to Judaism."

He said he will keep in touch with his new friends on e-mail once he returns to Vancouver. The fact that he speaks Hebrew, he said, helped him interact with the Israeli contingent, consisting of 45 students.

During the ceremony in the President's House, the students sat with their country. Although Barzilai sat beside the huge U.S. group, he was not intimidated. "It feels good to be the only Canadian," he said proudly.

Haggai Kurtz, 13, of Petach Tikva, Gili Shterzer, 15, of Hadera, Prielle Yifrach, 14, of Sderot, and Yoram Haddad, 16 of Paris won the afternoon contest, to become the international champions of the competition.

Reuma Weizman addressed the students at the ceremony. "This is a very important gathering. It shows care and concern of your identity," she told the students. "I want you all to come and study and live here and help us be a strong nation."

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You are a university graduate in journalism, communications, or a related field, with a high level of bilingualism and at least two years of relevant practical experience. Desktop publishing skills are a definite asset.

Applications for both positions should be submitted by mail or fax no later than June 18th, to:

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South African Jews face fear as well as hope after election

By SUZANNE BELLING
Jewish Telegraphhic Agency

JOHANNESBURG — The first democratic elections in South Africa, in April 1994, brought about a black-led government and a peaceful revolution. People voted with their hearts – or fears.

Last week's elections were different. People voted with their heads.

This was an election about future government and governance, rather than the heady emotion of transformation.

But the attitudes of Jewish voters are split: Some welcome the huge changes during the past five years, while others find that the problems outweigh the benefits.

The first group points to the peaceful revolution that has totally confounded the prophets of doom.

"If we think back five or six years, we would have branded anyone who said that in 1999 crime and corruption would be our major problems, an unrealistic optimist," said a prominent member of the Jewish community. "But there has been no bloody revolution, no armed racial conflict. In fact, there has been a truly astounding degree of reconciliation."

Others focus more on the threat posed by a violent crime rate that reaches into virtually every corner of society, including the Jewish community.

A significant number of Jews have emigrated and others are seriously considering doing so – mainly to the United States, the United Kingdom, Canada and Australia, further depleting the 94,000 Jews who were estimated to live in the country in 1996.

But there was no renewed wave of emigration preceding the elections. Most adopted a wait-and-see attitude regarding the African National Congress (ANC) government under Thabo Mbeki, who was expected to win the elections overwhelmingly.

As of last Thursday, with 85 percent of the vote counted, the ANC had won 65.7 percent of the vote. Mbeki is expected to be inaugurated as president on June 16.

Outgoing President Nelson Mandela astounded whites with his attitude of total forgiveness of past sins during the apartheid regime, but Jews fear Mbeki's approach will not be as reconciliatory.

Russell Gaddin, chair of the Gauteng Council of the South African Jewish Board of Deputies, the country's Jewish umbrella organization, said Jews are nervous and uncertain about Mbeki because they don't know enough about him.

"When I met him, I was struck by his strength. He is a born leader. We need to understand, that over the last five years, the government has undergone a tremendous learning curve. They have now got their priorities in line, and I am confident they will be able to deal with crime and the economy," he said.

Another priority of the new government may be improved relations with Israel.

With the South African elections following soon after Ehud Barak's victory in the Israeli elections, Abe Abrahamson, honorary life president of the South African Zionist Federation, said the "Israel scenario has positive implications for relations between the two countries.

"The situation is now entirely different from what it was some weeks ago. I have confidence in the new Israeli prime minister to get the coalition for peace going."

Relations between Israel and this country have been somewhat strained in post-apartheid South Africa because of the ANC's strong ties with the Palestinians and Libya.

"The South African government is not anti-Israel, but feels that the Palestinians have to have their needs, as they understand them, met," said Rabbi Norman Bernhard of Johannesburg's Oxford Synagogue.

The Democratic party, which appears to have been the most popular party with white English-speaking and Jewish citizens in this election, will replace the New National party as the official opposition. As of last Thursday, the party had received 10 percent of the vote, running second behind the ANC.

'A complete red herring'

Even before election results were in, it was clear that the Democratic party's Jewish leader, Tony Leon, will continue to lead it on a national basis, while his brother Peter, will maintain leadership of the party on a provincial level.

It also appeared that the ANC would achieve a two-thirds majority in the National Assembly. Many white voters are fearful that this will allow the ANC to alter fundamental aspects of the constitution that protect minorities.

Peter Leon shares their concern. He further believes that if the constitution is altered, some professionals, including many Jews, would emigrate.

But, he added, "Other than Islamic fundamentalism in the Western Cape, there is more tolerance towards the Jewish community today than there was in the past."

ANC Parliament member Andrew Feinstein, who is likely to retain his seat, said the concern about the constitution was "a complete red herring.

"People forget the ANC is not just a majority, but by far the most representative party in the country. All minorities are represented in it, and there is therefore no reason why the rights of minorities should not continue," he said.

Dina Saffer, national chair of the South African Union of Jewish Students, said the greatest concern of students is the ANC's affirmative action policy, which limits post-university employment opportunities for whites.

"It is seen as discrimination," she said. "Students generally talk about 'when' they are going, not 'if.' Though there are opportunities, here the vision of students is colored by affirmative action. They can't see through – or past – it."

Debbie Gordon, a 23-year-old medical student, believes the ANC government has been guilty of "reverse apartheid" by limiting university admissions and job placements for whites. She is also concerned about health-care facilities and a lowering of standards.

"The ANC government is dealing with problems symptomatically, rather than treating the cause. They keep bringing up the past, rather than concentrating on the problems of today. The Truth and Reconciliation Commission was established to deal with those."

She believes there is no future for young people in South Africa, "especially considering that two students were held up at gunpoint in their cars during peak-hour traffic recently, under the eyes of a traffic cop a few yards away.

"They should enforce law and order and bring back the death penalty," she said.

Helen Heldenmuth, a producer of religious programs for television, was more optimistic.

"These elections were an incredible experience – so little violence, with voters showing respect and orderliness.

"I have every confidence in Mbeki. He represents the strong upper class blacks emerging in this country. The crime was always horrific in the black townships, but whites are only noticing it more because it has spilled over into their areas and because there is no press censorship."

She chastised pessimistic members of the Jewish community. "They lived in luxury long enough. It is now time for them to take part in the country and in building the nation," she said.

In an election message to the Jewish community, Mbeki referred to the Jewish contribution to the country in all spheres of life – business, the professions, the arts, science, culture, education, sports, medicine and politics.

"The community's positive outlook and efforts towards nation-building, are indeed appreciated. Its contribution, as a minority community, far exceeds its numbers," Mbeki said.

"We hope that your efforts in outreach and development will continue even more in the future as we embark, together with all citizens of South Africa, still further along the democratic road of peace and prosperity."

South African Jewish Report *correspondent Paula Slier contributed to this report.*

Marking the millennium

By DOUGLAS DAVIS
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

LONDON — Britain's official millennium celebrations should be marked with Christian prayers, according to the nation's chief rabbi.

Citing the religious nature of the millennium, Rabbi Jonathan Sacks said that it is, by definition, a Christian celebration.

"It is not and cannot be a Jewish moment or a Muslim moment," he said. "But neither can it be a secular moment, a party celebrating nothing in particular but the passing of time."

Rabbi Sacks made his comments when he delivered the first City Lecture, an event sponsored by the lord mayor of London and the dean of St. Paul's Cathedral.

"As a Jew, I want to live in a country that takes faith seriously," Rabbi Sacks said. "Someone who takes their own faith seriously is more likely to respect my faith, than someone for whom all faith is superstition and all religion an irrelevance.

"It is quite wrong to argue that an inclusive society is one in which religion is absent from our public celebrations. An inclusive society is one in which our many faiths are valued, each in its own way and time.

"The millennium is a Christian time, in a country where Christianity has not merely shaped our common culture and morality," he added. "It has helped those of us who are not Christians feel that our faith has a voice in the conversation, a part to play in the building of society.

"That is why I would feel diminished if the millennium were not a time of Christian prayer and celebration."

Lithuanian government slammed

TORONTO — The Lithuanian government has come under fire for failing to act against Nazi collaborators who have found refuge in the country after been thrown out of the United States.

Efraim Zuroff, director of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre's Israel office, said the Lithuanian government has ignored the presence of eight war criminals, and has turned the country into "the biggest Nazi haven in Europe.

"Such crimes cannot be ignored, nor can their perpetrators be allowed to escape punishment simply because they have eluded justice to date," Zuroff said in a letter to Lithuanian President Valdas Adamkus.

It has become "increasingly clear that Lithuania has become one of the leading havens for Nazi collaborators seeking to escape justice," he said. "Instead of immediately arresting these criminals who were part of the mechanism that implemented the annihilation of Lithuanian Jewry, they are the beneficiaries of the benign neglect of the Lithuanian police and judiciary who prefer to allow them to enjoy their golden years in the secure knowledge they will never have to pay for their crimes."

Nazi collaborators presence ignored

The most recent war criminal to find a home in Lithuania is Aloyzas Balsys, who left the United States in late May rather than answer questions about his role in the Lithuanian Auxiliary Police (Saugumas).

Wartime documents showed Balsys served in the Saugumas as chief of a precinct office in Vilnius from the beginning of November 1941 until at least 1943.

The Vilnius Saugumas arrested Jews caught outside the city ghetto or attempting to escape the ghetto, and turned them over to Nazi authorities. Most were shot at Paneriai, a wooded area near Vilnius. Nearly 55,000 of Vilnius' 60,000 Jews were killed at Paneriai. Many of Vilnius' Jews were killed while Balsys held office.

Other Saugumas members to abandon their U.S. residency rather than face deportation hearings, or who were ordered removed by a court include:

- Adolph Milius, who aided in the persecution of Jews;
- Aleksandras Lileikis, former chief of the Vilnius Saugumas;
- Kazys Gimzaukskas, Lileikis' deputy;
- Kazy Ciurinskas, a member of the 2nd Lithuanian Auxiliary Police Battalion, which participated in the murder of tens of thousands of Lithuanian and Belarus Jews;
- Vincas Valkavickas, an armed guard during the massacre of more than 3,700 Jews near Svencionys, Lithuania.

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CJN Rosh Hashanah Photo Contest

The CJN announces its fifth annual Rosh Hashanah photo contest. We are asking readers to submit their own original photographs either of Israel or on any Jewish theme in their community.

Anyone can enter except *CJN* employees or members of their families.

A maximum of three photos per entrant may be submitted. Please write your name, address and phone number on the back of each photo. We can only return the photos if you provide a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

You may mail or deliver your photos to: *The CJN* Rosh Hashanah Contest, The Canadian Jewish News, 1500 Don Mills Road, Suite 205, Toronto, Ont., M3B 3K4.

The contest closes at 5 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 16, 1999.

The judges will choose three photographs which, in their opinion, are the most expressive and evocative. These three photos will be published in *The CJN* Rosh Hashanah issue, Sept. 17, 1998. Each of the "winning" photographers will receive a cheque for $100.

We will undoubtedly receive many worthy submissions. But only three will be selected as the "winners." The decisions of the judges will be final. The odds of winning depend upon the number and the quality of submissions received.

Winning entrants will be notified by telephone before Shabbat on Aug. 27, 1999.

Any litigation respecting the conduct and awarding of a prize in this contest may be submitted to the Régie des Loteries et courses du Québec.

Artists fuse details from past

By MIRIAM CHINSKY
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Badanna Zack's *The Pool Room* and Leya Evelyn's paintings, *Familiar Shadows*, are in sharp contrast, yet each explores and fuses details from the past.

These works are appearing at the Justina M. Barnicke Gallery in Hart House, at the University of Toronto until June 17.

Zack does not shoot pool but her regulation 4 ft x 8 ft pool table, a composite of wooden forms, laminated papier mâché and corrugated cardboard, appears authentic. Billiard balls and cues and rack are all faux creations. The pool table is centred under a hanging fixture and the light is subdued to produce a ghost-like quality.

The sculptor weaves a kind of magic as she transports viewers to past games and induces them to remember the players.

Her work, *Homage To My Grandfather*, which is not at the gallery, is a reflection of Zack's grandfather, a tailor who came to Canada from Russia in the early 1900s.

It features a series of sewing machines in a factory setting. The machines are shown in progressive stages of deterioration right down to total disintegration, revealing the passage of time. Recurring waves of immigration are symbolized, when men and women, like Zack's grandfather, faced hardship and exploitation.

The Pool Room by Badanna Zack.

Leya Evelyn grew up in Bethesda, Md. at a time when hers was the only Jewish family in the neighborhood. Her father was employed by the United States government in Washington.

She now has her home on a lake in Hubeley, N. S., outside Halifax.

Her works, mainly oils and collage on canvas, probe family and childhood environments. Combining the abstract with the representational, she overlays photographic images from family albums with broad sweeps of bold color. The onlooker can venture into the picture and go beyond the artist's personal search to discover his or her particular response.

In *Nim No. 1*, she portrays an imaginary place which beckons with glowing yellows and apricots yet deepens in one sector to a forbidding black.

An ambitious 32-piece assemblage of 20-inch square paintings, primarily strong blues but with numerous subtle variations, embraces wide ranging thoughts and feelings.

Unlike her more vivid works, *Evelyn's Barefoot No. 21, 22* and *23* are photo collages with delineations in pen and pencil, evoking gentler memories.

The Justina M. Barnicke Gallery hours are Monday to Friday, 11 a.m. - 7 p.m., Saturday and Sunday, 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. 978-8398.

Yaakov Motzen

Israel Rand

Shlomo Sufrin

Cantorial concert a special treat

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — My husband is known for his serious demeanor and dignified behavior.

Yet there he was at the Shaarei Shomayim Second Annual Cantorial Concert: Yaakov Motzen and Friends, enthusiastically singing along with the performers.

Not that he was the only one by any means. The nearly sold out concert was well received and obviously enjoyed by everyone.

The performers were Yaakov Motzen, chazzan of Shaarei Shomayim; Shlomo Simcha Sufrin, the synagogue's assistant cantor, who is increasingly well known, under the name Shlomo Simcha, as a singer of popular Jewish religious music; and Israel Rand, chazzan of the Hampton Synagogue in Westhampton Beach, N.Y.

Also appearing was the Shaarei Shomayim Men's Choir, under the direction of David Young.

While one might have wished for a lighter hand in selecting the music, nevertheless cantorial selections came from such traditional composers of liturgical music as Yossele Rosenblatt and Moshe Ganchoff, as well as from today's Mordechai Ben David and Abe Rotenberg.

Rand even offered the Yiddish tear-jerker *My Yiddishe Mama*, not something one might expect from an Israeli-born cantor.

Throughout, Rand displayed a seemingly effortless range and control of voice, especially in his *Hatei*, from Tachanun, and a lovely version of *Santa Lucia*.

Sufrin used his solos to highlight his familiarity with the modern works: Shlomo Carlebach's *Ki Va Moed*, Ben David's *Rachem B'Chasdecha*, a Shabbat song, and a throat-catching *B'shem HaShem* from the bedtime Shema, written by Abe Rotenberg.

Motzen lived up to his reputation as one of the best chazzanim in North America, his rich voice adding emotion and color to Samuel Malavsky's *Kevodo Maleh Olam* and Rosenblatt's *Ad Heina*.

A highlight of the concert was his *Bring Him Home* from *Les Misérables*, which he dedicated to soldiers.

The duets and trios, many performed with the choir, were particularly effective, with the three voices playing off and complementing each other.

An added treat was a viola and guitar accompaniment, by choir members Alan Pollard and Alan Cohen respectively, to the Shabbat song *Yedid Nefesh*.

The skill of well-known accompanist Daniel Gildar enhanced a memorable concert.

Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

AUCTION OF IMPORTANT HEBREW MANUSCRIPTS

The trustees of London's United Synagogue have turned over a collection of some 140 historic Hebrew manuscripts, once owned by the London Beth Din, to Christie's auction house, which intends to sell them June 23 in New York.

One of the rarest and most valuable items in the collection is a siddur in the Ashkenazi style.

The book was printed on vellum in Prague in 1515, and decorated throughout in the Central European Renaissance style of manuscript illumination. Christie officials estimate that it may fetch between $300,000 to $500,000 (US).

Another highlight is *Sefer Sinai*, by **Abraham Ben Baruch** of Rothenburg (d. 1298), a halachic work with an estimated value of $100,000 to $150,000. The collection includes many other medieval and Renaissance manuscripts, including works by **Isaac Alfasi**, **Mordecai Ben Hillel** and **Isaac Luria** and his disciples.

The upcoming sale is the latest in a series of offerings of major Hebraica collections in recent years, including the Shane and Sassoon collections. 212-636-2680.

* * *

Children's Book: Toronto author **Cary Fagan** has revisited Russian author **Nikolai Gogol's** well-known short story *The Overcoat*, about a man whose winter coat is stolen. Fagan has given the story a much more satisfying ending. The result is *Gogol's Coat*, a lavishly illustrated children's book published recently by Tunda Books (a division of McLelland & Stewart).

The story, along with **Regolo Ricci's** evocative oil-painted illustrations, is first-rate and certain to entice children. In bookstores everywhere.

* * *

Music & Theatre Notes

• The Cranbrooke Friendship Club presents A Musical Interlude, featuring **Miriam Eskin** in a program of well-known Yiddish and Hebrew melodies and Broadway tunes. Winchevsky Centre, June 14, 12:30 p.m. $5, includes lunch. 789-5502.

• *My Fair Lady* continues at Stage West All Suite Hotel & Theatre Restaurant in Mississauga. Directed by **Kerry Meads** and starring **Alan Jordan** as Henry Higgins, **Avery Saltzman** as Alfred P. Doolittle, and **Kristin Gauthier** as Eliza Doolittle. Until July 20. 905-238-0042.

•*It Had To Be You*, a romantic comedy by **Renee Taylor** and **Joseph Bologna**, featuring **Agi Gallus** and **William Sved**, plays July 2 to 11 at the Tarragon Theatre Mainspace. $8. 322-7887.

• The Toronto Jewish Film Society is presenting two Yiddish classics *American Matchmaker* (1940, 87 minutes) and *I Want to Be A Boarder* (1937, 15 minutes) at the Art Gallery of Ontario, Jackman Hall, June 13 at 5:15 and 7:45 p.m. **Shlomo Schwartzberg** will introduce the films. Tickets $8. Call 924-6211.

• Friends of Yiddish is presenting an evening of Yiddish and New Jewish Music with singer-songwriter Lenka Lichtenberg, June 16, 8 p.m. at the Ford Centre, Studio Theatre. Tickets $10 from the Ford Centre box office or by calling TicketMaster 870-8000.

* * *

In the Spotlight: The Travellers, the celebrated Canadian folk group, blazed a path of glory in the late 1950s and early 1960s, recording numerous albums and even performing for the Queen. Not bad for a bunch of guys (and one "gal") from Toronto's downtown working-class Jewish neighborhood.

You've certainly heard their Canadianized version of **Woody Guthrie's** immortal tune *This Land Is Your Land*, and you've probably heard their renditions of great songs by **Bob Dylan**, **Ian Tyson** and that most prolific composer known as "Traditional."

Sony Music Canada has just released *This Land Is Your Land*, a CD by **The Travellers** featuring their best works between 1960 and 1966. The CD's extensive liner notes explains that the group members came out of the Yiddish-speaking, left-leaning milieu in Toronto's Spadina neighborhood of the 1940s and 1950s.

Their families belonged to the Labor League, which later became the United Jewish People's Order (UJPO). They were also associated with Camp Naivelt, the UJPO summer camp north of Toronto, and the Toronto Jewish Folk Choir.

Emulating **Pete Seeger's** group **The Weavers**, several Camp Naivelt veterans brought some musical relief to picketing workers at GM and Ford plants in Oshawa and Windsor as early as 1940. That was the beginning of the protean group that eventually became The Travellers.

They played their first gig in September 1953, and got their first big break in 1955 when they made the first of a series of appearances on CBC's *Pick the Stars*.

The "original" Travellers (ca. 1957) were **Sid Dolgay**, **Jerry Gray**, **Jerry Goodis** and **Simone Johnston**, but the personnel kept shifting. Goodis, for example, eventually opened a successful advertising agency, which necessitated his retirement from the band.

Gray performed a Yiddish show last winter, and may perform a similar show at the upcoming Ashkenaz festival. If you love folk music, you'll enjoy hearing The Travellers' new CD, available in record stores everywhere.

CONCERT AT BETH DAVID

Four leading cantors entertained over 650 people last month at Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am, Toronto, in celebration of Yom Yerushalayim. Pictured on the bimah are [from left] Cantor Itzhak Zhrebker, Congregation Shearith Israel, Texas; Cantor Yehuda Rottner of Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am; Cantor Sid Dworkin, Shaar Hashomayim Congregation, Montreal and Cantor Yaid Subar, Beth Sholom Congregation, Ottawa.

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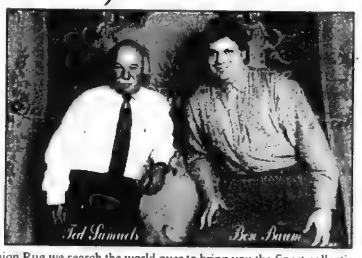

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Novelist's new release a coming-of-age story

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — "I'm not happy unless I'm living inside a novel," confesses Toronto author Cary Fagan, sipping a cappuccino in the Second Cup near his Forest Hill office.

Happily, Fagan is presently immersed in the creation of a fifth novel, which he began the day after completing the final draft of his latest novel, *Felix Roth*, recently published by Stoddart ($21.95). Not surprisingly, he began *Felix Roth* the day after finishing a previous work, *Sleeping Weather*.

"I'm not a procrastinator," he says. "I like to get the work done. Having children – he and his wife have a 7-year-old and a 2-year-old – "really helped me to focus. I really don't have a lot of time to stare out the window and think profound or poetic thoughts. I spend my work time writing. I just hope the profundity makes it into my writing, somehow."

Felix Roth has already won modest critical acclaim in Canada. Stoddart is reportedly optimistic about selling American and world rights to the book, whose appeal is immeasurably enhanced because the legendary Yiddish writer Isaac Bashevis Singer is an important presence in it.

Felix Roth takes place in New York in the 1970s. Brothers Felix and Aaron Roth, who grew up in suburban Toronto and are now in their early-to-mid 20s, accompany each other on a week-long visit to Manhattan.

Aaron, who has become Orthodox, makes the journey in order to meet the Kovner Rebbe in Brooklyn. Felix, meanwhile, is an aspiring writer who hopes to present a short story to the elderly Singer, one of his literary idols.

While Singer is not a walking and talking character in the book, he is a much-discussed figure, a literary legend who haunts the Belnorde Apartments in the upper-80s of Manhattan.

Fagan, whose previous books have used settings in Toronto and Europe, refers to *Felix Roth* as "my New York novel," and calls it a *Bildungsroman*, a term used to describe the story of a young man's coming-of-age.

"When I was in my late teens and early 20s, I loved novels like this – *Portrait of the Artist As A Young Man*, and *Great Expectations*, which was the first novel I fell in love with. These are novels that show a young man struggling into adulthood."

In pure Singer-like style, *Felix Roth* shows a young man balancing relations between two women, one of whom is married. It is also more purely a book about literature than Fagan's previous works, and it resonates with literary discussions, not only of Singer, but also of the accomplished troika of Jewish writers named Roth — Joseph, Henry and Phillip — of whom Fagan considers the Czech-born Joseph, who is perhaps the most obscure, to be the finest.

"Is there room for a fourth Roth? That's the question Felix asks himself. To some degree, it's a question we all ask ourselves: is there room for us to make our mark? In that sense, the book grapples with contemporary questions of identity."

One of a handful of promising and relatively young Canadian Jewish writers, Fagan asserts that Jewish writers collectively tend to spend too much time gazing into the rear-view mirror.

"I would like to see Canadian Jewish artists grappling with contemporary issues," he says. "It's so tempting to return to what we think of as a richer history – Europe before the war, and the natural dramatic possibilities of the Holocaust. I think we're right to draw on that history. But for Jewish writing to continue to be relevant, we need to go forward and find our themes in the contemporary life around us."

But even as he looks forward, Fagan is also looking backward into his own past. Whereas *Sleeping Weather* was about people in their 30s, *Felix Roth* focuses on a man in his early 20s, and Fagan's current work-in-progress focuses on a character in his teen years.

Recipient of numerous awards, the Toronto-born author says he found the production of his first novel (*The Animals' Waltz*, published 1994) so taxing that he almost gave up his ambition to write. At 41, however, he acknowledges that the work has become much easier, and says he has hit his stride.

"I do feel like I have a calling, and whatever the value of my work or however modest my talent, I can't help but feel that writing is what I was born to do," he says.

"I get a feeling from writing that I don't get from anything else. I suppose some people get it from downhill skiing, but I get it from writing."

Cantors sing pop, opera

By DAVID SILVERBERG
Student Intern

HAMILTON — Three young cantors took the stage recently at Beth Jacob Congregation in Hamilton for a night of Jewish and popular song.

Cantor Ben Silverberg of Beth Jacob, Cantor Marshall Loomer of Adath Sholom in Toronto and Cantor Noam Goodman delighted the packed synagogue with Jewish favorites and classical songs.

Silverberg, 24, the youngest full-time cantor in Canada, enthusiastically opened the concert with *Shalom Chaverim*. He then encouraged audience participation during his rendition of Sim Shalom.

Loomer, 38, dedicated *Eilu D'varim* to his father, who introduced his son to chazzanut when he was 8 years old.

Loomer and Silverberg, friends outside of the professional setting, had arms around each other's shoulders during their sweeping, waltz-like duet, *Areshet Sefateinu*.

When Goodman joined Loomer for their joyful version of *Od'cha*, it seemed as if their voices had blended into one.

Goodman, 29, is the High Holy Day Cantor at Lake Shore Drive Synagogue in Chicago and a full-time lawyer at the firm of Fogler, Rubinoff. He offered a tribute to the traditional cantors of the past with his sensitive rendition of *Der Alter Chazzen*. It touchingly told the story of an aging cantor asking God to preserve his voice and not to cast his soul away.

The second half of the fundraising concert for Beth Jacob featured classical, operatic and show tunes.

Silverberg sang the aria *Bella Sicome un Angelo* by Donizetti with crisp Italian diction, and his touching *Beautiful Dreamer* by Stephen Foster entranced the audience.

Loomer's delivery of *Danny Boy*, the traditional Irish air, and *Bring Him Home* from *Les Misérables* highlighted his delivery of popular songs.

Goodman sang *La Mattinata* and *O Sole Mio*. The evening concluded with a harmonizing trio of *Zol Shoin Kumen di Geulah*, but the crowd demanded more. The encore, *B'Shuv HaShem*, flowed joyously into *Am Yisrael Chai*.

MC Marvin Rosenshein joked with the cantors and the audience between songs. Piano accompanists Leon Karan and Nathan Rosen added the perfect touch of musical sensitivity.

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TRAVEL TALK

BY BILL GLADSTONE

TOURS OF BUDAPEST, VIENNA AND PRAGUE

The Travel Network, a Toronto-based tour company that has become an expert in Jewish-oriented tours, is offering a Treasury of Jewish Heritage and Culture, a fall tour of Budapest, Vienna and Prague, set for Oct. 5 to 17.

Exclusively created by Bonnie Horowitz and Vivien Rethazy of The Travel Network, the tour highlights the castle district of Budapest, the Dohany Synagogue, the Vienna Woods, the Schoenbrunn Palace, the Jewish quarter in Prague, and Terezin concentration camp.

The cost is $4,289 per person, double occupancy, including return airfare, four nights in Budapest, three nights in Vienna, four nights in Prague, transfers, entrance fees, most meals and comprehensive sightseeing.

The tour is limited to 36 passengers. 789-3271 or 888-666-8747. E-mail info@thetravelnetwork.com.

* * *

Rembrandt and Van Gogh: A major exhibition of Rembrandt self-portraits and other works by the Dutch master opens Sept. 25 in Mauritshuis Museum, The Hague, Netherlands, and runs until Jan. 9, 2000.

Rembrandt painted a total of 45 self-portraits, at least 25 of which are in the show, along with 20 Rembrandt etchings and drawings.

One of the themes of the exhibition is the questionable authenticity of works that may have been wrongly attributed to the artist. A second theme is the art of self-portraiture, and the show also includes several self-portraits created by Rembrandt's pupils.

Rembrandt was intrigued by Jews and the Dutch Jewish community, but apparently none of his paintings on Jewish subjects is included. Mauritshuis Museum, phone 011-31-70-302-3435, Web site is www.mauritshuis.nl.

Here's some more good news for art lovers intending to visit Holland: Amsterdam's famed Van Gogh Museum, which has been closed for renovations for nearly 10 months, opens its doors again on June 24. The building has been modernized and now features a new wing, to be used for temporary exhibitions. Van Gogh Museum, 011-31-20-570-5291. Web site, vangoghmuseum.nl.

* * *

Guide to Jewish Europe: The Jewish Welcome Service of Vienna, a government-sponsored agency, has for years offered to the public a succinct and colorful guide on Jewish Heritage in Central Europe.

The 36-page pamphlet focuses on sites in Austria as well as in Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic, Italy and, optimistically, the former Yugoslavia. It's available free of charge from the Austrian National Tourist Office, 2 Bloor St. E., Suite 3330, Toronto M4W 1A8. 967-3381.

The tourist office also has a limited number of copies of a smaller booklet on Jewish Vienna.

* * *

More News from Holland: As of May 1, the Resistance Museum in Amsterdam has moved to a new location: Plantage Kerklaan 61a in the Plancius Building. Its new permanent collection displays a chronological overview of the years 1930 to 1950. Many authentic objects, as well as street scenes, documents, photos, and video and sound excerpts tell the visitor about the occupation and the resistance movement in Holland.

Resistance Museum, 011-31-20-6202535. Web site, www.holland museums.nl.

Travellers to Holland may wish to attain a copy of *Savings Certificates*, a new booklet from the Netherlands Board of Tourism that features 14 coupons. Savings apply to such popular attractions as the Rijksmuseum, Anne Frank House, Diamond factory, Holland Casino and Keukenhof Gardens, plus hotel, dining and telephone savings.

The booklet is free and can be obtained by calling 1-888-GO HOLLAND (1-888-464-6552). Web site, www.goholland.com.

* * *

Canada 3000 to Vienna: The Austrian capital of Vienna is the newest destination in the summer schedule of Canada 3000 Airlines, which is offering the first ever non-stop Canadian charter service from Toronto to Vienna. The weekly Monday flights, which utilize modern 340-seat Airbus A330 aircraft, began in May and continue through Oct. 18.

Tour operators utilizing this connection include Canada 3000 Holidays, Conquest Tours, Sunquest/Alba Tours and Sunjet Holidays, with air-only pricing starting at $699. Consult a travel agent for details.

Friends collaborate on book that's Abundantly Simple

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — When Helen Kafka and Laura Hellen travelled through Europe after high school almost two decades ago, Hellen was the main French-language communicator – but in Switzerland they relied on Kafka's fluent Yiddish, acquired in part at Workmen's Circle Sunday School.

One day, in a Swiss cheese shop, the proprietor asked Kafka, "Where are you from? The north?"

The story still makes the two friends laugh.

In fact, almost anything can set them off. Their recent book, *Abundantly Simple, Everywoman's Gratitude Journal* – a spoof of the popular gratitude journal *Simple Abundance* – is the result of their appreciation of life's absurdities.

Kafka, a television producer whose credits include *Street Legal*, and Hellen, a dental clinic manager and calligrapher (she illustrated the book), were both very taken with a comment made by actress Gwyneth Paltrow to Oprah Winfrey on the latter's popular television talk show, regarding *Simple Abundance*.

As they recall, Winfrey expressed gratitude for two squirrels playing in a tree and Paltrow said, "Oprah, I think you're pushing it."

The book, dedicated to Paltrow, began as a case of verbal one-upmanship. Kafka and Hellen decided to preserve their bons mots on index cards, thinking they were too funny not to write down.

Abundantly Simple (Insomniac Press, $14.99) plays subtle homage (Hellen's word, pronounced the French way) to the two friends' past, with some dates chosen for personal significance and at least one allusion to the authors' alma mater, William Lyon Mackenzie Collegiate Institute.

There is little "homage" to Canada, though, with a single one-page "journal entry" supposedly originating in this country. "I'm grateful that the igloo has central air," is one of the lines.

There probably are people who will take the stereotypes seriously, admitted Hellen, an English teacher by training, in an interview. "But we can laugh at that. Canadians have a great sense of humor about themselves and this point of view."

The heavy American emphasis is partly due to the U.S. origin of the self-help phenomenon, said Kafka, who spends part of her time in Los Angeles.

"It just sort of evolved this way," said Hellen.

The book is currently available only in Canada, but is expected to be released in the United States in late summer or early fall.

Are any of the entries in the book based on their own experiences? "Oh my God, many!" exclaimed Kafka. Hellen offered a demure, "No comment."

The book has a touch of Jewish content, seen in datelines like www.oursimcha@temple.com, and Camp Taka-Amahya.

Hellen credits her late maternal grandfather, Sam Weinstock, for her sense of humor. "If someone had a fly in their food, he would say, 'It's okay, it's fleishik,' " she recalls.

But the co-authors' inspiration comes from "everywhere," they said. "We got a lot of ideas from [CNN interviewer] Larry King. He would say specific places, and we would say, 'That sounds funny.' "

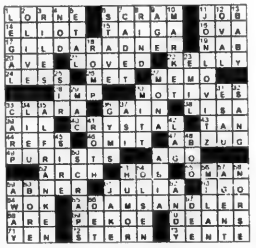
On a more serious note, Hellen, a divorced mom of two, said she is inspired by her daughters.

Despite divergent life and career paths, the friendship between Hellen and Kafka, who is unmarried, has been a constant. They've known each other since Grade 10, and became friends on their trip to Europe. Now they joke about their upcoming 40th birthdays.

"We have the same kind of humor," said Kafka, "but she's very refined, and I'm borderline tasteless."

"We balance each other out," said Hellen.

ANSWERS TO THIS WEEK'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE.



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Health

Jewish Healing Project stresses faith's importance

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Rabbi Nosson Westreich has seen for himself the power of faith in healing.

The rabbi, now a senior resident in psychiatry at Sunnybrook Health Science Centre, told the story of a patient he saw as a medical student, as part of his keynote address at a recent program of the Toronto Jewish Healing Project.

Speaking at Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue on Finding Hope: The Search for Faith Against Adversity, Rabbi Westreich related the story of a woman with end-stage ovarian cancer and an abdominal blockage.

It was his duty to tell her that death was imminent and would be painful. Instead, he entered her hospital room, asked her how she was doing, and nodded silently as she spoke to him.

"I know I'm not well," he recalled her saying. "I know I have faith. I have friends who are going to come by later – people I trust – and they're going to put their hands on my stomach and I'm going to be okay."

Rabbi Westreich didn't say a word. "I [then] called this woman once a month for nine months," he told the audience.

The four-year-old healing project, which is not affiliated with any denomination of Judaism, uses sacred texts, rabbinic commentary, music, ritual and stories as a healing adjunct. Projects in the works include monthly healing services and a workshop for professionals in the helping services.

It is one of over a dozen Jewish healing projects to have sprung up in North America in recent years.

"The [Jewish] mandate, 'Do not separate yourself from the community,' is never more important than at a time of illness," said Etta Ginsberg McEwan, co-ordinator of the project.

In another case, a hospital patient who'd been burned in a fire, discovered that her daughter, who was more seriously injured, had died. Even though the mother was "physically stable," she closed her eyes and died on hearing the news. "Her hope, her faith was taken away," the rabbi said.

"Faith can make the difference between life and death, between integrity and despair [or] isolation."

"When we talk about hope and faith from a Jewish perspective, we cannot forget about God," he said.

But everyone has questions, he noted.

Of several philosophical and inspirational stories he told, probably that of Rabbi Akiva illustrates the issue of faith and its challenges best, Rabbi Westreich said.

A shepherd who disdained people of faith until he had a revelation at age 40, Rabbi Akiva maintained his strong belief even when tortured by the Romans for teaching his students, Rabbi Westreich explained.

"Faith is a life's journey... It is a process." The lesson of Rabbi Akiva is that "it's never too late."

Rabbi Joseph Kelman, rabbi emeritus of Beth Emeth, said he thinks it's wrong for physicians – "who represent authority" – to say there is no hope.

Ultimately everyone encounters adversity, said Rabbi Ronald Weiss, who is director of chaplaincy for the Toronto Jewish community, a member of the Toronto Jewish Healing Project's volunteer committee, and co-editor with Rabbi Kelman of the booklet *The Path of Healing: Prayers for Comfort, Inspiration and Hope*, a publication of the Association of Jewish Chaplains of Ontario and Jewish Family & Child Service's Chaplaincy Services.

"One of the things we do have control over is our reaction," said Rabbi Weiss. "Often, finding hope means learning how to cope.

"Some people lose their faith and believe the world is misgoverned," he said. "We tend to believe good people should have easy lives."

North York General launches Web site

TORONTO — North York General Hospital now has a home on the Internet with the launch of its Web site.

"The web site will give our community an easier way to find out general information about the hospital and our services," says Web site co-ordinator Debra Bloomfield. "We're planning a site that our community members will find is worth bookmarking and visiting frequently."

Among the facts that can be found on the Web site are: updates on restructuring and changes at the hospital's three sites, descriptions of patient care services, health education and fundraising events, e-mail links to selected departments and visiting hours and parking rates for all sites.

To find North York General Web site, type www.nygh.on.ca

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Jewish General Hospital joins major study on breast cancer

MONTREAL — The Jewish General Hospital (JGH) is among more than 400 health centres in the United States, Canada and Puerto Rico taking part in one of the largest breast cancer prevention studies ever. The JGH is now recruiting volunteers for the study of the drugs tamoxifen and raloxifene.

"We are excited about bringing this important study to the Montreal area," said principal investigator Dr. Richard Margolese.

The trial will include 22,000 post-menopausal women at increased risk of breast cancer to determine whether the osteoporosis prevention drug raloxifene (Evista) is as effective in reducing the chance of developing breast cancer as tamoxifen (Nolvadex) has proven to be.

The JGH is part of the National Surgical Adjuvant Breast and Bowel Project (NSABP), the network of research professionals that will conduct STAR, as the study is known, which is supported by the National Cancer Institute.

"Studies of raloxifene suggest it has the potential to prevent breast cancer. The only way to prove that potential is to do a clinical trial in which the risks and benefits of raloxifene are directly compared with the risks and benefits of tamoxifen," he said.

An important part of STAR will be to compare the long-term safety of the two drugs.

Tamoxifen was shown to reduce the chance of developing breast cancer by about half, in a trial of over 13,000 premenopausal and post-menopausal women at high risk of breast cancer, according to results announced a year ago and published in the *Journal of the National Cancer Institute* last September. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved the use of tamoxifen to reduce the incidence of breast cancer in women at high risk, last October.

Half took tamoxifen, half took placebo

In that study, half the women took tamoxifen and half took a placebo.

However, the drug increases the women's chances of developing four potentially life-threatening health problems: endometrial cancer (the lining of the uterus), blood clots in large veins, blood clots in the lungs, and possibly stroke.

STAR is an attempt to find other options with a minimum of side effects.

Researchers say information about the safety of raloxifene is limited compared to the data available on tamoxifen. The drug was approved in December 1997 by the FDA to prevent osteoporosis, and has been in clinical trials for about five years.

Women taking the drug in studies of osteoporosis have had an increased incidence of forming blood clots, similar to the risk seen with tamoxifen. However, in these studies, raloxifene did not increase the risk of endometrial cancer.

For STAR, the JGH is looking for women who are postmenopausal, at least 35 years old, and have an increased risk of breast cancer as determined by their age, family history, personal medical history, age at first menstrual period and the age they were when their first child was born.

They will go through a process known as informed consent, during which they will learn about the potential benefits and risks of tamoxifen and raloxifene before deciding whether to participate in STAR.

Once a woman chooses to participate, she will be randomly assigned to receive either 20 mg of tamoxifen or 60 mg of raloxifene daily for five years and will have regular follow-up examinations.

The maker of tamoxifen, Zeneca Pharmaceuticals of Wilmington, Del., and the maker of raloxifene, Eli Lilly and Co., of Indianapolis, Ind., are providing their drugs for the trial without charge.

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Newly renovated! Approx. 8,500 sq. ft., 4+2 bedrooms, 2 kitchens. Large lot. Walk out. Call to view. Tanya Jivov*

*Sales Representative ** Associate Broker

A percentage of all our sales will be donated to supporting the homeless through "PROJECT WARMTH"

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OPEN HOUSE
451 MELROSE AVE
1:30-4:30 P.M.
SUNDAY, JUNE 13
AVENUE ROAD AND LAWRENCE
3,600 SQ. FT. - $879,000
Most desirable location & layout, premium 150' deep lot, unbelievable landscaping + all the bells & whistles.

RALPH SERVIDIO - Homelife/Metropark Realty Inc.
Sales Rep. 416-798-7777

81 GLEN PARK - BATHURST/GLENCAIRN
Spacious 4 + 1 bedroom, 4 bath., fin. bsmt., 2-car garage, $474,000.
Gail Zalev, Houston Group
(416) 783-8335

10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

Bath./Chabad - bright, spac., 3 bdrm., home w/fam. room, lge. lot, $265K. 416-398-0136.

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

Bath./Steeles - 2 bdrm., 2 bth., sol., $171K. 416-589-6271.

3000 Bathurst-2 bdr, 2 bth, upgrades, pkg., excellent cond., 3 appl. $219,500. Call 364-1063.

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

ROYAL LEPAGE

85 Skymark Dr. 1st Ad!
$458,000 DVP/Don Mills/Finch Outstanding 2 bdrms+fam. rm. on high floor with many upgrades incld: etched glass drs., open balc., bevelled mirrors, travertine flrs., lrg eat-in kit., 4 walk-outs, tandem pkg for 2 cars!!
ELLI DAVIS
#1 Sales Rep. in Canada for Royal LePage R.E.S. Ltd.
(416) 921-1112

100 ANTIBES DR.
Fab. reno'd. corner unit, 3 bdrms., 2 baths, new broadloom, white kit. & all appls., solarium opened up, low flr., 1 prkg., laundry ens. $179,900. Fluent in Yiddish.
Phyllis Fegelman
905-764-6000
Re/Max Realtron Rlty. Inc.

30 CONDOMINIUMS FOR SALE

OVER $1 MILLION SOLD IN THE LAST 60 DAYS!

DORIS ENDER

NEW LISTING • 360 Ridelle Ave.
• Fabulous 1 Bedroom Condo • Walkout Balcony • Unobstructed View • Bright & Spacious • Parquet Floors • Pool • Sauna • Direct Access to Subway • $121,900
Sutton Group Tower Realty Inc.
(416) 783-5000

10 TORRESDALE
2 bdrm., 2 bath., quiet balcony, fab. rec. facilities & security, low floor, split bdrm. plan, marble ensuite, locker, parking owned, luxury Tridel!
ANGELA HAN (905) 889-2200
HomeLife/Bayview Realty Inc.

35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

130 Neptune - New decor, 2 bdrm., 2 full bth., new kit., walk-in closet, undergrnd pkg., pool, $1250/mo. 905-771-9727.

Bath./Clark - 2+ bdrm., 2 bth., lau., eat-in kit., pkg., air, avail Aug. 1. $1475. 905-764-8909.

Bath./Steeles - Townsgate, 2 bdrm condo for rent from July 1. $1,500/mo. 905-881-9803.

Bath./Steeles - Townsgate, lux. 2 bdrm, 2 bth., 5 appl., huge PH terrace, 2 pkg. 905-882-1534.

105 COTTAGE FOR SALE

Wasaga Beach - FOR SALE
2 cottages in Shomer Shabbos beach frnt co-op. 416-223-7147

112 FURNISHED COTTAGE FOR RENT

Lake Simcoe waterfront cottages, Belle Ewart. 3 - 4 bdrms. Available for the summer. Call Bernie at 705-456-2999.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

BATHURST WILSON

CONVENIENT NORTH YORK LOCATION

NEWLY DECORATED SPACIOUS 1, 2 & 3 BDRMS.
- Large balconies
- Central air conditioning and heating
- Hardwood Floors
- Sunken living rooms
- Surveillance cameras and card access system
- Outdoor swimming pool
- Close to conveniences and TTC
- Underground parking available

125 Neptune Dr.
(416) 787-7171

BATHURST-SHEPPARD
Very lg. 1, 2, 3 Bedrooms., ample closets, some 1½ baths & 2 balc., roof, laundry, ravine setting, pool, ind. pkg., 6 apts. per flr. From $900.
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377 or 631-0388 - Super

Bath/Lawrence, newly reno'd bsmt. 1 bdr. apt. 416-783-3849.

Lge. lux. 3 bdrm. avail Aug. 1. Bath./Wilson. $1150. 787-6886.

Shep/Wilmington, spac, bright, 1 bdrm. bsmt apt., CAC, lau., close to TTC, beaut. area. $750 incl. Refs. Aug. 1. 789-9620.

81 APARTMENT TO SUBLET

Upper West Side, NY. Studio apt. End of June - mid August. Kosher, n/smkr. 212-580-6463.

82 ROOM FOR RENT

Bath/Sheppard - furn room in apt, priv bth, June 15. 638-7541

84 ROOM WANTED

An out of town 17 yr old male student seeks room in Jewish family home in the GTA. He will be here 2x/mo for a wkend from Sept 99 - June 2000. 398-0136.

125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE

GLENEAGLES COUNTRY CLUB
Delray Beach, Florida
DRASTIC REDUCTIONS
OWNERS SAY SELL
3 bdrms. and 3 baths, 2nd floor, Furn., include Golf Equity $112,000
2 bdrms., 2 baths + den, Bobby Jones Furn. include Golf $132,000
NESTLER POLETTO REALTY Boca
DOODY CAPLAN 1-561-495-2279

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

Hemispheres - 2 bdrm., 2 bth., oceanfront, high flr., furn., tennis, etc. Yearly rental only. Call 416-963-8469.

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CJN Classifieds Really Work!

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

ANBER MOVERS
(LOCAL MOVING)
SPECIALIST IN:
TORONTO ↔ VANCOUVER
NEW YORK ↔ FLORIDA
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1-800-561-MOVE

210 LAND/LOTS FOR SALE/LEASE

2 building lots. 50 ft. frontages. For sale by owner. Located on Charlton Blvd. (Finch/ Bath.) between numbers 173 & 179. Principles only. 416-225-4359, leave meassage on machine.

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

PARTY PLANNER/ FUNCTION COORDINATOR
For Kosher Banquet Hall. Immediate opening. Salary commensurate w/experience. Fax résumé: (905) 669-6243.

Accts. payable clerk req'd for El Al Israel Airlines. Must be exper. in all phases of recording, processing, correlating & paying invoices, as well as reconciling supplier statements. Background in airline acct'g will be an advantage. Location: Bloor & Bay. Please fax resume to 416-967-1643.

B'nei Akiva Schools seeks full-time secretary for boys yeshiva high school in Downsview. Computer skills necessary. Experience preferred. Fax resume to 416-398-5711.

Controller/V.P. Finance for a 2 year construction project in Israel. Hebrew a must. Salary: $85,000+ US/year . Fax resume to 416-489-5136.

Teacher, London Community Hebrew Day School requires full & part-time Hebrew/Judaic studies teachers commencing September, 1999. Hebrew fluency is required. Fax resume with ref. to 519-439-0404.

TRADITIONAL SYNAGOGUE
in Dallas, Texas, 110 year History, 400 + families, seeks energetic Associate Rabbi to lead youth, family & adult programming & assist Senior Rabbi with all congregational & life cycle events.
Fax resume to Attn: Search Committee at 214-739-5625 or e-mail: SteveBlas@Yahoo.com

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

Filipino workers avail. to clean homes & babysit, live in or out. 905-669-0793.

Babysitter/housekeeper avail. immed.Excel refs.905-294-8778

Exp. cleaning lady very honest refs., own transport. 497-3018.

Experienced home maker seeking jobs in homes for elderly. Refs. 416-265-3809.

Harvscott Domestic Services
"Five stars above the rest"
Housekeepers, elderly care, nannies, cleaning ladies, party helpers. 905-771-6543.

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(416) 730-0127

Sponsor Qualified Filipino Nannies, Nurses, Caregivers
Amazing Selection
Screened + references
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Wee Care Placement Agency
416-789-3070

High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

Mature woman would like to take care of an elderly person, live-out. References. 250-6618.

Nannies, live-in &out, full &part-time, cleaning. In-home elderly care by RN's & nurses aides. Bonded, refs. **416-224-9907. Servicing Toronto since 1985.** ***NUMBER 1 DOMESTICS.***

Professional cleaning service for apts/homes. Eves, days or wkends. Reas rates. Refs avail. Call Julia at 416-289-6857.

255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

Caregiver for elderly gentleman Fri 6pm-Sun 8am 416-323-3388

Family w/boy age 11 seeks housekeeper, cook & driver for long term position; pleasant environment, reas. hours. Excellent refs./driving exp. req'd. Call Susan (days only) 489-3431.

Full time live-out nanny for Avenue/Eglinton area. For 2 & 3 yr old girls. Starting September. Hebrew an asset. Salary negotiable. Fax resume: 482-2860 or email: bnashman@yahoo.com

Live-in companion/housekpr req'd. immediately for senior male. Cooking essential. Refs. Bath./Sheppard. 905-731-6593.

257 HEALTHCARE AVAILABLE

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(416) 740-9981
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- RN, RPN, PSW, Homemaker
- ✓ Live in/Live out Companion
- ✓ Recovering from Illness
- ✓ Recovering from Surgery
- ✓ Child Care
- ✓ Homemaking Services

SERVICES GUARANTEED OR IT'S FREE. CALL NOW!

258 HEALTHCARE WANTED

Live-in HCA req'd for senior lady in Ottawa who needs f/t care. Refs. req'd. 613-825-4404 or 613-224-2702.

259 SENIORS

Pleasant, mature woman w/car to assist seniors w/shopping & appt's etc. 416-785-3838.

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

B"H
SOULMATES WORLDWIDE JEWISH MATCHMAKERS. Mating season has begun, call Soulmates now or you'll miss the fun! **905-709-3868 www.soulmates.net**

Jewish Singles Registry. Over 1730 registered. **416-483-4151.**

264 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sally Kerbel, Dr. & Mrs. Norman Kerbel announce the engagement of their daughter **Sharon to David** , son of **Mr. & Mrs. J. Stolte**. Wedding July 11

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Looking for good company with long-term possibilities? Me too! Unpretentious, soft spoken, unatt. male, 55, with integrity, good sense of humour, introspective, good listener, seeks to balance life with spirited, perceptive, petite, very slim, unatt. female, 47-54, who is communicative, good humoured, & with no dependents. I enjoy Jay Leno's monologue, intelligent movies, light jazz & pop music of the 50's, 60's & 70's. Reply to CJN Box # 7172.

I am an active lady would like to meet a kind gentleman 70-78 who enjoys social life, theatre, movies, swimming, walking etc. Please reply to CJN Box 7176.

Traditional male, 50, is looking for an outstanding, kind lady for a serious relationship. All replies answered. CJN Box 7184.

Very special, attractive, slim, prof., classy widow who enjoys a full and active life with many varied interests is looking for a special man, 60-70, n/smkr., fit, emotionally and financially secure. CJN Box # 7187.

Youthful 54 SJF, prof, enjoys traveling,country life seeks prof. n/smkr, gentleman, 50-65 with sound intellectual/emot/financial port folios to share urban, rural pleasures. CJN Box # 7185.

Replying to a Companion ad with a CJN Box Number?

Address your mail to:

The Canadian Jewish News
1500 Don Mills Rd.
Suite 205
North York, Ontario
M3B 3K4
Box # _____

*** CJN Boxes for Personal Companions Wanted ads are valid for 30 (thirty) days only (from 1st publication date). Replies must be received within this time frame in order to be forwarded to the correct CJN Box #.**

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Early 40's widow w/17 yr. old son, slightly physically challenged would like to find male companionship, 43-50, young Israel, Modern Orthodox background. CJN Box # 7186.

300 ARTICLES FOR SALE

Singer sewing machine for sale. 416-630-3378.

330 OBITUARIES

BENJAMIN'S LANDMARK MONUMENTS

ALL MONUMENTS ARE NOT CREATED EQUAL

BENJAMIN'S LANDMARK MONUMENTS
3429 Bathurst (corner of Melrose)
(416) 780-0635

FINKELSTEIN, Ida - on May 8, 1999, late of 2515 Bathurst St., #502.
PASTERNAK, Tobie - on May 8, 1999, late of 1550 Queen St., #35.
SCHWARTZ, Solomon - on May 8, 1999, late of 1445 Wilson Ave., #204.
LAMBERSKY, William - on May 10, 1999, late of 167 Combe Ave.
PUPKIN, Ella - on May 10, 1999, late of 5935 Bathurst St.
THEODOR, Leonard - on May 11, 1999, late of 3173 Winona Dr.
DENNIS, Shelly - on May 21, 1999, late of 70 Montclair Ave., #403.
WINER, Mary - on May 21, 1999, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
DEAN, Rita - on May 24, 1999, late of 841 Sheppard Ave. W.

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HEBREW BASIC BURIAL
TRADITIONAL GRAVESIDE SERVICE

AXLER, Ruby - on May 4, 1999, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
BOGOMOLNY, Abraham - on May 5, 1999, late of 22 Shallmar Blvd., #709.
LANGBORD, Eva - on May 5, 1999, late of 339 Walmer Rd.
LIEFF, Sadie - on May 5, 1999, late of 645 Castlefield Ave., #623.
GORDON, Herman - on May 6, 1999, late of 18 Lady York Ave.
SHPIRO, Sally - on May 6, 1999, late of 135 Antibes Dr., #2106.
SHEFSKY, Samuel - on May 7, 1999, late of 2 Bayview Ridge Rd.
DENNIS, Helene - on May 8, 1999, late of 355 St. Clair Ave. W., #2605.
KIRZNER, Ben - on May 8, 1999, late of P.O. Box 3A4.
SHEFFE, Bertram - on May 8, 1999, late of 1601 Bathurst St., #3.
NATHAN, Harry - on May 9, 1999, late of 2 Silver Fir St.
NYMAN, Lily - on May 9, 1999, late of 237 Waterloo Ave.
ROTH, Joseph - on May 10, 1999, late of 155 Dell Park Ave.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

330 OBITUARIES

POLIAK, Olga - on April 29, 1999.
VINESKY-FISCH, Sarah - on Apr. 29, 1999, late of 4266 Bathurst St.
KARP, Andrew - on May 1, 1999, late of 122 Brooke St.
MANZYS-WISE, Margot Miriam - on May 1, 1999.
TRESS, Bella - on May 1, 1999, late of 205 Cummer Ave.
ZIMMER, Alfred - on May 1, 1999, late of North Carolina.
ROSENFIELD, Giselle - on May 2, 1999, late of 39 Sherbourne Ave.
SPITZBERG, Lena - on May 2, 1999, late of 715 Finch Ave. W.
SOLISH, Edward - on May 3, 1999, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
BLUVSHYEYN, Vladimir - on May 4, 1999, late of 1101 Steeles Ave. W.
JACOBS, Fela - on May 5, 1999, late of 1131 Steeles Ave. W.
NOVOPRUDSKY, Ruvim - on May 5, 1999, late of 4300 Bathurst St.
ATKINS, Faye - on May 6, 1999, late of 2 Buchan Crt.
DASSAS, Solomon - on May 6, 1999, late of 3705 Bathurst St.
RIBER, Mates - on May 6, 1999, late of 7420 Bathurst St.
MYROVITCH, Bessie - on May 8, 1999, late of 1925 Steeles Ave. W.
SILVERMAN, Yona - on May 8, 1999.
EDISON, Selyna - on May 9, 1999.
GOLENZER, Lucyna - on May 9, 1999, late of 1121 Steeles Ave. W.
HAZAI, Flora - on May 9, 1999.
FEDER, Sylvia - on May 10, 1999, late of 42 Kanarick Cres.
KIRSHENBLATT, Lily - on May 10, 1999, late of 7 Elder St.
ROTENBERG, Chanka - on May 10, 1999, late of 645 Castlefield Ave.
SEGAR, Leslie - on May 10, 1999, late of 4190 Bathurst St.
JACOBSON, Irene Helen - on May 11, 1999.
MALEK, Shirley - on May 12, 1999, late of 58 Gossamer Ave.
KRUGER, Harvey Victor - on May 13, 1999.
BELISOWKSI, Aharon - on May 15, 1999, late of 550 Cummer Ave.
GOULD, Julie - on May 17, 1999, late of 125 Shelborne Ave.
KIPERMAN, Jamie - on May 17, 1999, late of 429 Walmer Rd.
SOSSIN, Edward Morton - on May 19, 1999.
BESTER, Frieda - on May 20, 1999, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
LITMAN, Hinda Helen - on May 20, 1999.
GREENWALD, Dora - on May 21, 1999, late of 12 Dorchester Dr.
MENDROWSKI, Nathan - on May 21, 1999, late of 100 Antibes Dr.
KAGAN, David - on May 22, 1999, late of 68 Sunnycrest Ave.
LAVIE, Shaul - on May 22, 1999, late of 206 Strathearn Ave.
NEUFELD, Helen - on May 22, 1999, late of 306 Finch Ave. E.
SMOLACK, Abraham Morris - on May 23, 1999.
VANDER, Maxim - on May 23, 1999, late of 42 Robert Hicks Dr.
KORNBLUM, Morris Louis - on May 24, 1999, late of 7805 Bayview Ave.
CHARLES, Pauline - on May 25, 1999, late of 1 Northwestern Blvd.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

330 OBITUARIES

IZENBERG GOLDBERG Monuments

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(just north of Lawrence)
(416) 787-0319

SNEIDMAN, Sarah - on May 10, 1999, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
ADELMAN, Allan - on May 11, 1999, late of 100 Wychwood Park.
LAMPERT, Jay - on May 12, 1999, late of 26 Dersingham Cres.
LEIPCIGER, Leon - on May 12, 1999, late of 205 Cummer Ave.
ROTHMAN, Nellie - on May 12, 1999, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
COLLIS, Anne - on May 13, 1999, late of 729 Woburn Ave.
WEINBERG, Saul - on May 14, 1999, late of 26 Khedive St.
MOSOFF, Fay - on May 17, 1999, late of 645 Castlefield Ave.
PAPE, Walter - on May 17, 1999, late of 1 Concorde Pl., #304.
YEAGER, Bess - on May 17, 1999, late of 65 Fairway Hgts. Dr.
LASKI, Bunni - on May 18, 1999, late of 7905 Bayview Ave., #122.
SILVERBERG, Lou - on May 18, 1999, late of 7601 Bathurst St., #1601.
BERGMAN, Dr. Shalom - on May 19, 1999, late of 989 Eglinton Ave. W., #723.
AXLER, Sidney - on May 21, 1999, late of 205 Vaughan Rd., #203.
USHER, Bella - on May 21, 1999, late of 3 Skipton Crt.
HUROVITZ, Harry - on May 23, 1999, late of 121 Acorn Pl., #-910.
CASH, Sylvia (Zelda) - on May 24, 1999, late of 5935 Bathurst St.
NEWMAN, Laila - on May 24, 1999, late of 121 Kennard Ave.
SHORE, Ray - on May 25, 1999, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
MARKOWITZ, Edith - on May 26, 1999, late of 117 Old Forest Hills Rd., #11.
APPLEBY, Harry - on May 27, 1999, late of 342 Spadina Rd., #303.
RIVELIS, Ida - on May 27, 1999, late of 650 Briar Hill, #611.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

335 UNVEILINGS

COMMEMORATION OF THE 1st YAHRZEIT
of the late
MICHEL BENAMOU ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 13th, 10:30 a.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
Shaarei Tefillah Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
ALFIE ADLER ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 13th, 11:00 a.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Adath Israel Section

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
MORRIS CHARNEY ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 13th, 10:45 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Bathurst south of Steeles
Wierznbiker Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
JOE GOLDLUST ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 20th, 11:00 a.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Dufferin St. N. of Major MacKenzie
Lodzer Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
ALBERT (AL) LABOVITCH ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 13th, 10:00 a.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
Jewish War Veterans Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the loving memory of
FANNY LAUFER ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 13th, 11:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
New Zaglembia Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
CAROLE PULVER ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 13th at 11:30 a.m.
Beth Tzedec Memorial Park
5822 Bathurst Street
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

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Greater Toronto Area

ELI puts focus on child abuse in Israel

By DAVID SILVERBERG
Student Intern

TORONTO — One organization trying to make a difference for abused Israeli children is ELI, an association for child protection in Israel, now marking its 20th anniversary.

The organization provides assistance for abused children and their adult abusers.

The Canada Israel Association for Child protection ELI, founded in 1994, recently held a fundraising concert at the Ford Centre for the Performing Arts featuring children's entertainers, Judy and David.

Of the 400 people in attendance, approximately 250 were clients of local social service and educational agencies. They were treated to the concert by the organizers. Many of them would otherwise not have had the opportunity to attend.

Some of the agencies selected included Zareinu, Jewish Family & Child Service (JF&CS), Earl's Court, Variety Village and Jewish Immigrant Aid Services. Many of the clients of those agencies are victims of child abuse.

ELI's main objective is to raise awareness about the maltreatment of children, says Fran Goldman, founder of the Canadian branch of ELI.

In Israel the organization also provides intense therapy for abused children and their families, shelter and a telephone hotline, an information and resource centre on child protection, as well as educational programs in Israeli schools. Service is available in English, Hebrew and Arabic.

Goldman notes that ELI runs a special program for more closed communities, like new immigrant or haredi families. These groups may not have exposure to social services.

"This (child abuse) crosses all societies," says Goldman.

She told *The CJN* that a recent survey found that 30,000 to 40,000 Israeli children have been abused physically, verbally, emotionally or neglected by their parents. "It's just the tip of the iceberg."

Established in Tel Aviv by Prof. Hanita Zimirin, ELI offers placement for children removed from their families by the court.

The organization tries to keep families intact, says Goldman. Kids are only removed from their parents when neglect has reached an extreme case, she explains.

A new unit was established recently to provide legal representation for families. For example, Goldman says, if a mother and daughter want to leave an abusive father, then ELI will provide legal representatives.

The hotline won the award for best hotline in Israel in 1999. All the callers remain anonymous, and they deal with professionals, or volunteers who go through a rigorous training process, she says.

ELI is dependent on donations. Goldman says Shoppers Drug Mart was the first large company to give a substantial gift.

ELI also believes in giving to other charities and so a percentage of ticket sales from the recent concert went to JF&CS in Toronto, which also combats child abuse.

Israel can be a very stressful place for children, particularly those of new immigrants, says Goldman. There's a huge number of immigrants, and the assimilation process is often difficult. Sometimes the adults take out their frustrations on their children, she says.

Besides holding a children's concert every year, ELI (Israel) plans to hold a 20th anniversary ceremony at the Israeli president's residence on June 23.

Various sectors of Israeli societies will attend, among them, religious and secular and Arab groups. There will also be representatives from government ministries, youth movements and the school systems.

STUDENTS MARK EARTH DAY

In honor of Earth Day, Bialik Hebrew Day School grade 7 and 8 students created a sculpture of hands protecting a flowering plant. Shown with their creation are (from left), Sarah Horowitz, Joshua Katz, Danny Richmond, Ari Sefton and Joshua Fraiman.

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Single Jewish female, 5'4", 122lbs, brown hair, green eyes, enjoy working out, long walks, dancing, music, travelling, cycling, dining out, swimming. Seeking a male, 5'7"+, preferably jewish, university educated, good sense of style and humour, similar interests. AD#1400

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SOULMATE
Israeli male, 6'1", 160lbs, compassionate, enjoy the country side, night shows, classical music, dancing, dining. Seeking a female with similar interests. AD#1012

LANE-WAY TO LOVE
Jewish male, 37, 5'9", attractive, compassionate, enjoy theater, conversation, fun. Seeking a female, 26-37, with similar interests. AD#1194

UNCONVENTIONAL
Single male, 36, 6', have a Master degree, professional, enjoy camping, cycling, travelling, film, dining out, cooking. Seeking a female, under 40, no children, down to earth, caring, chatty, mid size, unconventional. AD#1053

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Single Jewish male, 40, bright, witty, kind hearted, enjoy long walks, theater, hiking, travelling, table tennis and other games. Seeking a female with similar interests. AD#1086

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Jamaican male, 48, 160lbs, enjoy house work, gardening, music, down to earth, good sense of humour. Seeking a female with similar interests. AD#1230

CALL ME
Single Jewish male, attractive, 36, 5'10", 190lbs, enjoy tennis, reading, movies, dining. Seeking a Jewish female, 28-45, fit, outgoing, with a good personality. AD#1192

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Single Jewish male, 48, 5'11", young looking, handsome, emotionally fit, dark brown hair, good shape, enjoy travelling, art, photography, writing. Seeking a female, 36-44, sensitive, intelligent, attractive, slim, good communicator, with an open, curious mind. AD#1648

SOCIALIZING
Single Jewish male, attractive, early 50's, 5'10", caring, compassionate, enjoy dancing, electronics, computers, socializing. Seeking a female, attractive, intelligent, caring, compassionate. AD#1119

AFFECTIONATE
Single Jewish male, 42, attractive, honest, sincere, down to earth, never married, no dependents, enjoy movies, travelling, sports events, swimming, walking. Seeking a Jewish female, 32-43, up to 5'3", non smoker, attractive, honest, petite. AD#2032

SOULMATE
Single male, 6'1", 160lbs, young looking, compassionate, enjoy nature, country site, classical music, dancing, dining out. Seeking a female with similar interests, looking for my soulmate. AD#1005

BEST IS YET TO COME
Single Jewish male, 53, 5'9", professional, successful, healthy, handsome, traditional, enjoy dining and dancing, long walks. Seeking a female with similar interests and qualities for long term relationship. AD#2017

FUN LOVING
Single male, 33, 6', blue-green eyes, slim, attractive, financially secure, fun loving, enjoy dining out, movies, dancing. Seeking a Jewish female, 28-35, tall, attractive, with similar interests. AD#2008

MARRIAGE MINDED
Single Jewish male, 46, fit, easy going, sincere, hard working, enjoy art, music, movies, long walks. Seeking a female, 25-35, for marriage minded, serious relationship. AD#2086

WHAT A CATCH!
Single Jewish male, 36, 5'10", 190lbs, enjoy tennis, squash, reading, movies, dining & dancing, TV. Seeking a Jewish female, 28-47, fit, outgoing, personality is a plus. AD#2014

ATTENTION LADIES!
Single male, reformed, 40, tall, slim, handsome, fair hair, hazel eyes, non smoker, social drinker, medical specialist, enjoy movies, blading, the outdoors, trying new foods. Seeking a slim, educated, fit, employed female, with a car and blue jeans, no kids or cats. AD#2000

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ATTENTION LADIES!
Single white male, 56, self employed, romantic, warm caring, enjoy travelling, movies, quiet times, good conversation. Seeking a female with similar interests and qualities. AD#1996

LET'S CHAT
Single male, employed, tired of the bar scene, seeking a fun loving female, with wide variety of interests, for friends first relationship. AD#2056

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Sports

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Future opponent for Gary Kasparov

Chess maven is Canada's champ among Grade 1 kids

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — For Harris Kaufman, chess is both intellectually stimulating and eminently enjoyable.

Of course, at age six, little Harris is unlikely to put it in quite those words. In the colloquial terminology employed by young Harris, chess "is fun" and "I get my brain stronger."

From the sounds of things, Harris is doing pretty good in the "brains" department. Recently, the boy wonder, accompanied by his parents, Allan Kaufman and Vicki Sterling, returned from a weekend tournament in Summerside P.E.I. in which he won top spot in Canada among children in Grade 1.

Harris won nine games out of 10 and avenged an early round loss by winning the championship game versus the number two seed from Quebec.

Harris was only too happy to discuss his victory. Coming out on top is the other element about chess that Harris enjoys. "I like winning," he said without reservation. "That's something I like a lot."

So far in his tender, young career, Harris has been doing a lot of winning. To advance to the national championships, Harris had to win a series of tournaments beginning with one in Agincourt, which is part of greater Toronto. He followed that up with wins in a city tournament and in an Ontario-wide event, giving him the privilege of representing Ontario at the Canadian Chess Challenge in the Grade 1 division.

The Canadian Chess challenge is an 11-year-old tournament operated by the Chess 'n Math Association, a national scholastic chess organization.

Champions from each province from grades 1 through 12 participated in the event.

Justin Lasker of Winnipeg's Gray Academy of Jewish Education finished first in the Grade 2 division, while David Hier of Toronto was fourth. Other Jewish participants included Matthew Herzberg of Toronto (Grade 4), Zev Permack, Gray Academy (Grade 3), Daniel Lipson, Gray Academy (Grade 5) and Danny Goldenberg of Quebec (Grade 12).

Harris, who attends Leo Baeck Day School in Toronto, began playing chess before he turned five. "It was a nice alternative to action figures," said his mom, Vicki, who introduced him to the game. "It's a lot quieter."

Harris took to it immediately. He now plays four games a week, usually against kids a year or two older than himself. He can solve the newspaper chess puzzles, and "I can beat my dad," the youngster boasts.

Harris' natural talent and desire to win are reinforced by studying the game at a chess school operated by the Chess 'n Math Association on Bayview near Eglinton.

The club provides instruction in chess techniques and it organizes regular competitions.

Harris can rattle off various game openings, from Spanish to Italian to King's Gambit to Queen's Gambit. The Two Knights opening is his favorite, he said.

As much as he loves the game, Harris admits "my favorite thing is hockey, even more than chess."

Still, his ambitions lay in chess and they're pretty formidable. "I'd like to play [Gary] Kasparov, the world champion," the chess maven says as he runs off for milk and cookies with a friend.

Harris Kaufman

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Maccabi soccer team needs financial help

TORONTO — What good are a few good men, if they're stranded thousands of miles from the action?

To help get his men to the action in Mexico City this summer, the head of Maccabi Canada's soccer squad is inviting financial support from the community.

Canada is sending a top calibre soccer team to the Pan-American Maccabi Games this July, but the team needs to raise $50,000 to be sure all athletes can participate, said soccer head coach Martin Scott of Toronto.

The team is offering sponsors advertising opportunities based on placement of corporate logos on team uniforms, Scott said.

Placement on the front of the game jersey will run $7,500 while a logo on game shorts is available for $2,500. Other uniform placements have prices in between. In addition, the team in inviting tax-deductible donations or a donation of goods and services.

The team Scott has assembled sports an international flavor, with many hailing from across Canada and from outside Canada's borders. Dan Sankar, a former member of the professional Toronto Shooting Stars, is of Indian heritage while Irv Studin, a 1999 Rhodes Scholarship winner and member of the 1998 Toronto Lynx pro team, was born in Italy to Russian parents.

Others on the team are from Israel, Argentina and Latvia. There are even a handful of native-born Canadians.

For more information, Scott may be reached by phone at: 905-771-6465; or by fax at: 905-709-9016.

The Inside Back

Caveat emptor of real estate

It has become more common in the past few years for foreign residents to purchase homes in Israel, either as investments or to serve as a base in this country for future visits and even retirement.

Naturally, buying real estate in Israel, as anywhere, brings with it a host of issues which are important to be aware of. I would like to focus in this column on an issue which arises at the high end of the market, in so-called luxury projects.

Although Israel has lagged behind North America in this area, builders have come to realize that the level of maintenance in luxury condominium buildings is as important to buyers as almost any other factor, and to this end they have been replacing the condominium house committee, made up of representatives of all the owners in the building, with maintenance companies.

In ordinary condominium buildings, the house committee is volunteer, and charges a small monthly fee based on actual expenditures for cleaning the hallways, gardening, heating fuel, etc. Maintenance companies, on the other hand, exist to make a profit, and so charge a fee on top of their expenses.

When purchasing a condominium in a luxury building with a maintenance company, the buyer will generally be required to sign a contract with the company.

A case currently going on in Jerusalem exemplifies the complexity of this seeming-ly simple situation. The dispute revolves around a luxury project involving several towers and townhouses – over 350 condominiums – which are maintained by one company. According to the standard agreements all the owners signed, the company may be replaced, if 75 percent of the owners vote to do so.

A group of residents who were not pleased with the services provided, have petitioned the Jerusalem District Court to declare the contract terminated, and enable them to replace the company with another maintenance body which the tenants will appoint.

Another group of tenants (who, for fairness' sake, I must point out that I represent) also joined the proceedings, arguing that while they would like to see improvements made, they bought their homes in the knowledge that the complex is maintained by a professional, experienced, company, and that if a tenants' association takes over, it will not be able to cope with the myriad of issues involved in maintaining such a large project.

In such a case, they argue, the level of maintenance and repair will fall dramatically, taking with it the value of their homes, and turning the luxury neighborhood into a slum. This group of owners wishes to negotiate with the company for a change in terms, but prefers to avoid what they see as throwing the baby out with the bath water.

One can certainly argue the merits of the case, and my own personal involvement prevents me from discussing it objectively, but it does highlight some of the issues which arise in these situations.

First of all, a professional maintenance company adds to the costs of keeping a home in Israel, and buyers should be aware of the fact that they have very little control and supervision over these costs. One of the issues, which in my opinion is hidden behind the legal arguments in the case mentioned above, is how much the different sides trust the honesty and professionalism of the company's managers.

Secondly, retaining a company, rather than a house committee, should lead to a higher level of cleanliness and professionalism, and may even cut certain costs, as a large company can purchase parts and services in bulk. It also frees tenants from the chores involved. At the same time, a conflict of interest can arise between tenants who can afford the price and prefer the luxury, and those who desire to cut the fees at any cost.

There is a growing body of case law in which the courts weigh in on the side of tenants who require protection from draconian contracts which bind them to an expensive and sometimes undesirable arrangement. This needs to be balanced against the fact that the damage caused by ending the contract should not outweigh the benefits.

In any case, there are very real advantages to this arrangement, together with some risks. Purchasers should get independent advice from a professional who understands the issues and takes the time to explain them fully.

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1/2 tsp dried thyme
5 cups chicken or vegetable stock
1 cup couscous cooked
salt & pepper
fresh basil leaves for garnish

In a large saucepan, heat oil over medium-high heat. Cook leek and eggplant until soft, about 3 minutes. Stir in tomatoes, tomato paste, basil, oregano and thyme.

Cook about 4 minutes. Add stock and simmer 30 minutes. Puree in a food processor. Return to pot and stir in couscous. Reheat if necessry. Taste for salt and pepper. Garnish with basil leaves. Serves 6 to 8.

About Life

Dear Ella,

My friends Jerry and Batya have recently split up after a long marriage. They are both wonderful friends to me, and I am close with both of them.

When they first went their separate ways, I managed to stay in touch with both of them quite successfully; however, although their divorce started off amicably, there are more hard feelings now.

I am often asked for my opinion, which I never give, and this often ends in a quarrel as well.

I have noticed that most of their friends have now divided their loyalties either one way or the other, and I don't want to be one of those.

What can I do to keep both these friendships alive?

Split Decision

Dear Split Decision

Ideally, when a couple splits, it would be great to stay close to both parties, but realistically, that is very difficult.

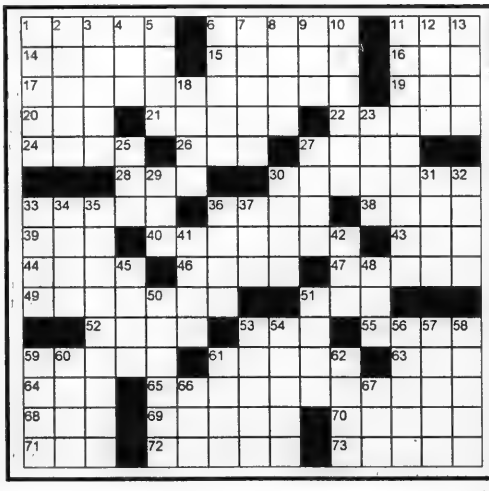
This problem seems to be growing. Wherever you turn, another couple is breaking up. As a friend, it is a difficult thing to accept. When a couple breaks up, it is ultimately their decision, forcing you to change the status of your relationship with them. It is out of your control, and you have to accept their decision, and likely choose the direction your friendship will take.

You are very brave and possibly very idealistic to try to stay close to both of your friends. It certainly is worth a try and worth the effort, but you wouldn't be the first to find that this arrangement isn't practical and doesn't work. At best, you might be able to expect to stay close to one person and become an acquaintance of the other.

I do have to commend you on your wisdom in staying out of their quarrels and keeping your opinions to yourself. Sometimes, friends try to take sides and bad-mouth the ex, only to find out that two months later they have gotten back together and you have said all kinds of terrible things.

Stay strong and keep trying. Anything worth having is worth working for.

Readers may submit their questions to Ella at The CJN. *But Ella is not a professional counsellor. She brings to the questions posed by readers her unique brand of earthy wisdom. Her advice is not a replacement for medical, legal or any other advice. For serious problems, consult a professional*



The Canadian Jewish news

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Not Ready for Prime Time

By Matt Gaffney and David Bianco (QSyndicate@aol.com)

Across

1 *SNL* producer Michaels
6 "Beat it!"
11 His tears are famous
14 Cat-loving poet
15 Much of Siberia's terrain
16 Eggs, to a biologist
17 *SNL*'s "Baba Wawa"
19 Catch a crook
20 Madison or Fifth, for short
21 Idolized
22 Dancing Gene
24 Minus
26 Beverly Sills medium, sometimes
27 Intra-office note
28 Mischief-maker
30 Concerns for Agatha Christie
33 Bow or Barton
36 Make some yardage
38 See 27-down
39 Suffer sickness
40 *SNL*'s "Sammy Davis, Jr."
43 Catch some rays
44 Basketball officials
46 Fail to include
47 Former congresswoman Bella
49 Traditional crowd
51 In the past
52 Feature of St. Louis or Paris
53 Pirate cries
55 Arab League member
59 Baseball inventor Doubleday
61 Former *SNL* cast member _____ Louis-Dreyfus
63 "Here ____ again!"
64 Chinese kitchen sight
65 *SNL*'s "Opera Man"
68 "You ___ the Sunshine of My Life"
69 Tea type
70 College heads
71 Matsuyama moolah
72 Co-star with 40-across in "City Slickers"
73 Back-fence talker

Down

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2 Middle Eastern snack
3 Agitates
4 Signal approval
5 And others: Lat.
6 Ward (off)
7 West Point student
8 Peel
9 Methuselah's fame
10 Stock _____
11 *SNL*'s "Master Thespian"
12 Office for Clinton
13 *Bris* receiver
18 Easy victory
23 First Best Actor Jannings
25 Address for Dayan
27 With 38-across, *La Gioconda*
29 IBM alternative
30 Tool for Hank Greenberg
31 Jacob's twin
32 Performed "Hava Nagila"
33 Nitpick
34 In ___ of (replacing)
35 *SNL*'s "Stuart Smalley"
36 Where people get pumped
37 "Do ____ say!"
41 *Portnoy's Complaint* author
42 ____ B'Omer
45 Male parent
48 Ghost's syllable
50 Leftovers
51 Israel is there
53 Novak's *The Big Book of Jewish* _____
54 Merlin of TV
56 Northern Italian metropolis
57 Michael Ovitz, notably
58 Linguistic cousin of Yiddish
59 Gone
60 Give a bad sermon, perhaps
61 Fitness guru Steinfeld
62 Late *SNL* comic Kaufman
66 Mich. city
67 Actor Billy ___ Williams

(This week's answers are on page 51.)

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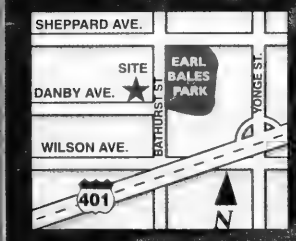

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UJA Federation Annual Report

1998-99

Changing Lives.
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Campaign For Fifty Furthers Assistance

The success of UJA Federation's Campaign for Fifty has increased assistance to Jews in need and laid a solid foundation for the future of Toronto's growing Jewish community.

The first year of UJA Federation's bold initiative to raise $50 million annually by 2001 brought in a record-breaking $40.5 million - $4 million more than the year before. Additional funds raised through increased contributions and new donors have already been channeled to support a wide variety of programs to assist the vulnerable, strengthen Jewish identity and rescue Jews from danger around the world.

This year alone, UJA Federation has increased its allocation to Jewish Family and Child Service by over $550,000 – preserving essential programs and service for, among others, abused women and children who witness abuse. More disadvantaged youngsters will benefit from UJA Federation summer camp subsidies locally while increased numbers of children in the former Soviet Union (FSU) will get their first taste of Judaism in Jewish Agency run summer camps. Support has also been extended for the sick and institutionalized through Jewish Chaplaincy visits, students with special needs and children at risk in Israel.

With the help of Campaign for Fifty funding, many more Jews in our community are exploring their Jewish identity. Parents and children are learning together through family education programs, grants have been awarded to diverse organizations sponsoring innovative Jewish programming for the unaffiliated and additional financial assistance has been provided to Israeli initiatives promoting worldwide Jewish unity.

UJA Federation provided an uninterrupted stream of support to Jews threatened by rising anti-Semitism and declining economic conditions in the FSU thanks to increased UJA Federation contributions. About 60,000 FSU Jews are expected to make aliyah this year – 15,000 more than last year. Teenagers who left for Israel without their parents received comprehensive care and counseling to help with the transition. In Albania, UJA Federation's partner organization – the Jewish Agency – transported over 130 tons of relief to Kosovo refugees and financed flights to Israel for both Jews and ethnic Albanians.

A Vision of Jewish Toronto Tomorrow

During the next few months UJA Federation, together with local agencies, schools and individual supporters, is beginning to set the stage for a new era in community development in order to meet the growing needs of Jewish Toronto. During the last 80 years, UJA Federation has succeeded in building and maintaining a strong annual campaign, supporting an extensive and sophisticated network of social, cultural and educational services. Schools, community centres and agencies were built to service young and old, sustaining Jewish values throughout everyday life.

Yet with a population that has tripled over the last 50 years, Jewish Toronto's infrastructure and financial resources are stretched to the limits. The rapid growth of York Region's Jewish population – an estimated 50,000 – and the demand for new and expanded services for our youth, families and the elderly necessitate an immediate coordinated response - Jewish Toronto Tomorrow.

The Jewish Toronto Tomorrow initiative, spearheaded by UJA Federation, is a long-term plan - a blueprint for the future. Jewish Toronto Tomorrow incorporates new strategies and partnerships, reflecting a new way of thinking collectively about preserving and enhancing all the elements that make our community one of the best in the world. By coordinating the Annual UJA Federation Campaign, centralized capital and endowment fundraising initiatives, UJA Federation and its partners can help make sure all community needs are met.

The new CHAT Anne and Max Tanenbaum Education Centre currently under construction, is one of Jewish Toronto Tomorrow's premier ventures, providing 21 new classrooms and other modern amenities. Other community development projects underway include the renewal of the Bloor Jewish Community Centre and Bathurst Jewish Centre, a Centre for Jewish Campus Life at the University of Toronto and the acquisition of a campus for community services in York Region.

From Joseph Steiner:

As outgoing President of UJA Federation, Joey Steiner has been a tireless hands-on worker over the course of his two-year term. Here are some of his reflections:

Q- What are some of the highlights of your Presidency?

A- We've made real progress on the Legacy Campaign, the establishment of substantial donor-advised endowment funds, and the commitments and renovations to the CHAT building. With the increase in our annual campaign we have the ability to look at new programs or expansion of programs for our agencies. During the crisis in the Israeli Knesset on the conversion issue, the North American federations came together, both individually and collectively, to take a position in support of the rights of all Jews from the various streams. We're focusing on real partnerships with our agencies, and our view of the need for services in York Region.

Q- What do you think is the one most significant accomplishment in the past two years?

A- The whole development of a stronger feeling of common enterprise between UJA Federation and our agencies, and hopefully, increasingly, the synagogues and other institutions.

Joseph Steiner

Q- What do you feel are the largest challenges ahead, not just for UJA Federation, but for the Jewish community of Toronto?

A- I think the biggest one is meeting the needs of the growing Jewish community as it geographically spreads out, bringing services to areas where there are inadequate services now in the north, and downtown. One of the major accomplishments is the plan for the Bloor Jewish Community Centre and the acquisition of a major donor for that. The campus centre for the University of Toronto is another example.

Q- How do you feel personally as your term comes to a close?

A- I have enjoyed it immensely. I love my community work. It's a very important aspect of how I see myself. It's been a great couple of years.

Looking Ahead

From the New President:

As incoming President of UJA Federation, Alan Sandler will continue building bridges to diverse elements of the community and stronger ties to Israel.

"We've made great strides in cultivating new partnerships with our agencies and schools and mapping out common goals. Now it's time to invite more people and organizations to the table," explains Alan Sandler, Past Chair of UJA Federation's Community Planning and Allocations.

High on his list of priorities are families with young children who have little connection with community. "By supporting a wide variety of family education initiatives through various synagogues and institutions, UJA Federation is extending a welcome to families," explains Sandler. "We must make ourselves more available to those seeking a sense of belonging."

"UJA Federation must reach out and let people know we are there for them," he adds. "At the same time, we've asked our agencies and the organizations we work with to open up and share their resources with others."

In addition to increasing support for the vulnerable, including what he calls the "horrific" numbers of Jewish children living in poverty, and continuing overseas rescue efforts, Sandler emphasizes the need to devote greater resources to Israel Experience Programs for students, teachers and adults. "Israel is our richest resource for Jewish education," says Sandler. "I believe that every Jewish teenager should have the opportunity to go to Israel, learn about their heritage and develop lasting relationships with Israelis."

"I've always believed it's the people who make a difference in the end," says Sandler. "By engaging more people in everyday Jewish life, we are guaranteeing the future."

Alan Sandler

UJA FEDERATION

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1998/99 Budget

1998/99 INCOME

Annual Campaign Gross	**$35,546,000**
Less:	
Provision of doubtful pledges	(1,777,000)
Annual Campaign	(3,631,000)
Credit Card Commissions	(200,000)
Net from Annual Campaign Available for Allocation	**$29,938,000**
Designated Gifts	$954,000
Estimated Funds Available For Allocation	**$30,892,000**

1998/99 ALLOCATIONS

Overseas Allocations Available from Annual Campaign	**$13,923,000**
Israel and International	
Jewish Agency for Israel	
American Joint Distribution Committee	
Domestic Allocation Available from Annual Campaign	**$16,969,000**

Domestic Allocations

NATIONAL

• Campus Services (Program/Travel/Conference)	$58,950
• Campus Services – Grants	$36,345
• Canadian Jewish Congress	$1,313,903
• Immigrant Services	
-JIAS Administration	$531,196
-Immigrant Relief	$457,907
• Jewish Telegraphic Agency	$11,081
• Travel Fund	$21,054
TOTAL	**$2,430,436**

INTEGRATION

• Bernard Betel Centre	$13,833
• Jewish Vocational Services	$48,005
• Bathurst Jewish Centre	$44,173
• Schools	
-Associated Hebrew School	$66,124
-CHAT	$6,095
-Orah	$19,892
• Community Integration Program (administered at JIAS)	$115,000
• Furniture Bank	$12,750
• Student Tuition subsidies – FSU	$200,000
TOTAL	**$525,872**

HUMAN SERVICES

• Bernard Betel Centre	$75,916
• Jewish Vocational Services	$421,350
• Jewish Family & Child Service	$1,571,428
• Bathurst Jewish Centre	$700,532
• Bloor JCC	$22,700
• Jewish Information Service	$94,494
• Toronto Jewish Free Loan Cassa	$56,667
• Circle of Care	$29,222
• Reena	$52,862
TOTAL	**$3,025,171**

CONTINUITY AND CULTURE

• Action Committee for Jewish Continuity	$300,000
• Bathurst Jewish Centre	$162,428
• Bloor JCC	$58,322
• Ontario Jewish Archives	$17,560
• Oskar Schmidt Museum	$13,195
• Holocaust Centre	$49,516
• Committee for Yiddish	$9,956
• Jewish Campus Services	$406,514
• Jewish Camp Council	$42,581
• Jewish Family & Child Service – Camp	$56,464
• Bathurst Jewish Centre – Camp	$45,160
• BBYO	$35,154
TOTAL	**$1,196,850**

JEWISH EDUCATION

• Board of Jewish Education	$888,319
• JESNA	$4,830
• Tuition subsidies	
Elementary Schools	$4,579,163
Associated Hebrew School	
Bialik Hebrew School	
Eitz Chaim	
Leo Baeck Day School	
Netivot HaTorah Day School	
Or Ha'emet Sephardic Day School	
She'arim Hebrew Day School	
United Synagogue Day School	
High Schools	$2,016,927
Beth Jacob	
CHAT	
Ner Israel Yeshiva	
Or Chaim	
Ulpanat Orot	
• Supplementary Schools	$21,831
• Midrasha L'Morim	$42,988
• Orah School	$25,751
TOTAL	**$7,579,809**

UJA FEDERATION OF GREATER TORONTO

• Administration, Operations & Programs	$1,521,904

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This Week

National

Wiesenthal Centre helps fight against Internet hate sites. *Page 3*

Federal Court rules Kisluk was a Nazi collaborator. *Page 5*

Religious and secular divisions a threat to Israel, panel says. *Page 7*

Health

Branson Hospital says bye-bye baby. *Page 37*

Arts

Former Miss Brooklyn an accomplished photographer. *Page 41*

Sports

Soccer star heading to Pan-Am Maccabi games. *Page 50*

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Shabbat: Korach
Candlelighting: 8:44
Tammuz 4, 5759
Havdalah: 9:49

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Iran urged to release 13 imprisoned Jews

By JULIA GOLDMAN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

NEW YORK — Canada has been asked to help secure the release of 13 Iranian Jews charged by the Iranian government as being spies for Israel and the United States

In the House of Commons last Friday, Thornhill Liberal MP Elinor Caplan requested that Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy investigate, "and add Canada's voice to others around the world demanding the release of these political prisoners."

Caplan noted that the charges carry the death penalty. She said those charged include a number of rabbis and leaders of the Jewish community in Iran.

Canadian Jewish Congress also called on Axworthy to intervene on behalf of the Iranian Jews.

"We ask you to use Canada's influence with the Iranian government and all diplomatic measures to effect their early release," Congress president Moshe Ronen said.

In a letter to Iranian ambassador Dr. Seyed Mohammad Adeli, Ronen called for the immediate release of the 13 Iranian Jews as well as the dropping of all charges. Iran under President Mohammed Khatami had made progress in the area of human rights, the rule of law and development of civil society, Ronen said.

"In our view, the arrests in question will have the effect of jeopardizing the progress made in these areas and casting doubt on Iran's commitment toward the protection of minority rights," he added.

In Ottawa, meanwhile, the Department of Foreign Affairs took steps to inquire into the arrests.

"The department asked our embassy to seek clarification from the Iranian government on the charges of spying," said department spokesperson Michael O'Shaughnessy. "We're following the situation closely and we'll determine our next step after we receive more information."

Meantime, Israel and the United States have strongly condemned the Iranian government for charging the 13 Jews with spying.

Israel called for the immediate release of the detainees, and the United States criticized the arrests, saying, "They are a very disturbing signal."

Iran's state-run radio broadcast a report of the charges last week, according to a report by the Associated Press (AP), quoting the British Broadcasting Company.

The 13 "were accused of spying for the 'Zionist regime' and 'world arrogance,' references to Israel and the United States respectively," the AP report says.

Continued on page 35

Canada asked for help

Please see pages 8, 33, 35

STANDING TALL
Prime Minister-elect Ehud Barak awaits his turn in the Knesset chamber last week before being sworn in at the inaugural sitting of the 15th Knesset. *[RNS/Reuters photo]*

LIGHTING THE WAY FOR WITHDRAWAL FROM LEBANON
Participants in a rally organized by the Four Mothers movement lit 1,247 candles last week in Tel Aviv. Each candle represented an Israeli soldier killed in Lebanon since 1982. *[Israel Sun photo]*

INSIDE

Rabbi Dow Marmur comments on the recently promulgated Reform Statement of Principles. *Please see page 9.*

Relatives fear for Iranian prisoners — please see page 33

The News in Brief

CANADA

Support Petition's Goals

TORONTO — Individual members of Oraynu, formerly the Secular Jewish Association, probably support the goals of a petition that calls for the removal of references to God in Canada's Charter of Rights and Freedoms, says Eva Goldfinger, one of Oraynu's leaders. But as a group with charitable status, "we shy away from politics," Goldfinger added. Nevertheless, ridding mentions of God in the Charter and in O Canada are in keeping with secular, humanistic Judaism, she said. The petition was presented to Parliament last week by NDP MP Svend Robinson on behalf of about 1,000 members of the Humanist Association of Canada. The next day, Robinson was demoted to the back benches by party leader Alexa McDonough.

Community Says Farewell

CALGARY — The Jewish community here said goodbye this week to Rabbi Jordan Goldson and his family, who are moving to Israel. Rabbi Goldson was spiritual leader of Temple B'nai Tikvah for 12 years. This Sunday, the community is invited to say farewell to Rabbi Allen Saks, principal of Akivah Academy. Rabbi Saks is headed to a new position in Pennsylvania.

ISRAEL

Olmert Seeks Leadership

JERUSALEM — Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert announced last week that he will run for the Likud leadership when party primaries are held in early September. Olmert drew immediate support from former prime minister Yitzhak Shamir.

Miss World Testifies

TEL AVIV — The 18-year-old Israeli who is the reigning Miss World testified for four hours last week against the man who allegedly raped her last October. Under a law that protects the privacy of rape victims, Linor Abargil's testimony was given behind closed doors. During her testimony, the defendant, the Egyptian-born Israeli Shlomo Noor, complained that he would not receive a fair trial.

Peres On Palestinian State

JERUSALEM — Israel should welcome the creation of a Palestinian state, former Israeli prime minister Shimon Peres said recently. "I say as a politician, there is nothing better for the State of Israel than a free Palestinian state," Peres said. Some Israeli pundits are speculating that Peres will become a cabinet minister in the new government. Others predict he will become UN ambassador or Israel's next president.

WORLD

Art Recovery Plan

BERLIN — A German foundation has cleared the way for Holocaust survivors to recover art that was looted by the Nazis and then hidden behind the Iron Curtain. The Foundation for Prussian Cultural Heritage, which oversees several museums in and around Berlin, voted to give its new president the authority to negotiate returns directly with prewar owners or their heirs.

Book Denies Holocaust

WARSAW — Polish prosecutors charged a history professor last month with writing a book that denies the Holocaust took place. *Dangerous Themes* by Dariusz Ratajczak violates a Polish law banning the public denial of Nazi and Communist-era crimes, prosecutors said. The book claims that gas chambers at Nazi death camps were used to kill lice on prisoners. If convicted, Ratajczak, who has been suspended from his teaching position, could face up to three years in prison.

Project Head Removed

LOS ANGELES — Director Steven Spielberg's Shoah Foundation recently removed as its president Michael Berenbaum, who joined the group after heading the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum's research institute. Berenbaum was reportedly asked to step down because of fundraising problems and continuing criticism by scholars over the quality of the 50,000 videotaped interviews.

KKK Down Under

SYDNEY — The Ku Klux Klan recently established chapters in Australia for the first time. An Australian newspaper quoted Peter Coleman, the chapters' founder, as saying that "there is a Jew under every rock," and that homosexuals are abnormal.

Coleman was expelled from Australia's extremist One Nation party after party officials learned of his Klan activities.

Rabbi In Bingo Scam

CINCINNATI — A local rabbi who admitted to skimming nearly $1 million from the sale of bingo cards has received three years of probation and was ordered to perform 400 hours of community service. Rabbi Jacob Lustig, 72, who served for more than two decades at Kneseth Israel Congregation, was also ordered to turn over more than $920,000. Sales of the bingo cards brought in more than $1 million in cash during 1996 and 1997, but his congregation received only some $25,000. Rabbi Lustig and three others involved in the case pleaded guilty last month to theft charges.

Former Shul President Elected Mayor

LAS VEGAS — A flamboyant underworld attorney and former synagogue president was elected mayor of Las Vegas by a landslide, according to the final results from this month's vote.

Oscar Goodman, 59, gained fame and considerable wealth representing top mobsters, as well as such celebrities as boxer Mike Tyson.

In an interview, Goodman stressed his past presidency of Temple Beth Shalom, a Conservative congregation, and his support of the Jewish Federation of Las Vegas.

"I'm faulted by some for representing unpopular clients, but I do so in accordance with the Constitution of the United States," he said.

Goodman's candidacy was at first considered a stunt, but his quick wit, candor and pledge to make developers pay to revitalize the city's downtown area propelled him to the top in a field of nine candidates.

The Jewish community in Las Vegas has grown rapidly in recent years, and now numbers 65,000.

Goodman is Las Vegas' second Jewish mayor. Ron Lurie served a decade ago.

The mayor-elect played himself in the Martin Scorsese film *Casino* and is the subject of a recent British documentary, *Mob Law.*

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SWC helping to fight hate on the Internet

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — At the end of March, the Simon Wiesenthal Centre (SWC) finished tabulating the results of a three-year survey of Internet "hate sites." Researchers at the Los Angeles-based organization determined there were 1,426 "problematic" sites worldwide, the vast majority of them located in the United States.

By last week, barely two months later, the total had jumped to 1,833. Less than five years ago, when the Federal Building in Oklahoma City was destroyed by right-wing extremists, there was only one such site, according to Rabbi Abraham Cooper, associate dean of the SWC.

Since the Oklahoma City bombing, racist groups have flooded the Internet with Web sites, creating "an online subculture that includes the Ku Klux Klan, the World Church of the Creator and the Aryan Nations. They use the Internet to market their product – hate and extremism," Rabbi Cooper said.

Last week, Rabbi Cooper and Sol Littman, the SWC's Canadian representative, presented RCMP, Ontario Provincial Police and Metro Toronto Police officers with copies of a CD-ROM titled *Digital Hate 2000*. The disc contains the Web addresses of the racist sites and is intended as a research and investigation tool for police. A second version of the CD-ROM is designed as a teaching aid for educators.

The extremist groups that have created these Web sites may be a "lunatic fringe, but they do not lack for sophistication," Rabbi Cooper said. They recognize that the Internet provides them with the opportunity to market their views to young people and to entice them with "hyperlinks" to other sites. "The Internet has become the cement for the skinhead movement. It has created a sense of community and empowerment," he added.

Racist Web sites attract young people by false advertising – one site that purports to be devoted to Martin Luther King Jr., in fact, denigrates the murdered civil rights leader – and through links to more popular sites. Music is a key drawing card. Young people who may not be interested in a Web site that adulates Adolf Hitler can be drawn to such a location by a link from a site that offers free music downloads.

Resistance Records, which sold 50,000 "hate CDs" in 1997 alone, has links to other racist sites, Rabbi Cooper said.

'New battlefield'

"The Internet is not the enemy," he continued, but it has become "the new battlefield of society's struggle against hatred."

When police examined the computer of Eric Harris, one of the teens who shot up Columbine High School, they discovered a three-page memo with instructions on making pipe bombs. The information had been downloaded from an easily accessible Internet site.

"The Internet played a telling role vis a vis Harris and his cohorts in Columbine," Rabbi Cooper said.

Currently, Democratic Sen. Diane Feinstein and Republican Orrin Hatch are pushing for a bill that would make Web sites with bomb-making instructions illegal, he added.

The United States is the source for about three-quarters of the problematic sites worldwide, while Canada has no similar sites at the moment, Rabbi Cooper said.

At one point, there were about 50 hate sites in Canada, Littman said. The SWC was able to get them removed by persuading Internet Service Providers (ISPs) it was in their best interests to refuse to host them.

"We sent letters to the ISPs, saying you don't monitor the sites but we have, and here's some of the stuff on your computers," Littman said.

"We asked them whether they, as businesspeople, want sites they are hosting to promote hate and create discord.

"Quickly, ISPs exercise their prerogatives as businesspeople not to deal with people they felt would be detrimental to their business and contrary to their own consciences," Littman said.

The SWC has also met with the Canadian Association of Internet Providers (CAIP) to urge the industry group to develop a voluntary code of conduct that would see its members exclude racist and pornographic Web sites, Littman added.

In the United States, the SWC has met some resistance from ISP owners who cite free speech guarantees and who reject any "big brother" approach to Internet content. But the SWC has "knocked off a few hundred sites" using that approach, Rabbi Cooper added.

The Internet is not censorable, he continued, but "in the past, the United States and Canada have done a good job of marginalizing racists to the fringes of society. We need to do the same on the Internet."

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From the editor's desk

True rear-view light

For most of us, time is usually a window through which we occasionally peer to see things more clearly. But, depending upon who is casting the rear-view light, the angle of perception can distort what we see as easily as it can make our focus sharper.

There is a broad and sinister campaign being waged today by the Palestinian Authority and its supporters, to shine a twisted, deliberately bent light onto the relatively recent history of the Middle East.

It centres around their cynical effort to reintroduce United Nations General Assembly Resolution 181 into the peace process.

As most of us know, that resolution, which was passed in November 1947, purported to resolve Britain's Mandatory Palestine crisis by further partitioning the already partitioned territory into Jewish and Muslim territories.

It also proposed to confer on Jerusalem the status of a *corpus separatum*, a separate, internationalized entity.

As most of us also know, the local Arab population and all of the surrounding Arab countries, rejected the resolution.

Violent skirmishes and fighting erupted immediately after the vote in what was still Mandatory Palestine.

Then, with the declaration some six months later by the Jewish leadership in Palestine of the creation of an independent Jewish state, the Arabs launched an all-out war of annihilation upon the Jews of the renascent Israel.

But the Jews of renascent Israel refused to be annihilated. They won the war, and they won their state.

The Arabs rejected Resolution 181. Their co-ordinated attack on the Jews of Israel was but the explicit and brutal proof.

With the rejection by the Arabs of Resolution 181 and the resultant urgent need by the Jews to defend themselves, Israel, logically, was no longer bound by the terms of the resolution.

The attempt now by the Arabs to paste back together a document they derisively, violently tore to shreds some 52 years ago, would be laughable but for the ominous sounds of support-like equivocations emanating from some quarters, notably, Europe.

It is imperative, however, that the rear-view light of history shine straight and true. We must not allow the light to bend, or the distortion to go unchallenged.

One of the defining moments of the Six Day War.

If Resolution 181 is allowed somehow to remain "standing," a number of menacing implications arise alongside it.

The PA will argue that if Resolution 181 is Israel's founding legal authority, as it were, any part of present-day territorial Israel which is beyond the territory allocated to the Jewish state in Resolution 181, is occupied territory. They will then argue that this brings upon Israel the application of the Fourth Geneva Convention rules against the occupiers of territories acquired through war.

Moreover, Jerusalem itself – its status legally unresolved in 1947-48 – would, "logically," need to be taken out of Israeli hands and revert to the status of a *corpus separatum*.

To date, no country other than the United States, not even Canada, has publicly and unequivocally supported Israel's dismissal of this dangerous "181" gambit by the Palestinians.

* * *

Having failed to annihilate Israel at its birth, an Arab coalition of governments led by Gamal Nasser tried to do so less than two decades later. This attempt also failed.

Israel's successful defence of its 19-year-old life became known as the Six Day War.

Last week we commemorated the 32nd anniversary of that war.

Lest the revisionists try to bend this historical light as well, I reproduce an excerpt from the announcement on May 22, 1967 by Nasser of Egypt's naval blockade of Israel:

"We awaited the proper day when we would be fully prepared and confident that we would take strong measures if we were to enter the battle with Israel. I say nothing aimlessly... Recently we have felt strong enough that if we were to enter a battle with Israel, with God's help, we could triumph. I said once that we could tell the United Nations Emergency Force (UNEF) to leave within half an hour. Once we were fully prepared we could ask UNEF to leave. That is what has actually happened.

"Taking over Sharm-el-Sheikh means confrontation with Israel. Taking such action means that we are ready to enter war with Israel. It is not a separate operation.

"The battle will be a general one and our basic objective will be to destroy Israel."

It falls to us to help ensure that history and truth will not be separated.

MBD

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BIBLE CONTEST WINNERS

Here are the winners of this year's National Bible Contest, held recently in Montreal. *From left, back row:* Merav Fima, Kallat Quebec (1st), High School; Michael Kurin, 1st, grades 7-8; Eliav Danziger, 2nd, Supplementary School; Adam Silver, 2nd, Supplementary School; Hillel Nadler, 2nd, grades 5-6; Shalom Naumann, 2nd, grades 7-8; Joseph Aiken, 3rd, High School. *Middle Row:* Shlomo Shimon, executive director, Jewish Education Council of Montreal; Batya Breslow, 2nd, grades 7-8; Jeffrey Heifetz, 2nd, Supplementary School; Brenda Gewurz, president, Jewish Education Council of Montreal; Leah Breslow, Kallat Canada (1st), High School; Arlazar Eliashiv, co-ordinator, National Bible Contest. *Front row:* Ian Brasg, 1st, grades 5-6; Malkie Feldman, 3rd, grades 5-6; Emily Moon, 3rd, Supplementary School; Ilana Hanes, 3rd, Supplementary School; Jacob Fox, 3rd, Supplementary School; Daniel Bierstone, 1st, Supplementary School. [Howard Kay photo]

Greater Toronto Area

Federal Court finds Kisluk a Nazi collaborator

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A former St. Catharines autoworker who took part in the murder of a Jewish woman in wartime Ukraine, faces loss of citizenship and deportation for lying to immigration authorities about his role as a collaborator with Nazi forces.

Serge Kisluk, 77, volunteered first as a railway guard and then later as a police officer in Makovichi, a small town in the administrative raion (county) of Turiysk, just south of the city of Kovel, Federal Court Judge Allan Lufty found. During his service as an auxiliary policeman, Kisluk accompanied a second armed officer to a wooded area where a 20-year-old Jewish woman was shot. Witnesses interviewed in Ukraine testified the woman had worked in the police headquarters knitting socks for the officers.

Kisluk was also personally involved in beating a Jew named Moshko Goldshmidt, and might have shot him except for the intervention of neighbors, Lufty's judgment relates.

Lufty rejected Kisluk's denial of his involvement in the incidents and his contention that his duties involved policing minor domestic disputes and apprehending chicken thieves. He also rejected Kisluk's contention that evidence against him was arranged by the KGB.

"Simply put, I do not believe the respondent's (Kisluk's) testimony on any contentious issue," the judge stated.

Spokespersons for Jewish organizations applauded the court's decision and urged government officials to act quickly to strip Kisluk of his citizenship and deport him.

"I think it's a significant victory," said Jack Silverstone, legal counsel for Canadian Jewish Congress. "Every victory is significant."

"Our objective has been, and remains, that the cases associated with war criminals be dealt with as part of the ordinary administration of justice. When [the war crimes unit] wins, it's encouraging. We believe a lot has been accomplished in the last few years."

"We want to congratulate the special unit on war crimes for its signal victory, to see that Nazi war criminals are brought to justice," said Sol Littman, Canadian representative of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre.

Littman also lauded Lufty's role in the case. "He did a very sensible thing. He went to Ukraine and held part of the trial there.

"We always insisted there was an air of unreality in trials held in the ivory towers of Canadian courtrooms. By going there, the court got a much clearer picture of what took place, despite the passage of years," he said.

Sitting in Ukraine, the court heard testimony from Kisluk's former grade school classmate who remembers Kisluk and another man "beat and threaten to shoot Moshko Goldshmidt."

Quoting the testimony, Lufty wrote: "They grabbed Moshko. I remember very well, even today, Sergei grabbed Moshko and threw him down to the floor. And they ran and they were beating them with their feet...Sergei drew a handgun from the back holster and probably he was going to shoot him. But then, Kosiuk Uliyan ran to him and started pleading, please Sergei.

"And Kosiuk Uliyan started pleading...don't do it in my house. And then Sergei hid his gun and Moshko left..."

The court also heard of another incident involving Kisluk that occurred in March 1943. An eyewitness testified he saw Kisluk and another police officer name Teshyk escort a young Jewish woman to a forest near the Makovichi police station. "Some minutes later, Mr. Shklyaruk heard a rifle shot. He did not see the shooting but he did see the victim's dead body some moments later," Lufty wrote.

Lufty dismissed Kisluk's suggestion that the witness testified against him because the KGB was out to destroy his family and that "maybe KGB gave him enough sausage."

In finding that Kisluk lied to immigration officers in Germany in 1948, Lufty noted the Kisluk admitted he was asked two questions: his Canadian destination and whether he was a member of the SS.

Lufty stated that testimony from Canadian security and immigration officers indicated "their interviews would never be limited to a single question. Lufty accepted testimony that in December 1948, "prospective immigrants, screened by one of the three-person inspection teams, were questioned on their employment history since 1939." He found that Kisluk must have lied or he would not have been admitted to Canada.

That finding differs from a judgment in the Johann Dueck case in which Federal Court judge Marc Noel found that in July 1948 there was no uniform procedure for interviewing prospective immigrants, and that Dueck was never asked about his wartime activities. He also found there was no blanket rejection of Nazi "collaborators" at the time.

Paul Vickery, head of the Justice Department's war crimes unit, said the case is important on two accounts.

"It demonstrates we're able to establish the requisite proof" for factual events more than 55 years old, and it provides legal authority that recognized the security screening process in 1948, he said.

Had Lufty agreed with Judge Marc Noel's finding in the Johann Dueck case that there was no uniform screening process in 1948, all "pre-1950 cases would have been in jeopardy," he said.

Ruth Kelman mourned

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Ruth Kelman, wife of Rabbi Joseph Kelman, rabbi emeritus of Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Congregation, died at her home last Saturday morning after a long struggle with cancer.

Her passing was marked by an outpouring of sadness and affection from the synagogue and the community.

Over 1,000 people attended her funeral, which was held at Beth Emeth. She was eulogized, among others, by members of her family, including her husband and each of her three children, her brother-in law Rabbi Abraham Kelman and her brother Avraham Friedman.

Ruth Kelman [file photo]

Kelman was active in the synagogue, and was well known and respected for her charitable work in the community, including being principal of Kadima, a special education afternoon school.

She is survived by her mother, Yetta Friedman; husband; children Tova Gutenberg and rabbis Jay and Moshe Kelman; sister Sheila Train; brother Avraham; and seven grandchildren.

A full obituary will appear in next week's paper.

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Greater Toronto Area

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Association for Israeli soldiers raises funds for Neve Midbar

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
CJN Staff

TORONTO — As a gift to the Israel Defence Forces to mark Israel's 50th anniversary, the Association for the Soldiers of Israel has contributed to Neve Midbar, a lounge and recreational centre at Ovda, the only base in Israel completely isolated from any city.

The base, located about one hour from Eilat, was constructed about 18 years ago. It had a lounge, but it has since deteriorated and was closed. Base administration has invested some of its own money to make the building usable, but has no budget to complete the project.

At the association's recent tribute dinner, held this year to raise funds for Neve Midbar, Lt. Col. Charlie Ben Simon of the Ovda Air Base, said Neve Midbar – oasis in the desert – is a "dream come true for the soldiers. They are completely isolated, and have nowhere to unwind in the evening.

Ask any soldier, and they will tell you how they long for such a facility," he told the over 700 guests at the dinner, held at Le Parc.

The estimated cost of Neve Midbar is about $500,000.

Israel Ambassador David Sultan, who brought greetings on behalf of the State of Israel, said that we owe Israeli soldiers "the very existence of our state. Military victories have made all the difference between the existence and non-existence of Israel."

Sultan said he is confident that Prime Minister-elect Ehud Barak will be a good prime minister, "but he is not a magician.

"The new government must move ahead with the peace process, and there is no doubt that it will move ahead, but even after peace, soldiers have a vital role to play. They will continue to be our shield against regional threats."

Dinner events chair and MC was Susan Muskat.

REENA ELDER HOME

Ground was broken last week in Thornhill for Reena's future residence for older adults. From left are Faye Mintz; fundraising chair Alex Eisen; Vaughan councillor Susan Kadis; and Al Mintz. The Al and Faye Mintz ElderHome – the first of its kind – will house up to 16 Reena clients aged 55 and over. Reena will host a symposium on aging and developmental disabilities on June 21. [Ron Csillag photo]

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Greater Toronto Area

Religious, secular divisions said threat to Israel

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Jews must foster the sense of unity that they manage to achieve in times of crisis if they are to overcome the problems they face, a panel at Aish Hatorah's Annual Event agreed last week.

The panel discussion, entitled Jews & Judaism in the Next Millennium, took place at Shaarei Shomayim Congregation. Panelists were Malcolm Hoenlein, executive vice-chair of the Conference of Presidents of Major Jewish Organizations; Mark Lavie, one-time reporter for CBC News and Kol Israel, and now a correspondent for Associated Press; and Rabbi Avraham Twerski, founder and medical director of the Gateway Rehabilitation Clinic in Philadelphia and Shaar Hatikvah, a similar drug and alcohol rehabilitation centre in Jerusalem. The moderator was Alan Silber.

The division between religious and secular Israelis, seen so strongly in the recent elections, said Lavie, is "a threat to the existence of Israel," more so than the Ashkenazi-Sephardi or even the Israeli-Arab conflicts.

The Shinui party, he said, which ran on only one issue – against the religious – got six seats. Their success was "a reaction to what the secular see as the overabundance of influence of the ultra-Orthodox. The ultra-Orthodox, of course, think the opposite."

It is important to remember, Lavie said, that "secular Jews in Israel celebrate the same holidays and close their schools on Pesach. Ninety-eight percent light Chanukah candles, 45 percent keep a kosher home, and 98 percent attend a seder."

That, he said, is the kernel of hope – that with "love and brotherhood," the two sides can come closer together.

Hoenlein, who said he blames the media for "exacerbating the problem," said Israelis must emphasize what they have in common, not their differences.

"If we focus instead on the miracle that is Israel, then we will be able to deal with each other."

He noted that while many secular are hostile toward the haredim, "the chevrah kadishah who go around after bombings picking up body parts for burial are seen as heroes."

The haredi community must be sensitized to what upsets the secular, such as army exemption for yeshiva students, he said.

Jews must recognize the "historical miracle" that "no Jewish community [in the world] is not free to leave. Instead of appreciating that [and how we worked together to accomplish it], we insult each other."

Lavie slammed "cheque-book Zionism, which allows [those in the Diaspora] to limit their involvement to a financial contribution. What is more important is aliyah."

Rabbi Twerski agreed that there is indeed a crisis both in Israel and in the Diaspora. "We have a common enemy – a life devoid of meaning, where we seek only immediate pleasure.

"This attitude leads to the rise in addictions, assimilation and secularism," he said.

The panel members were passionate in their belief that Jerusalem must remain united under Jewish control. (Rabbi Twerski compared it to a heart: "The right and left ventricles can't be divided and the person continue to live.") However, Hoenlein and Lavie questioned whether the city is not in fact already divided.

Lavie noted that one-fifth of the residents are Palestinians, the city is holy to millions of people and Israelis don't go to the Old City any more. Hoenlein added that the policing and health care are already under Palestinian control.

Hoenlein said it is a mistake to leave the question of Jerusalem to the end of the peace negotiations. "People then will say, 'You are holding up peace for Jerusalem.'"

When Lavie said that the Jewish claim to Jerusalem is "so strong and so right" that Israel might have to be flexible enough to find a formula that will satisfy the world, Hoenlein shot back: "If a thing is too flexible, it can break."

The panelists agreed that Jews must work to ensure that Jerusalem remains Jewish, by aliyah, by increased tourism, by not allowing news reports to shake their faith in Israel, and by recognizing, as Hoenlein said, that "Israel was given a gift. It is a *morasha*, something that must be protected, like the Torah."

A film showed some of Aish Hatorah's work in the former Soviet Union, with its centres in St. Petersburg, Minsk, Moscow and Kiev. Ilana Rubenstein and Arthur Stern told the hundreds of people at the event about the positive influence the organization has had on their lives.

Introductions were made by Harold Nashman, Aish HaTorah chair, and closing remarks by Norm Grafstein.

Health alert issued for Israeli biscuits

OTTAWA — The Canadian Food Inspection Agency of the Government of Canada has warned consumers with a peanut allergy that the following biscuits imported from Israel may contain peanuts that are not declared on the label.

Hadar wafers, lemon flavored, Net Weight 6 oz., UPC code 0 47039 00555 2; and Hadar Wafers with choco cream, Net Weight 6 oz., UPC code 0 47039 00554 5, have been distributed in Ontario and Quebec.

The products were manufactured in Israel by Magdaniat-Hadar Company, and are being recalled by the Canadian importers, Allied Food Distributors Inc., of St.-Laurent, Que., and Supreme Foods Ontario Limited of Concord, Ont.

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Dry Bones

HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE FOR THE CLINTON ADMINISTRATION,
THE EUROPEAN UNION, AND THE ARAB STATES TO DECIDE...
THAT BARAK IS AN INTRANSIGENT OBSTACLE TO PEACE?
WHEN DOES HE GET SWORN IN AS PRIME MINISTER OF ISRAEL?

Still in the dark ages

An estimated 12,500 Jews live in Iran. Ever since the Islamic Republic of Iran rose to power more than two decades ago in the folds of the clerical robes of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, they have lived a relatively unharrassed, but uneasy life.

That has changed. They are now, undoubtedly, living in a state of anxiety if not outright fear.

Six months ago, in January, a number of Jews living in the city of Shiraz in the southern Iranian province of Fars, were arrested on charges of spying for Israel ("the Zionist regime") and the U.S. news of the arrests was suppressed until last week because it was hoped by officials in various government and non-government organizational circles that the lack of media spotlight might facilitate a quiet, unpublicized release of the prisoners. In March, more arrests took place.

These hopes, however, have been dashed.

Thirteen men remain in their cells awaiting trial for crimes they did not commit and their maximum possible penalty is death. Among those arrested are the chief rabbi of Shiraz, teachers and students at the local Jewish school.

Israel's Foreign Minister Ariel Sharon, unambiguously declared last week that "not one of the arrested men were involved in espionage, and not one of them has, or has had in the past, any connection with any Israeli intelligence agency."

The United States was equally plain in its denial of any involvement with the people arrested. White House press secretary Joe Lockhart said "the charges were entirely without foundation." President Bill Clinton's special adviser on Near East and South Asia affairs, Bruce Riedel, also said the espionage charges were utterly baseless.

But still, the government in Tehran persists with the time-worn, sinister ploy of scapegoating Jews.

It is time, therefore, to move western reaction to Tehran's thuggish, government-sanctioned gangsterism from behind the scenes of diplomatic activity to full, centre stage.

It is time for governments and citizens to mount an organized campaign aimed at pressuring Iran into releasing these innocent men from their jails and from their bleak, uncertain futures.

Israel's Sephardi Chief Rabbi Eliyahu Bakshi-Doron, has called on Jews around the world to assist in securing the release of the "Iranian 13." He has also sent urgent pleas for help to many world political and religious leaders asking them to intervene. Pope John Paul II, UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan, Morocco's King Hassan, and senior Muslim clerics at Cairo's al-Azhur and in Indonesia, have been approached to try to force the release of the prisoners.

The communique from Israel's Foreign Ministry accurately summed up the worries and the fears that lie at the heart of the Iranian initiative. "Israel is worried about these arrests, *which have occurred only because these individuals are Jewish.* (Our emphasis.) Israel is deeply concerned about their fate and demands their immediate release."

There cannot, in this day and age, be an attitude of "business as usual" with Iran, as long as Iran continues to behave in a manner reminiscent of the darkest days of the medieval ages.

We urge the governments of the west to bring their full political and economic weight to bear in this matter. The government of Canada must lend its voice to the voices in Washington and Berlin, already raised in protest against Tehran. In that regard, we commend MP Elinor Caplan for asking the government of Canada, last week, to try to help free the prisoners.

But it does not rest on government alone to try to rescue the 13 Jewish prisoners of Iran. We too, the Jews around the world, have a role to play. We must not sit idle while the fundamentalists in Iran use the lives of 13 innocent people as pawns in whatever cynical, political game they happen to be playing at the moment.

WISDOM OF THE AGES

And he spoke to the congregation saying: "Turn away from the meeting places of these wicked people."*(Parshat Korach)*

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Congress has allies in opposing kosher meal charge

Nathan Pila writes (*CJN*, June 3), that it is fair and just for passengers consuming kosher meals on Canada 3000 to pay extra. Pila, however, misses the fundamental point that the unfairness and injustice arise precisely because the airline, in the provision of its meal service, chooses to make distinctions between certain passengers and the minority of others, who for religious, medical or moral reasons cannot eat the standard fare. And it does so even though word from the industry is that the cost, if any, to the carrier is minimal.

Joining Canadian Jewish Congress in protesting Canada 3000's policy are the Canadian Islamic Congress, the Vietnamese Buddhist Association, the Seventh Day Adventist Church, the Canadian Diabetes Association, and the Toronto Vegetarian Association. All of us are encouraged that Canada's other major charter carrier and its two national airlines were quick to assure their customers that they had absolutely no intention of introducing a similar policy. Indeed, a Canadian Airlines spokesperson was quoted as asking, "Why are they charging it? It's just part of the overall service to the customer... it's pretty standard in the industry."

It is not too late for Canada 3000 to change course.

Mark Weintraub
National Chair, Community Relations
Canadian Jewish Congress

Life is Beautiful has genuine message to tell

I happen to basically agree with Rabbi Gunther Plaut's and Denis Prager's assessment of *Life is Beautiful*, but from a different prespective. (*CJN*, May 27)

The most profound message of the movie is: If parents or any caretakers of children produce a protective, creative environment for their children they can tolerate "almost" any trauma or loss. Roberto Benigni, in his creative genius, illustrated that point.

Steven Spielberg's *Shindler's List* was a relatively "clean" version of the Holocaust, one that was gentle enough to be watched by millions. *Life is Beautiful* was a next step.

In my work for 30 years with bereaved children and their families, after sadness, anger and every human emotion, laughter is a sign of life re-emerging from the ashes of despair. It is as essential a component of grief and mourning as are tears.

While I appreciate Spielberg's tendency to not respect Benigni's Oscar, I'm pleased Spielberg's wife convinced him to not walk out of the award ceremony.

The story of the Shoah will be told many times over, in as many ways our human imagination can think of, until it's indigestible horror is processed. One never tells a bereaved parent they will "get over" the death of a child. We will never completely recover from the Holocaust, but we must keep trying by telling it to the world again, again and once more – yes, even with life affirming laughter.

E.H. Pakes, M.D.
Director – Bereavement Clinics
Mount Sinai Hospital and
Hospital for Sick Children

Helping build Israel is an act of tikkun olam

In the aftermath of Ehud Barak's election, it is time to change the labeling of the factions of Israeli society. Labeling of any kind is subject to misuse, but the division of Israeli society into camps of secular versus religious is destructive. It would be much more helpful if it was non-Orthodox versus Orthodox or non-observant versus observant.

People's notions of what constitutes a Jewish religious act have to go beyond the notion of what goes on in a yeshiva or synagogue or observing laws of kosher. Unfortunately the non-observant in Israel have often bought into this, and often fail to recognize what they are doing in helping rebuild this modern day miracle is potentially holy. Tikkun olam, (repairing the world), wherever it occurs, is a religious act.

The entire state of modern Israel is a potential temple. It is time that all Jews feel that we have a stake in its development while at the same time recognizing that we can't do it all by ourselves.

David Burstein
Toronto

Seeking Information on four Machal Veterans

Toronto Machal (Canadian Veterans of Israel 1948) is looking for next of kin or surviving familiy members of four deceasesd veterans: Albert Brown, WWII and Givati; Sam Cohen, WWII and Givati; Julie Lewis, WWII and Givati; and Daniel Tate, WWII and Givati.

If you have any information please call me at 416-787-7632.

Jerry Rosenberg
Toronto Machal

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures. Letters sent by e-mail must also include the sender's municipal address.

Perspectives

Reform Statement of Principles: my view

By RABBI DOW MARMUR

I voted against the Statement of Principles adopted at the convention of the Central Conference of American Rabbis (Reform), held in Pittsburgh last month.

In an address to the leadership of the Canadian Reform movement early in the year, I gave reasons for my opposition. I see Reform as a vibrant, dynamic and diverse movement that is growing and developing all the time. I fear that it might risk unnecessary divisiveness and strife through the creation of an official document. The danger of stumbling is always greater when we analyze each step we take.

Rabbi Arnold Jacob Wolf, one of the giants of the contemporary Reform rabbinate, showed, in a spirited speech to the convention, how the earlier platforms, especially the one adopted in Pittsburgh in 1885, had been stumbling blocks more than guides for Reform Judaism. It is by no means certain the Pittsburgh platform of 1999 will do better.

Though many reasons for dissent have been removed from the adopted document by watering down the original drafts, what is left has lost most of its teeth.

Therefore, despite my agreement with virtually everything that the document seems to be saying, I believe so much has been left unsaid that I could not add my vote to a statement that declares in its preamble that "we believe it is our obligation as rabbis once again to state a set of principles that define Reform Judaism in our time."

Most of my colleagues think otherwise. Once the document has been accepted, it behooves opponents, no less than proponents, to try to understand it and evaluate it as a summary of where Reform Judaism is today. Though I did not vote for it, I regard it as sufficiently significant to offer the observations that follow.

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The Statement of Principles does not innovate as much as it summarizes existing attitudes. Hence its support among most rabbis and many lay people. It shows how Reform has moved from its emphasis of tzedek, righteousness, as its defining characteristic, to kedushah, holiness, as the framework within which each adherent should strive to lead a Jewish life.

There are many references to holiness in the document. Affirming the three pillars of Judaism – God, Torah and Israel, each elaborated in separate sections to be considered below – the Statement of Principles says it "invites all Reform Jews to engage in dialogue with the sources of our tradition, responding out of our knowledge, our experience and our faith." And it adds: "Thus we hope to transform our lives through kedushah, holiness."

Like all manifestations of "organized religion," Reform Judaism, despite its success, is worried about defections, particularly by the young, into fringe movements within Judaism and beyond. This is an attempt to reach out to seekers wherever they may be without giving up on the basic of Reform.

As already indicated, apart from the preamble, the Statement of Principles devotes a section to each of the three basic rubrics of Judaism: God, Torah and Israel. Much of what is being said in each is common to all streams and familiar to anybody who knows something about Reform. But there are significant variations.

Thus, having affirmed "the reality of God, even as we may differ in our understanding of the Divine presence," the document reflects what has become known as covenant theology, articulated by thinkers like Eugene Borowitz (Reform) and David Hartman (Orthodox) and drawing on the insights of one of the giants of 20th century Jewish thought, Franz Rosenzweig.

Hence this sentence: "We affirm that the Jewish people is bound to God by an eternal brit, covenant, as reflected in our varied understandings of creation, revelation and redemption."

Another new element is the reference, not only to the holiness of human life, but also to our responsibility to preserve and protect the earth's natural resources.

The document speaks of the traditional distinction between mitzvot between ourselves and The Other (God), and between ourselves and others (humans). Whereas in the past, the former category, often identified as ritual, was neglected, even scoffed at, now it is given justified prominence. Rosenzweig called rituals "gestures of love." Reform Jews are learning what that means in their relationship to God.

The affirmation of Torah describes it as "God's ongoing revelation to our people and the record of our people's ongoing relationship with God." From this, comes the call to "lifelong study in the home, the synagogue and in every place where Jews gather to learn and to teach."

And something new in a Reform statement, though practised in most Reform congregations for the last several decades: "We affirm the importance of studying Hebrew, the language of Torah and Jewish liturgy, that we may draw closer to our people's sacred texts."

Torah is not only learning but also doing. The principles try to combine the two dimensions by stressing the centrality of mitzvot without imposing them on its members: "We are committed to the ongoing study of the whole array of mitzvot and the fulfilment of those that address us as individuals and as a community."

Though this is a repudiation of the old excuse of the non-observant, "I'm a Reform Jew, so I can choose what to do," it does not insist on a unified collective practice in congregations, even while allowing individuals to make their own decisions. However, many congregations have already adopted collective standards, from not allowing smoking at any time to insisting on kashrut at synagogue functions at all times.

One of the discomforts of those who have deep roots in Reform congregations has been that the new emphasis on observance has led to neglect of the traditional Reform stress on social action. This document tries to redress the balance in a long paragraph that seeks to integrate such action with Jewish observance as a whole.

Reform Judaism used to be described as being strong on God, ambivalent about Torah and weak on Israel. The document invalidates that charge. Though its understanding of Torah may differ from fundamentalist views, it is in keeping with what most Jews believe. And its stress on the centrality of Israel – people and land – is unambiguous.

It makes reference to the duty to love the Jewish people and to take most seriously "klal Yisrael, the entirety of the community of Israel." Which suggests yet another point of contact with Conservative Judaism and Reconstructionism. But some Conservative rabbis, especially in Canada, might choose to stress the differences, especially in matters of outreach.

"We are an inclusive community," states the document. This means not only full equality for women, but also openness "to people of all ages, to varied kinds of families, to all regardless of their sexual orientation, to *gerim* – those who have converted to Judaism, and to all individuals and families, including the intermarried, who strive to create a Jewish home."

Whereas holiness in Judaism always has the dimension of separation, the principles try to combine it with outreach to all. As a general statement, it is most welcome, but when it comes to specifics, the two seemingly opposing trends lead it to be in conflict. The question of same-sex marriages is one such issue. Prudently, the document says nothing about it.

Israel refers to both people and land. Reform Judaism has long ago shed its anti-Zionist image. Two years ago, the same rabbinic body adopted a statement on Reform Zionism, the tenets of which are reflected in this document. They include, not only commitment to Progressive Judaism in Israel, but also encouragement to make aliyah.

However, the commitment to Israel is not to be seen as neglect of the Diaspora. The doucment not only states that the Diaspora has much to learn from Israel but also that "Israeli Jews have much to learn from the religious life of Diaspora Jewish communities."

Critics point to the lack of specificity in the document. Advocates, on the other hand, insist that it is deliberately fluid to inspire congregations to study the sources and to draw their own practical conclusions.

Whether or not such advocacy is justified, the adopted text reflects many ongoing changes within the Reform movement. Contrary to frequent taunts by opponents, these changes are not calculated to resemble other movements in Judaism but to reflect a genuine search for authenticity.

The thirst for liturgical warmth and congregational participation, for social responsibility and home celebrations, as evident in all Reform congregations, is another factor.

What has not yet become apparent is where the search and the thirst will lead us. Characteristically, the principles are silent on messianic hope, whether horizontal-imminent or vertical-transcendent. We are told, perhaps, where we are, but not yet where we should be going.

The drafters of the document insist that it is not carved in stone. It may not take many years before different versions are presented. Perhaps they will fill in the gaps of this one. In the meantime, and despite all reservations, this is a significant record of recent developments in Reform Judaism.

Rabbi Marmur is senior rabbi of the Holy Blossom Temple in Toronto.

The following is excerpted from the Statement of Principles for Reform Judaism approved by the Central Conference of American Rabbis.

This Statement of Principles affirms the central tenets of Judaism – God, Torah and Israel – even as it acknowledges the diversity of Reform Jewish beliefs and practices. It also invites all Reform Jews to engage in a dialogue with the sources of our tradition, responding out of our knowledge, our experience and our faith. Thus we hope to transform our lives through kedushah, holiness.

God

We affirm the reality and oneness of God, even as we may differ in our understanding of the Divine presence.

We affirm that the Jewish people is bound to God by an eternal brit, covenant, as reflected in our varied understandings of creation, revelation and redemption.

We affirm that every human being is created b'tzelem Elokim, in the image of God, and that therefore every human life is sacred.

We regard with reverence all of God's creation and recognize our human responsibility for its preservation and protection.

We encounter God's presence in moments of awe and wonder, in acts of justice and compassion, in loving relationships and in the experiences of everyday life.

We respond to God daily: through public and private prayer, through study, and through the performance of other mitzvot, sacred obligations – bein adam la-Makom, to God, and bein adam la-chaveiro, to other human beings.

We strive for a faith that fortifies us through the vicissitudes of our lives – illness and healing, transgression and repentance, bereavement and consolation, despair and hope.

We continue to have faith that, in spite of the unspeakable evils committed against our people and the sufferings endured by others, the partnership of God and humanity will ultimately prevail.

We trust in our tradition's promise that, although God created us as finite beings, the spirit within us is eternal.

In all these ways and more, God gives meaning and purpose to our lives.

Opinions

The marriage factor

Everyone knows that Canada has been and remains, to a significant degree, a country of immigration. The government sets yearly quotas that it tries to reach: Usually we expect more than 200,000 foreigners to come here and make Canada their home. In addition there is an unspecified number of refugees who turn up at our various airports and declare themselves to be persecuted in their homelands and therefore entitled to remain in Canada.

Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

Altogether we count on about a quarter of a million people to enrich this country with their burning desire to establish themselves in a stable and prosperous environment, and thereby benefit both themselves and their newly adopted country. Without immigrants, Canada would constantly shrink in numbers, for our birthrate is not sufficient to keep the population balance at an even keel.

None of the above may be new to the reader of this column, but perhaps this is: There is not only constant immigration to Canada, there is also a not insignificant emigration from Canada back to the place of the immigrant's origin. Quite a few people come here, try to make it and somehow do not succeed.

This is, of course, not anything that is peculiar to the end of the century. It has always been the case – and that applies also to Jewish immigration after World Wars I and II. Hard as it may be to believe in retrospect, there were always Jews who, after trying Canada for awhile, decided to return to where they had come from.

What caused me to comment on these factors is an article that I have just read, a study of the reasons why people leave Canada after trying to make it their home. Authored by Dr. Usha George and Dr. Esme Fuller-Thomson, the article comes to a surprising conclusion: Immigrants who marry in Canada after arriving here are more likely to stay than those who came as married couples.

I would have thought the opposite was the case, but the authors make it clear that married immigrants not only face different kinds of adjustments, but they also frequently have difficulties in making important decisions about their lives and gaining a proper livelihood for themselves.

Whatever the reason may be, single persons who marry after they arrive in Canada, are more likely to stay than the already married, whose return ratio will be significantly higher.

Also, a male is more likely to stay, and so is a person with a university degree; not surprisingly, the presence of children is also a stabilizing factor. In addition, access to a social support network on arrival is decisive. Where it does not exist, many newcomers will be unsure about their stay in Canada.

Of course, refugees are in a somewhat different situation. Most of them cannot go back home even if they would like to. For others, a marriage contracted in Canada appears to be a vital factor in establishing a sense of stability, comfort and confidence in the immigrant.

An unsettling experience

I have asked Rosalind Karby, director of the Vancouver Jewish Community Foundation and features editor for *Outlook* (Women's League for Conservative Judaism), who returned from Israel just after Shavuot and the elections, to share a "personal tikkun" on her trip. She writes:

Jean M. Gerber in Vancouver

Shavuot, 4 a.m. – I came to the Kotel to commemorate the giving of the Torah by God to Moses. Like my forefathers and mothers standing at the foot of Mt. Sinai, I wanted to be with my community, to recall the moment that the law was given to the people of Israel.

I came to the Kotel alone. The sky was black, yet somehow there was light in the darkness. I could hear children's voices in the distance. People passed me on the street and birds were awake. I entered the Kotel plaza through Dung Gate, calmly, naively anticipating a unique and spiritual experience.

How wrong I was. For hundreds of haredim, prayer was neither on their lips nor in their hearts. It became apparent that many had come to the Kotel solely to harass, to jeer and to abuse others. As soon as I entered the plaza I knew I had made a monumental error. Not in coming, but in having put on my kippah. Not less than five minutes after I arrived, a small band of teenage boys with payot, black hats and beards began to close in on me, pointing, laughing, and calling me names. The language didn't matter – the tone and body language said it all.

I walked away from them quickly, trying to find a place for myself, a protected space. But the plaza is huge and open and there is little room for safety when others are determined to intimidate and frighten.

On the upper plaza the Masorti "prayer-pen" was noticeably marked off.

Police manned the perimeter barriers and scanned the crowd. I backed away from the haredim, the few swelling now to many, including children no older than 6 or 7. Policemen meant protection.

"Do you speak English?" I asked a policeman in my best Hebrew; then in English, "Get these guys away from me," the latter uttered in panic.

Sandwiched between two uniforms I was escorted through the crowd to the Masorti compound, still subjected to the yells of the haredim, but safely away from their physical intrusion.

The Masorti praying area was inside a triple layer of police barricades.

Clinging to the fence were hundreds of ultra-Orthodox who had come to denounce instead of daven. The entire plaza was a sea of black. I cannot remember a time when I felt such raw fear. I could taste it and it crawled on my flesh. As the day broke with a ribbon of blue, I prayed that God was also awake and would protect my friends and me.

At 5 a.m. our service started. The Book of Ruth, chanted by a man and two women, triggered rumblings in the crowd. The wind changed and you could smell what was coming. The Torah service, read by men and women, was a signal for the heckling and yelling to begin in earnest. A young girl chanted the Haftorah. She began in a sweet, confident voice, until the concentration was shattered by a coke cocktail. But she remained focused.

As she chanted the final blessings, our voices joined hers.

A few more bottles were tossed, but we were watching for them. As we poured out our hearts with the prayer for the State of Israel, the frenzy of the mob reached a crescendo and their ugly chants spilled over our kehilah. The officer in charge urged us to hurry, but we were determined not to abandon Musaf.

An Argentinean woman whose father was killed in the Buenos Aires bombing covered her head with her tallit and led a melodic and meaningful Musaf.

We concluded with Hatikvah, the words particularly poignant as we sang of hope for Israel.

To the end, the missiles kept coming. The police could not stop the throwing of bottles, but with resolve and kindness they shepherded us safely through our service.

7:30 a.m. – I shove my tallit into my bag. There is no time to fold it properly. I am rushed to safety, away from the hatred still simmering in the Kotel plaza. The tallit is stained with sweat and my fear does not subside until I am out of the walled city, making my way home along Emek Refaim.

I am a Jew made in the image of God. The haredim who mocked us are made in that same image. My prayer is that each of us will recognize the holiness in the other, so that respect and tolerance among klal Yisrael will be the legacy for the generations that follow.

A great day for democracy??

Upon opening the new Knesset, Prime Minister-elect Ehud Barak declared: "This is a great day for democracy!" It was a great day for Barak but a great day for democracy? After all, Barak must still form a government, and this is where the uncertainty lies.

Bruce Elman in Edmonton

Barak was clearly the big winner in the Israeli elections. His 12-point victory over Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu was, by Israeli standards, a landslide. Netanyahu was clearly the big loser but not the only loser: Labor and Likud suffered significant losses. Likud was reduced from 32 seats to only 19 in the new one. Labor faired no better. It dropped from 34 seats to 26 and even had to run under the coalition banner of "One Israel" to fare that well.

Consequently, Barak faces a more divided Knesset than any of his predecessors, and one that will be decidedly more difficult to govern. The culprit here is the law that provides for the direct election of the prime minister. It is virtually impossible – philosophically and practically – to blend a British (or Canadian) style parliamentary democracy with American republicanism, unless one also adopts the "separation of powers" doctrine and the theory of "checks and balances" that are essential to the American system.

Voter thinking is obvious: if with one ballot I can vote for Barak or Netanyahu, why cast my other ballot for Labor or Likud? I may as well vote for a party that more narrowly represents my interests – perhaps one of the religious parties or the Russian parties or whomever. Thus, while Labor and Likud together held 55 percent (a clear majority) of the seats, they now hold only 37.5 percent. A bill to repeal the Direct Election law passed first reading in the last Knesset, but it seems unlikely that it can pass final reading in this Knesset where so many of the parties are, themselves, beneficiaries of the law.

So how does Barak form a government? With One Israel's 26 seats and those of its most compatible opponents – Meretz (10), Shinui (6), Israel B'Aliyah (6), and the Centre party (6) – Barak can count on 54 seats. With the tacit consent of certain other parties, he might be able to govern effectively with a minority. To get to an absolute majority, Barak will have to do one of three things: bring in either Likud or Shas as a junior partner in the coalition, bring in one or more of the religious parties, or try to cobble together some of the very small parties to give him a stronger majority. None of these possibilities seem very appealing, and some of the options might cause his more natural partners to defect from the coalition.

It is not surprising that Barak has been trying to assemble a national unity government. Although the conventional wisdom is that a national unity government will give Barak a stronger mandate to negotiate peace with the Palestinians and the Syrians and pull troops out of Lebanon, there are disadvantages inherent in national unity governments.

First, the essence of democratic government is that the government is accountable to the people. In national unity governments, there is no accounting, and therefore, no accountability.

When I was on sabbatical in Israel in 1988-89, there was a national unity government. That year, there were a number of cases of polio. The cause of the polio was believed to be open sanitation ditches. Who was accountable for this? The Health Ministry which was run by Labor, or the Public Works Ministry run by Likud? I may have these reversed but that only underscores that when there is a national unity government there is no accountability to the people because the people cannot do a proper accounting.

Second, national unity governments are usually hamstrung when it comes to major policy initiatives such as the peace process. It is difficult to move forward on such issues when the overriding concern of the prime minister is to balance everyone's interests so to ensure the continuance of the government.

Third, national unity governments are expensive and inefficient. In a national unity government, each party wants to share in the largesse. Consequently, in the current coalition talks, they are contemplating raising the number of ministries from 18 to 24. They are also talking about naming 12 ministers from outside the Knesset. In fact, what would happen, is that 12 ministers would resign their Knesset seats to make way for 12 defeated candidates to be appointed to the Knesset. More cost, more inefficiency, and less accountability would result.

"A great day for Democracy"? The jury is still out.

The Kirshner File

Violence – the choice weapon of the Palestinians

Palestinian violence flared in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip earlier this month. In what the Palestinian Authority (PA) billed as a Day of Anger, Arab demonstrators marched toward Jewish settlements and Israeli army posts. During the clashes, one Palestinian demonstrator was killed, many more were wounded and several Israeli soldiers were injured.

Sheldon Kirshner in Toronto

The demonstrations were conceived and organized by the PA to protest the expansion of Israeli settlements in the territories and the building of new Jewish neighborhoods in disputed areas of Jerusalem. Palestinian officials warned Prime Minister-elect Ehud Barak that if he did not reverse his predecessor's policy, an "explosion" would occur.

The Day of Anger was touched off by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's decision to strengthen Israel's hold on eastern Jerusalem. On the eve of the May 17 election, he ordered tractors to break ground for a Jewish neighborhood in Ras al-Amud and to resume construction of a Jewish housing estate in Har Choma. On the following day, his lame-duck government expanded Ma'aleh Adumim – a large settlement on the road between Jerusalem and the Dead Sea – by 10 square kilometres.

The vociferous Palestinian reaction to Ras al-Amud, Har Choma and Ma'aleh Adumim was simply the latest in a chain of violent protests mounted by the PA since 1996 to exert pressure on Israel. Yasser Arafat, president of the PA, threatens violence, or resorts to it, to maintain a certain level of tension during political crises, knowing full well that violence negates the letter and the spirit of the Oslo accords.

If the immediate issue at hand is sufficiently serious, the Palestinians turn to violence, albeit limited, controlled violence.

Over the past three years, the inflammatory issues which have evoked Palestinian ire and subsequent violence have been settlements, the peace process, the thorny question of Palestinian statehood, closure of the territories, or an especially outrageous provocation (such as the notorious poster in Hebron which depicted the Muslim prophet Mohammed as a pig.)

Of course, violence can spin out of control, as the PA now realizes. When the Israeli government opened an archeological tunnel in eastern Jerusalem in September 1996, shortly after Netanyahu took office, the PA responded by encouraging Palestinian civilians throughout the territories to stage riots.

Arafat was not so much concerned by the tunnel as he was by Netanyahu's intentions in eastern Jerusalem. In any event, PA policemen joined the fighting. When the shooting stopped three days later, 15 Israeli soldiers and 61 Palestinians lay dead.

Calm returned to the territories when Israel and the PA got down to the business of finishing talks over an Israeli redeployment from Hebron. An agreement was signed in January 1997. But less than two months later, Netanyahu, in a bid to placate his far-right, announced plans to build Har Choma, a wooded hillside claimed by both sides.

As a result, the PA broke off bilateral negotiations and security cooperation with Israel, and in addition, fomented rioting. These events sent the peace process into a deep chill.

In the next few months, riots waxed and waned in Nablus, Hebron, East Jerusalem and Bethlehem. During this period, nine Palestinians were killed, and Israel's increasingly tense, mistrustful relationship with the PA was aggravated by three suicide bombings which claimed the lives of 24 persons.

With the peace process at a standstill, and with closure taking a terrible toll on the already anemic Palestinian economy, Arafat issued a series of threats in the summer of 1997.

He warned of a "giant explosion." He urged Palestinians "to confront" Israeli measures. He suggested that "all options are open to the Palestinian people."

Yasser Arafat

With these dire threats, Arafat violated Oslo's implicit premise that all disputes should be settled peacefully. But, as Labor party Knesset member Ephraim Sneh pointed out, the Palestinians were being pushed to the edge.

As he put it in a newspaper piece: "In the absence of an Israeli government that sincerely pursues a historic reconciliation with the Palestinians, that demands a vigorous fight against terror but offers no real incentive in return, the danger of an explosion hangs heavy in the air."

Palestinian frustration with the glacial pace of the peace process was also evident in 1998, when the United States, in accordance with the provisions of the Oslo accords, launched a concerted campaign to secure further Israeli pullouts from the West Bank.

When Israel initially refused to abide by an American plan for a 13 percent withdrawal, Arafat stepped up the rhetoric. He warned of a renewed intifadah, the 1987-1991 Palestinian rebellion which cost 1,067 Palestinian and 114 Israeli lives, but which indubitably was an impetus for the historic 1993 Oslo agreement. In the same vein, Arafat said that Netanyahu would bear responsibility for the "chaos" that would ensue should peace talks fail.

Jibril Rajoub, head of the Palestinian Preventive Security Service in the West Bank, was even blunter. "We are preparing ourselves to implement the (peace) agreement, but if he (Netanyahu) doesn't implement, all options are open, including confrontation."

The PA, however, denied a *Time* magazine report that Arafat had drawn up a three-point plan to escalate violence if the peace process continued to languish.

The Wye memorandum, signed in October 1998, defused tensions momentarily. But in the wake of the first phase of Wye, during which Israel evacuated two percent of the West Bank, Netanyahu suspended the accord, charging the PA with falling short of its obligations to combat terrorism. Shortly afterward, Netanyahu, feeling the backlash of an extreme right-wing cabinet revolt, dissolved his government and called elections.

As these developments unfolded, the Palestinians warned Israel that blood would flow if Israel annexed the West Bank in response to a Palestinian declaration of statehood on May 4, 1999, the end of the interim Oslo accords.

In keeping with the Palestinian practice of threatening violence, Arafat said, "Our rifles are ready, and we are ready to raise them." The PA's cabinet secretary, Ahmed Abdul Rahman, issued a starker threat. "The Palestinian people," he said, "will confront the Israeli military machine with our blood and bodies if necessary."

Two weeks ago, in the most recent example of Palestinian posturing, the PA's chief negotiator, Saeb Erekat, warned of more protests if Barak failed to heed the message that Israel's settlement policy must change. His colleague, Salah Tamari, a member of the Palestinian Legislative Council, spoke darkly of an inevitable "explosion" should Barak puts the seething Palestinian issue on the backburner.

If widespread Palestinian violence erupts again, both sides will be prepared for the worst. The PA, in contravention of the Oslo accords, has been reportedly stockpiling weapons ranging from light arms to rockets and missiles. The Israeli army, meanwhile, has increased special training exercises in preparation for a possible armed conflict with the Palestinians.

It would be tragic if the promise of Oslo dissolved in protracted fighting. But Barak seems intent on revitalizing the peace process, curtailing settlement activity and thereby forestalling violence.

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The reasons for sex

Books
Bernard Baskin

***Kosher Sex*, by Rabbi Shmuel Boteach (Random House, $22.95).**

The central premise of this volume, with its rather distasteful title, is that the reason we seek sex is not physical pleasure but emotional intimacy. If that warmth and intimacy are lacking in a relationship, the partners eventually become bored. Hence, the need for what the author calls kosher sex.

Orthodox Rabbi Shmuel Boteach, born in Los Angeles, has been a counsellor to Jewish students at Oxford University, a popular lecturer and a frequent guest on radio and television.

There is more than a hint of suspicion that he revels in the publicity he receives as a result of his frank and outspoken approach to sexuality. Actually, there is little in his advice and suggestions that is new or surprising.

Someone joked that "Jews are too busy having children to bother with sex." But the tradition, in fact, encourages a husband and wife to have sex, not just for procreation but for pleasure.

Judaism is intensely sexual. Ramban taught in his Igeret HaKodesh: "When sexual intercourse is done for the sake of Heaven, there is nothing so holy and pure...God did not create anything that is ugly or shameful. If the sexual organs are said to be shameful, how can it be said that the Creator fashioned something blemished?"

Adds the Zohar, the most important of Jewish mystical texts: "The Divine Presence rests on the marital bed when both male and female are united in love and holiness. Where there is no union of male and female, people are not worthy of beholding the Divine Presence."

After the destruction of the Temple, the bedroom in each home was considered an aspect of the once glorious and sanctified Holy of Holies.

Of course, the act of sex itself is surrounded by rituals and customs, some obscure, some popular.

There have been Jewish teachers who have fostered various forms of deprivation and asceticism, but they are not part of the mainstream of Jewish tradition.

Not only does Jewish law not mandate that a sheet be used, it even wouldn't allow it if the couple desired it out of a misguided sense of piety. "The ancient rabbis do not allow any articles of clothing to be worn during lovemaking. Sex must bring in its wake this tidal wave of powerful emotion that leaves a couple feeling closer, and this happens specifically through the powerful emotions awakened when the body is caused to tingle by contact with another body."

Rabbi Boteach is in favor of male and female separateness. He favors the separation after menstruation, so that when husband and wife come together again it is "like the time when they first married. They enjoy a monthly honeymoon in which they rediscover each other's bodies...Emerging from the mikvah, is a symbol of physical regeneration and spiritual renewal."

Kosher Sex, with humor, illustration and sensitivity, deals with such emotions and considerations as jealousy, mystery, friends and family, career or marriage, choosing a spouse, and sex for single people.

His advice for a lasting marriage, when all is said and done, comes down to this, "When you feel distance from your spouse, go and swallow your pride. Go back to the person to whom you once committed your life and exert the energy to make the marriage work again. Apologize if need be, even if you're convinced that you're correct and they're wrong. Love is far more important than being right. Lose the argument and win back your spouse."

This is in keeping with the talmudic insight that if a man and woman are truly lovers they can make their bed on the edge of a sword; if the love goes bad the largest bed in the world isn't big enough.

Kosher Sex is not a bad book on a topic of perennial interest and fascination.

Teaching kids about Anne Frank

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

Although the Shoah practically defies explanation, particularly to young people, millions of children around the world have been able to grasp some of its enormity through the elegant and simple writings of Anne Frank. And the Internet has become a marvelous resource for educators and their students to share their knowledge.

Some teachers have taken the time to put lesson plans on line. One of the most comprehensive was created by State of Utah **[http://www.uen.org/utahlink/lp_res/AnneFrank.html]**. Among its goals is to point out that one person can make a difference in the community, at home, at school, in the state and in the nation.

Also check out Daniel Barkowitz of Boston's Temple Israel, who has put together a thorough 12-part class outline, The Truth About Anne Frank **[http://remember.org/educate/frank.html]**, and the Web site put together by Anne Pat Smith and her students at Tefft Middle School **[http://www.ncsa.uiuc.edu/edu/Affiliates/Elgin/A_FRANK/annehome.htm]**.

The students of Albert F. Ford Middle School of Acushnet, Mass., have an interesting approach. They have applied lessons about Anne Frank and the Holocaust *throughout* their school day **[http://www.ultranet.com/~fordms/news.html#af]**. In social studies, they looked at how Hitler was able to take control of Germany and how he got a nation to believe in him. Health classes researched the minimum diet necessary for human survival compared to the diet of people in hiding during the war. And students in art classes drew images that symbolized their feelings about the Holocaust.

In another moving exercise, students were asked to put themselves in Anne Frank's shoes and create new diary entries until her death at Bergen-Belsen **[http://www2.lhric.org/ths1/annelist.htm]**. When you read through these heartbreaking "entries," you see once again how the death of one young girl still resonates more than half a century later.

* * *

I'd like to finish my survey of Anne Frank on the Jewish Highway with a look at one of the other incredible individuals of the story. For 25 months, Miep Gies risked her life to hide and feed the Frank family in the annex. Then, after the family's arrest in 1944, Gies rescued Anne Frank's writings and passed them on to her father. Through the World Wide Web, you can follow the life of this modest heroine **[http://orion.csuchico.edu/Archives/Volume35/Issue11/News/WsolwAFran.html]**.

You can listen to a feature profile and interview with Miep Gies from National Public Radio **[http://www.npr.org/programs/morning/miep.html]** and a short one at MSNBC **[http://www.msnbc.com/onair/nbc/dateline/MiepGies/]**. To hear these clips, you'll need to use the Windows Media Player **[http://www.microsoft.com/windows/mediaplayer/download/]**.

At the age of five, when the Gies family was living in starvation in Vienna, Miep was taken in by a family in the Netherlands. She knew that given the chance, she would have to do the same **[http://www.standard.net/kids_seek/in/SEEKKids/Potpourri/6.html]**. "Jan (my husband) and I had no choice. We did foresee many sleepless nights and a miserable life if we would refuse to help, and that was not the kind of future we were looking forward to. Remorse can be worse than losing your life."

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a Toronto-based television producer who writes, lectures and teaches about the Jewish Internet. He can be contacted at [mdm@inforamp.net].

Rabbinic Reflections

Torah's ultimate goal

By RABBI YOSEPH OZIEL

Undoubtedly, the question that should be on everyone's mind while studying this week's parshah is: What could possibly have compelled Korach to behave in such a despicable manner in the desert, when he challenged Moshe Rabeinu's right to be leader?

The arrogance and hatred with which he addressed Moshe Rabeinu seems almost impossible to believe. After seeing what the Jewish people had amounted to in a relatively short period of time, from being slaves to the Egyptians to becoming HaShem's chosen people under the leadership of Moshe Rabeinu, how could anybody have had misgivings about the leadership of Israel, when everything was noticeably going right?

In an attempt to answer this question, Rashi quotes a midrash that says Korach felt overly self-confident after he was shown, through divine inspiration, that the likes of the great prophet Samuel were counted among his descendants.

Notwithstanding, as significant a point as this may be, in a way it also complicates things further. The very fact that Korach was worthy of being divinely inspired clearly indicates that he was no simpleton. It would, therefore, be an oversimplification to attribute this man's downfall to a little bit of overconfidence.

In order to understand what took place in Korach's mind, it is imperative that we first understand the fundamental difference between Torah and all other disciplines. Whereas other disciplines occupy only the intellect of man, Torah was designed to address a much deeper level of the human condition.

The Talmud says that when the Torah was given at Mount Sinai, HaShem held the mountain over the Jewish nation and said, "If you accept [the Torah], very well, but if not, here you shall be buried!" Although our ancestors had already willingly embraced the Torah, still, HaShem, for some reason, felt it necessary to carry their acceptance to a deeper level.

If Torah was brought to this world as a result only of man's acceptance, he would view its commandments as optional, subject to his approval. This meagre level of acceptance, however, is simply not enough when it comes to Torah. For unlike other disciplines, which make no real demands on man, Torah must occupy a unique spiritual orbit, captivating the mind and soul of its adherents. When this happens, when Torah becomes the driving force behind man's every thought and emotion, Torah has fulfilled its ultimate goal, which is to mold man into a perfect being.

The mishnah in Pirkei Avot states that there are three bad character traits so powerful that they can "drive man out of this world." These traits – jealousy, lust and the pursuit of glory – in effect, capture the human spirit, completely taking over man's emotions and sense of logic, and become the driving force behind his every move, which is precisely what Torah is supposed to do.

Korach was overcome by jealousy, as Rashi explains in the parshah. As a matter of fact, Rashi in Pirkei Avot uses Korach as the example of one "driven out of this world" by jealousy.

Sadly, as great as Korach's accomplishments were, he was not capable of suppressing his jealousy, and before long, he had surrendered his person to this evil force, challenging even the very validity of Torah.

Rabbi Oziel is the spiritual leader of Petah Tikva Anshe Castilla Congregation in Toronto.

Guest Voices

China tour an eye-opener

By NOREEN AZOULAY

During the recent visit to China of President Ezer Weizman and an Israeli delegation, I was privileged to take part in the first Canadian Seniors Tour.

At present, more than 5,000 Chinese workers can be found in Israel, with 1,400 in the agricultural sector.

"These contracts will generate an additional boost to the development of economic and trade relations between Israel and China," Weizman said.

Statistics showed that the two-way trade volume between China and Israel hit $523 million (US) in 1998, representing a 46.9 percent surge from the previous year.

There was a remarkable 71.5 percent increase in Israeli exports to China last year, as an indication of the strong growth of Sino-Israel bilateral trade.

While nine trade agreements were being signed between Israel and China, with Israeli and Chinese flags flying high at Tiananmen Square in the Forbidden City, 11 Canadians and one American were experiencing China's unique culture, studying the secrets of longevity, visiting historical sites, and enjoying the Beijing Opera and the world-famous Chinese National Acrobatic Show.

Most memorable for me, was the warm hospitality of the Chinese people who opened their homes and hearts to us. Other highlights were visiting the Seniors University, and attending classes and lectures on Chinese art and culture.

While visiting the village of Bao Ding, I witnessed the efforts being made to move families into better housing. Still, many families live in substandard conditions with little more than what appears to be a "beaded" curtain for their front door. One curtain turned out to be rows of paper clips individually wrapped with brightly colored recycled candy wrappers. When I admired their creativity, the husband removed one of the strings to present to me as a gift.

We then visited the new five-storey apartment buildings across the road, where several families now reside, and more will be relocated as the units are completed. When I saw their school, it was apparent to me that in this culture where couples are permitted only one child, the children come first! They study in modern facilities, and are learning geometry at age four. Their play areas are well equipped and the children are well dressed, cared for and happy.

In Beijing, I found myself exercising in the park at 6 a.m. together with residents of all ages. We did everything from tai chi to disco and cha-cha. Because of the importance they place on health and fitness, these parks are filled each morning for daily exercise. When they insisted I join in, I experienced some difficulty keeping up with 70 to 80-year-olds. What a blow to my ego! I have always considered myself to be very fit, being an active hiker, skier and dancer, who exercises at the gym on a regular basis.

Our host family was delightful. Their large coffee table was laden with a wide variety of delicious Chinese foods, and we were taught the art of making Chinese dumplings while I sang karaoke with their 5-year-old daughter to the theme of *Titanic*, which she had memorized in English.

When we visited the Seniors University, where we were entertained with various performances, we saw costumes of ethnic minorities, met with artists who proudly exhibited their creative works, and toured their classrooms where they were studying computers.

In an effort to promote senior to senior relations in recognition of the 1999 UN Year of the Elderly, China is subsidizing these special tours to bring together North American and Chinese seniors to promote better understanding and lifestyle enrichment through personal contact.

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School funding: Fair equalizer

By KEITH M. LANDY
Special to The CJN

Opinion

Rabbi Marvin Pachino has again expressed his misgivings regarding "our community's preoccupation with obtaining government funds" for Jewish education (*CJN*, May 13). Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region is disappointed that Rabbi Pachino does not support this initiative which, in our opinion, is of great importance to this community and its future.

A core curriculum, secular in content, is taught in nearly every classroom in this province. It is taught in our Jewish day schools, as it is taught in the public and Catholic schools. Why is the same program of study free at public and Catholic schools while our community's families have to pay high tuition rates?

In fact, our community pays twice for the education of our children: once through tuition and once more through taxes. We want the taxes that we pay to go toward the education of our children, irrespective of their school setting. We also want our children to be able to access the non-educational, health and other services they need and deserve, just as children in the public and Catholic schools do so, freely and readily. Denial of such services is plainly wrong and callous.

It has been the longstanding position of our community that the Judaic studies portion of our children's education is to be covered by the community and its parents, not by government. Hence, our community schools would not be relinquishing control over this area of study, because we would not be receiving support for this segment.

Rabbi Pachino alarmingly projects that government might encroach on the Judaic content of our community schools' curriculum. In no other jurisdiction where independent religious schools receive public assistance, has government impinged upon the ability of the schools to set their faith-based curriculum.

Rabbi Pachino further states that once public funding is in place, government may reverse its decision and eliminate such support. The reality, is that Ontario stands alone in the western world in publicly funding one religious-based education system, that of the Catholic, to the exclusion of all others. In no other democratic jurisdiction has the government extended funding to independent religious schools and then reversed itself by withdrawing those funds.

In fact, the opposite is true.

In the western provinces, public support has grown in strength, and has been reinforced over the years to the benefit of independent religious schools and their students. There simply is no evidence to support Rabbi Pachino's scenario.

Congress wholeheartedly agrees with Rabbi Pachino when he writes that the needs of our children and of our schools are not being totally met today. He, unfortunately, does not make the connection between the lack of government funding to the schools and their resultant inability to fully meet the growing needs of our students. Yet, this is the very reason our community has been so aggressively advocating for equal treatment in funding and for access to public health services in the educational system that are currently denied to us.

What Rabbi Pachino appears to ignore, is the simple economics that without outside financial sources the parents must shoulder the lion's share of the total monetary burden. Even with the generous allocation of over 50 percent of UJA Federation-raised dollars to our schools, the community is able to subsidize only a fraction of the total cost of educating our children. It is therefore not surprising that the independent religious schools are increasingly becoming the domain of either the financially well to do, for whom tuition is affordable and the financially less fortunate, to whom some subsidy assistance is extended. The middle class is becoming less and less able to send their children to independent Jewish schools.

The more traditional objection to public funding raised by the government of Ontario is that the extension of funding to independent religious schools would erode confidence in public education. The Ontario Jewish Association for Equity in Education of Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region has researched this matter long and hard, and has found no evidence to support the government's contention. Moreover, the experience of the other provinces do not suggest any erosion of support or confidence in the public education system.

By virtue of his experience, Rabbi Pachino is well positioned to point out our community's school system's difficulties. It puzzles us that he dismisses the most compelling solution to at least some of the difficulties: government funds.

Government funding would cover expenditures relating to the core curriculum; community funds would therefore be made available to enrich and enhance the Judaic-based programs of learning. It would also provide access to existing health services that are presently being denied to our students in the day schools.

It is for this reason that we at Congress will continue to seek redress of this discriminatory practice.

Keith M. Landy is chair, Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region.

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Aish HaTorah (O)	949 Clark Ave. W. (905) 764-1818	7:00 PM	8:45 AM	8:00 AM	6:30 AM	8:50 PM
Beth HaMinyan (C)	70 Ridge Hill Dr. (416) 785-3655	----------	9:30 AM	----------	----------	----------
Beth Sholom (C)	1445 Eglinton Ave. W. (416) 783-6103	8:45 PM	8:45 AM	8:30 AM	7:30 & 9:00 AM	7:00 PM
Beth Torah (C)	47 Glenbrook Ave. (416) 782-4495	----------	9:00 AM	----------	----------	----------
Chabad of Markham (O)	83 Green Lane (905) 886-0420	7:00 PM	9:30 AM	8:30 AM	6:45 AM	----------
Emunah Shleima (O)	4120 Bathurst St. (416) 638-6115	7:00 PM	8:45 AM	8:00 AM	7:00 AM	8:50 PM
Shaarei Tefillah (O)	3600 Bathurst St. (416) 787-1631	7:00 PM	8:45 AM	8:30 AM	6:30 & 7:30 AM	8:50 PM
Temple Har Zion (R)	7360 Bayview Ave. (905) 889-2252	8:30 PM	10:30 AM	9:00 AM	7:15 AM	----------
Tifereth Yisrael (O)	756 Sheppard Ave. W. (416) 487-4161	7:00 PM	8:30 AM	8:00 AM	Mon. Thurs. 6:30 Tues. Wed. Fri. 6:45	8:50 PM

This is not a comprehensive listing of the synagogues in the Greater Toronto area. The information is provided by the Vaad Harabonim of Toronto and the Toronto Board of Rabbis. The Vaad and the Board will periodically revise the listings. For statutory holidays, please call the Synagogue for any changes in times.

Greater Toronto Area

Shuls essential for Jewish identity: Schorsch

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The synagogue is the most important Jewish institution in North America, contends Rabbi Ismar Schorsch. "All the evidence points to commitment and identity correlating to synagogue membership," he said last week at Beth Tzedec Congregation.

Speaking at the Dr. Stuart and Hadassa Rosenberg memorial lecture, the chancellor of the Jewish Theological Seminary (JTS) outlined his concept of Conservative Judaism in a talk entitled Sacredness and Sanity in an Age of Uncertainty.

Rabbi Rosenberg (who led Beth Tzedec from 1956 to 1972) and his wife were deeply connected to JTS, noted Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl, spiritual leader of Beth Tzedec, in his introduction.

"The mission of synagogues is to make Jews," Rabbi Schorsch said. "If the synagogue succeeds, every sector of the community is strengthened."

Conservative Judaism is distinguished from the more liberal Reform movement – particularly in the United States – for not accepting the principle of patrilineality, not allowing its leadership to officiate at mixed marriages, and not admitting gays and lesbians to rabbinic or cantorial school, said Rabbi Schorsch.

It is distinguished from Orthodox Judaism by being largely egalitarian, he added.

Rabbi Ismar Schorsch

When an audience member questioned the concept of egalitarianism, Rabbi Schorsch noted, "One of the reasons Jewish law has become inflexible is a surfeit of knowledge and a paucity of courage." The largely Conservative crowd reacted with applause.

According to a 1990 population study, Conservative Judaism represents the largest segment of the American Jewish community in terms of synagogue affiliation, with 43 percent of synagogue members belonging to a Conservative synagogue. Reform had 35 percent; Orthodox 16 percent.

The core values of Conservative Judaism are both ethnic and religious, Rabbi Schorsch said.

During a question and answer session, he noted that teaching of prospective converts is not succeeding in the area of ethnicity. New converts still have growing to do, he noted, adding that "we have to work a little harder" to transmit a sense of peoplehood.

The ethnic values of Conservative Judaism include the Hebrew language, the centrality of Israel and Klal Yisrael, or the larger Jewish community.

Its religious values include Torah, critical scholarship and the centrality of Halachah, Rabbi Schorsch said. Most importantly, he added, the concept of God integrates all the values harmoniously.

Today, he said, there are almost 150 Conservative rabbis living in Israel. "Their aliyah is simply an acting out of [a] core value of Conservative Judaism."

Israel needs the Conservative movement, he believes. The country "is not going to make it if it does not allow the creation of religious alternatives."

Torah study in the Conservative movement must be "in consonance with who we are," he said. "We are not 12th-century Jews. We are 20th-century Jews."

Halachah, or Jewish law, "defines our community," said the chancellor. "It defines who's in and who's out, how we worship, how we study, how we relate to our fellow humans, and how we relate to God."

Halachah creates community, as well as the opportunity to feel God's presence, he said. "We come close to God only with serious effort."

Faith is a function of the mind and the heart, Rabbi Schorsch said. Conservative Jews are thus romantics, not fundamentalists or rationalists, he said.

"What is a romantic?" he asked. "An individual who believes more than he can defend."

Today's Conservative Jews are much more knowledgeable about what the movement stands for than those of 30 or 40 years ago, he noted.

He believes modern Orthodoxy will assimilate egalitarianism. "Modern Orthodoxy wants what Conservative Judaism wants. It wants to be in the modern world, and it wants to be thoroughly Jewish."

Conservative Judaism is a vital element in contemporary Judaism, he concluded. If the movement continues on its current course, it will "continue to serve as a bridge that binds and unites."

Cheder Chabad to hold dinner

TORONTO — The annual dinner and draw of the Shmuel Zahavy Cheder Chabad Elementary Yeshiva will honor school benefactor Yehezkel Zahavy.

The dinner will be held June 22 at the Paradise Banquet Hall & Convention Centre, 7601 Jane St. in Concord. Cocktails will be at 6 p.m. and dinner at 7.

Grand lottery prize is $10,000 in cash. Other prizes are a dinner service for 20, including china, flatware and wineglasses; custom photography; jewelry; a dining room set; a fur coat; a custom home office; and a vacation to Florida.

According to a media release, Cheder Chabad, housed in the Lubavitch Community Centre in Vaughan, was founded 14 years ago as a school where "Jewish children could learn Judaic and general studies in the spirit of the teachings of the Lubavitcher Rebbe, Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson."

The school changed its name in 1987 when Yehezkel and Zahava Zahavy decided to endow the school in memory of their 19-year-old son Shmuel, who was killed in a car accident.

For more information about the dinner, call Jan Mervin, 663-1972.

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Rozanski adopts new methods to maintain Guelph's reputation

Academia

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

Mordechai Rozanski, the president of the University of Guelph, knows how to attract attention.

To lure students to his Chinese history class when he was still a working professor, he let it be known that they could expect an extra treat: a course in Chinese cuisine. The tactic worked. Scores of students showed up. "I had 10 woks going during class," he said.

When the University of Guelph's athletic director asked him to open the university's new indoor swimming pool, he thought long and hard how he could publicize the event.

He devised a novel solution. Upon delivering the inaugural speech, Rozanski, a waterfront director in a Laurentians camp during his youth, jumped into the water, fully-clothed, and swam across the pool. "I wanted to make a splash," he admitted.

Now in his sixth year as president, Rozanski, a first-generation Canadian, is currently wracking his brain to ensure that Guelph maintains its reputation for excellence. *Maclean's* magazine , in 1998, ranked Guelph as the best comprehensive university in Ontario and the second-best comprehensive university in Canada.

Recently reappointed to a second five-year term, he said that Guelph was already a first-rate institution when he succeeded Brian Segal, the university's first Jewish president.

"If I can take credit for anything, it may be for cultivating and focusing those qualities that make Guelph unique in a period of financial restraint," he observed.

Rozanski, who has worked assiduously to bring Guelph's strengths to the public's attention, has been an administrator since 1978, when he was director of an international studies program at an American university.

But Rozanski, an expert in Chinese-American relations, has been a teacher and a scholar even longer. A graduate of McGill University, he obtained a PhD in modern Chinese history in 1974 from the University of Pennsylvania, where he began his academic career.

After Pennsylvania, he taught at Berry and Wagner colleges, and Pacific Lutheran, Adelphi and Fairleigh Dickinson universities.

Rozanski has written books about China and higher education, and at the moment, he is working on *The Delicate Art of Managing Barbarians: The Role of American Journalists as Instruments of Chinese Foreign Policy, 1900-1930*. "The world will have to wait for my retirement before this masterpiece sees the light of day," he said drolly.

Mordechai Rozanski

Reasonably fluent in Mandarin, Rozanski was drawn to Chinese history by a charismatic and influential professor. Since then, he has visited China many times, sharpening his erudition, honing his linguistic skills and, it can be revealed, refining his taste for Chinese food.

Born in Lodz, Poland, on July 4, 1946 – the day of the Kielce pogrom – he is the only child of Louis and Bertha Rozanski, who were raised in nearby shtetls.

Shortly after Germany's occupation of Poland, his parents fled to the Soviet Union.

The family left Poland in 1951, lived in Jaffa for two years and, briefly, in Paris. "We arrived in Canada in 1953. We had been prevented from immigrating earlier because my father had been disabled during the war, and Canadian immigration regulations did not initially allow us in because of this."

To Rozanski, Canada meant the promise of a future, and the means of that future was through education. "My parents did not have much access to education, let alone higher education," said Rozanski, a graduate of Montreal's West Hill High School. "So my philosophy of education incorporates these influences. I want to offer students that promise, to provide accessibility to a quality education and a bright future."

Rozanski's definition of education is an amalgam of pragmatism and idealism. "In an age when vast quantities of knowledge inundate the world, education is the process, through inquiry, scholarship and analysis, of searching for what is right and enduring in the service of quality of life and society."

He holds that education, not technology and globalization, generates forward change and progress. "Technology or globalization uninformed by education," he said, "would be disastrous."

At Guelph, Rozanski has acted on his ideas. Amid provincial budget cuts affecting universities across the board, he developed a strategic framework for Guelph's passage into the next millennium. "Our two primary directions were to focus on being purposefully learner-centred and research-intensive," he explained.

In fleshing out these initiatives, Rozanski established several innovative programs. *Start* enables students to sample campus life before their first year. *Open Learning* gives undergraduate and postgraduate students an alternative method of completing course requirements and enlivens the notion of life-long learning.

Internationalism facilitates institutional exchanges with 65 countries. Rozanski will travel to Israel this month to renew opportunities for partnerships with Israeli universities. *Project Go* helps reduce barriers to higher education and contributes to the diversity of the student population. Guelph has more than 13,000 full and part-time students

As for research, Rozanski is reinforcing Guelph's nationally recognized strengths in fields such as agri-food, biotechnology, human and animal health, aquatic sciences, philosophy and economics.

"We are committed not only to basic and applied research, but to placing that research in a larger context and applying it to improve the lives of Canadians."

Last year, in an effort to capitalize on "existing synergies," Rozanski merged two colleges to form the College of Applied Human Sciences. Guelph, too, has received funding for a Food System Biotechnology Centre and a Centre for Families, Work and Well-Being.

The university will soon embark on a major fund-raising campaign. "In light of funding cuts," he said, "we will be looking to build partnerships so that we may partially – but never totally – offset the shortfall in public funding."

Not surprisingly, he is critical of Mike Harris' budget cuts. "A university education is an investment, not a subsidy. Universities are engines of innovation, creating wealth, jobs and improving the province's international competitiveness. Unfortunately, Ontario ranks 10th out of 10 provinces in terms of per capita support of higher education."

Typically, Rozanski spends much of his waking hours in a continuing struggle to preserve the integrity of the university in an era of budget cuts. "But on a day-to-day basis, I am involved in government lobbying, friend-and-fund-raising, alumni relations, student affairs and managing a $300 million budget and an organization with some 2,500 employees." By his estimate, he attends roughly 1,500 meetings a year, including weekend and evening events.

He and his wife Bonnie, a computer science specialist and novelist, have a son, Daniel, a high school student. They are involved in Guelph's Jewish community and are members of Beth Isaiah synagogue.

Asked how he would wish to be remembered if he resigned tomorrow, he replied: "I would hope that my accomplishments would not be personal ones, but would be reflected in the spirit of the university and the people who come here each day. In the face of an onslaught of massive financial cuts, I would hope that Guelph had not only survived, but actually prospered."

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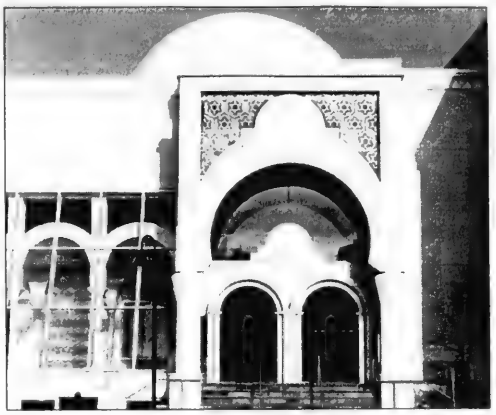

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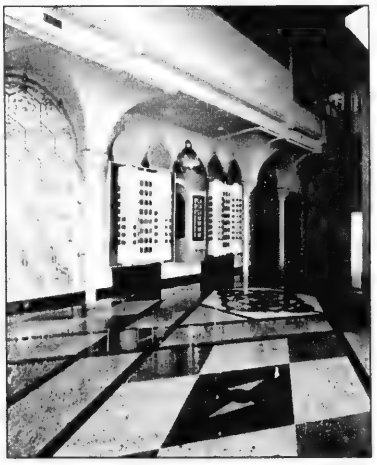

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Greater Toronto Area

Maissner celebrates 20 years at Holy Blossom

By DAVID SILVERBERG
Student Intern

TORONTO — Cantor Benjamin Maissner of Holy Blossom Temple has been immersed in music for most of his life.

An accomplished musician, he began studying the violin in his youth. The Tel Aviv native also enjoyed singing as a child.

He says one of his most memorable moments singing was at the age of 13. Performing on a balcony overlooking a Tel Aviv street, he could see thousands of children holding candles in a Chanukah parade.

This week, Holy Blossom is honoring Maissner's 20 years as the temple's cantor and music director, with a special tribute. The evening includes performances by his colleagues, other musicians, and Holy Blossom's Temple Singers.

Toronto a rewarding place to work

Maissner, 55, grew up admiring his uncle, Cantor Israel Alter. He says his uncle was a great advocate of the intellectual approach to chazzanut, which emphasizes the emotional aspect and the meaning of the prayers.

Maissner trained to be a cantor at Hebrew Union College in New York City and went on to become the cantor of the Germantown Jewish Centre in Philadelphia.

Toronto has been a rewarding place to work, Maissner says, because the city "has a very stable Jewish community. Synagogues flourish here and they are quite supportive of good Jewish music."

Maissner's contribution to Jewish music here includes his direction of the Temple Singers, the only Jewish choir to participate in the Toronto International Choral Festival in 1989. He also leads the Lachan Choir, which has held its own concerts at such venues as Leah Posluns Theatre and the Ford Centre for the Performing Arts.

As a soloist, Maissner has recorded portions of soundtracks for CBC productions, and collaborated with the Toronto Concert Singers, the Guelph University Choir, Tafelmusik and others.

Last year, he returned to the Big Apple to sing at Carnegie Hall with others cantors for the Israel at 50 concert.

In addition to his cantorial duties, Maissner is vice-president of the American Conference of Cantors and past president of the Toronto Council of Chazzanim.

Cantor Benjamin Maissner

Having worked with such influential cantors as Shlomo Ravitz and Moshe Ganchoff, Maissner says he knows what it takes to succeed in the world of chazzanim.

Simply speaking, he says, a good chazzan must possess a decent singing voice and a deep understanding of Hebrew and the prayers.

Also, one must be a committed Jew and a decent human being – a cantor must be sensitive and caring, and reach out to others, he adds.

"We don't just sing. We're leaders of the community. We have pastoral duties to carry out, like caring for the sick and [attending] shivahs. We have to be sympathetic and have strong social skills."

Maissner believes that cantors should be a link to the past, to the old tradition of chazzanut.

Cantorial music can be a unifying factor within the Jewish community, he says. "The fact that Reform, Conservative and Orthodox cantors work for the same cause, for the love of music and chazzanut, has really boosted the community many times."

Holy Blossom Temple has established a fund called the Music Legacy Recording Fund, Maissner says, which will document the musical history of the synagogue.

"I want to document everything because this congregation is very sophisticated and unique."

CORRECTION

In the article "CHAT breaks ground for major expansion" (*CJN*, June 10), the cutline in the accompanying photo should have read: Anne Tanenbaum, assisted by Stephen Freedhoff, prepares to break ground for the renovated and expanded CHAT campus.

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Moral sensibility stressed

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — If one claims to act according to religious law, but does not display moral sensibility, then that is not proper *yirat shomayim*, fear of heaven, asserts speaker, teacher and writer Arna Poupko.

Poupko, a noted lecturer, is Judaic consultant at Federation/CJA in Montreal. She was speaking at the formal launch of Mekorot Institute of Torah Study for Women, held recently at the Wagman Centre.

Giving an example of the kind of teaching that will be going on in Mekorot, she used quotations from traditional writings and Talmud to discuss the theme Submission vs. Personal Responsibility in Jewish Law.

Pirkei Avot, a book of the Mishnah, asserts that "Without Torah, there is no derech eretz (respect); without derech eretz, there is no Torah," she said, adding Rabbi Kook's belief that "If...the moral character of an individual or a group is diminished by our religious observance, then we are certainly mistaken in our path."

The Talmud says, according to Poupko, that there are "areas where we must act with compassion, going *lifnim meshurat hadin*, beyond the letter of the law, to have true fear of heaven."

Much of religious observance, she said, citing such examples as covering one's hair, kashrut, and the laws of family purity, depends not on intellect, but on faith, and a "submission to a system and Halachah beyond oneself."

On the other hand, she said, since Jewish learning "insists on always playing the devil's advocate, seeing things from the other person's point of view, it is one of the most pristine ways of honing the intellect."

She discussed differing opinions about how one can be *tzelem Elokim*, in the image of God; Maimonides says that it is through intellectual understanding, Rabbi Joseph Soloveitchik says it is through the creative process, the Midrash HaGadol says it is through acts of chesed, kindness.

But Leviticus Rabbah, another traditional writing, notes that there is an obligation that comes from being created in God's image; to not hurt or humiliate another, she said.

Sometimes it is difficult to see the relationship between Halachah and one's personal responsibility, Poupko acknowledged. Nevertheless, she said, "the beauty of Halachah is that it insists on one's personal contribution.

"On the pinpoint of intellect and submission, lies truth and authenticity," she concluded.

Mekorot president Shoshana Kurtz told the participants that the institute plans to offer four courses beginning in September; Introduction to the World of Talmudic Logic, taught by Rabbi Yigal Gurvitz; Tradition vs. Rationalism in Jewish Philosophy, taught by Menachem Paz; Joseph and His Brothers, taught by Shoshana Zolty; and Kohelet, taught by Rabbi Moshe Shulman.

There will also be a three-session mini-course entitled Greeks Bearing Gifts: Chanukah and the Clash of Cultures, which will be taught by Rabbi Pinchas Brumer.

Locations are to be announced, Kurtz said, but the intention is to make the programs accessible to the greatest number of women possible.

For more information about Mekorot, call 398-1510.

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***

Jewish Vocational Services is seeking students for summer volunteer opportunities who are computer literate and interested in learning new skills. Activities include clerical/administrative tasks, and computer tutoring. Contact Volunteer Centre of Toronto, York branch, 781-0902.

***

Baycrest Centre needs volunteers for the physiotherapy pool program every Tuesday and Thursday 9-11 a.m. (both days needed). Volunteers are required to assist the physiotherapist with clients and their exercises. For information or to set up an interview, call Sandy Frankel 785-2500, ext. 2576.

***

The Multiple Sclerosis Society is seeking volunteers for the MS Bike Tours on July 18, Aug. 14 and 15, and Aug. 29 to assist with registration, parking, checkpoints and route marshalling. Contact Volunteer Centre of Toronto, York branch 781-0902.

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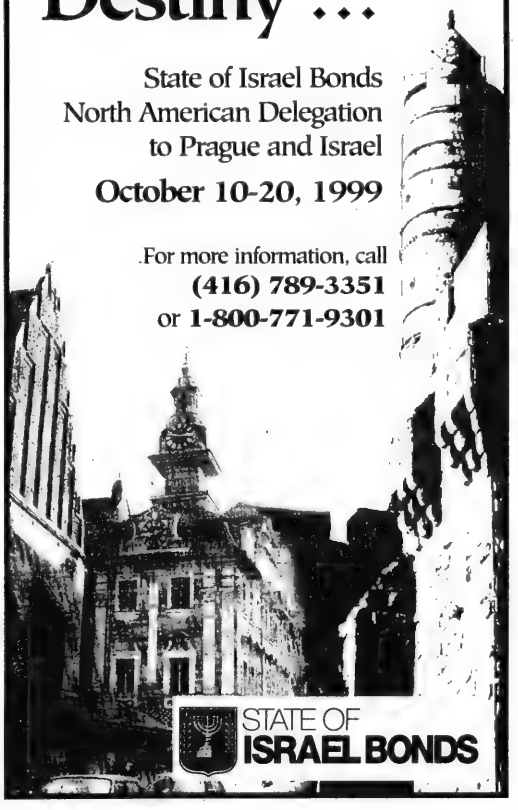

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Monday, June 21, is deadline for July 1 issue; Monday, June 28, is deadline for July 8; and Monday, July 5 is deadline for July 15 issue.

Please note: As there will be no issue published July 22, all items that would ordinarily appear July 22 must be included in the July 15 column.

I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Saturday, June 19

EMUNAH SHABBAT

Emunah Women city-wide Seudah Shlishit Program, speakers **Robin Berglas** (Beth Avraham Yoseph of Toronto), **Ilana Kelman** (Beth Jacob V'Anshe Drildz), **Rebbitzen Rochel Leah Marcus** (Beth Torah); **Dr. Shoshana Kurtz** (Clanton Park), **Joyce Tradburks, Margaret Klompas** (Kehillat Shaarei Torah), **Ilana Sober** (Shaarei Shomayim), **Rebbitzen Sarah Stern** (Shaarei Tefillah). Reserve. Emunah office 636-0036.

VILLAGE SHUL

Open house. See the new shul, bring the family. 1072 Eglinton Ave. W. 785-1107.

Sunday, June 20

SINGLES BIBLE STUDY

Beth Tikvah Progressive Singles interactive Bible Study Class with **Chana Sargon**, Isolation and Universalism in the Book of Genesis, How Do We Balance Being Jewish and Part of the Universe? 8 p.m. $5. RSVP 221-3433, ext. 352.

SINGLES SOCIAL EVENING

Men and women, Group A, ages 21-39, Group B, ages 40-69, Bridge, Trivial Pursuit, Chutzpah, Scrabble, Rummicube, 7:30 p.m., Beth Torah Synagogue. $5. Early Bird Bingo, 7:30-8 p.m. **Mollie** 733-3634.

Monday, June 21

HEALTH AND BEAUTY

Adath Sholom Sisterhood season finale, A Century of Beauty, includes demonstration – Health and Beauty from the Mineral Rich Dead Sea, by consultant **Ellen Star** 7:30 p.m. $3.

NAGILLAH CHAPTER, JWI

Nagillah chapter, Jewish Women International (40+ singles) closing dinner, 6 p.m., Bloomsbury Cafe, 4777 Leslie St. $13. RSVP **Helen** 638-4326 or **Pearl** 787-7426 or 782-0200.

KABBALAH LECTURE

Free introductory lecture on ancient teachings used to reveal reasons behind success not failure, health not disease, and mysteries of life and death, 6:30 p.m., Kabbalah Centre, 678 Sheppard Ave. W. 631-9395.

SECURITY THREAT

Are Jewish Communities in Danger of Arab/PA Attack? **Mordechai Sones**, IDF reservist, and **Andrew Eiva**, American counter-insurgency expert, report on the security threat to the communities in Judea and Samaria, 8 p.m., B'nai Torah, 465 Patricia Ave.

SUPPORT GROUP

Jewish Parents and Families of Gays and Lesbians meets 7:30 p.m., Jewish Family & Child Service, 6th floor, Lipa Green Building. Phone in confidence **Ruth** 763-9111.

Tuesday, June 22

GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

The Jewish Genealogical Society of Canada (Toronto) meeting, Breakthroughs of the Past Year, reports by members, plus election of new executive. 8 p.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. Non-members $3.

LIZZIES OLD TIMERS

At Lizzies Old Timers Association annual dinner at Bob Abate Community Centre, 485 Montrose Ave. (at Bloor Street West), **Dr. Harold Sniderman** is honored as Lizzie of the Year. Cocktails 5:30 p.m., dinner at 7. $40. **Harvey Bronstine** 905-886-6580 or **Norm Cornack** 749-6735.

SISTERHOOD LUNCHEON

Shaarei Shomayim Sisterhood closing meeting of the season, luncheon and musical program with **Mickey Lewin**, 12:30 p.m. Reserve. **Ruth Fruitman** 905-731-6660.

Wednesday, June 23

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Cheltenham Nursing Home open house, Celebration of Life. Fun for

Continued on page 21

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What's New

Continued from page 20

all ages, clowns, music, door prizes. Meet residents, staff, and tour the facility. 223-4050.

And What Else Is New

VISAS FOR LIFE

The Bathurst Jewish Centre and the Canadian Society for Yad Vashem present Visas for Life, a photographic exhibit documenting the rescue of 62,000 Hungarian Jews by Swiss Consul **Carl Letz** from 1942-45. Opening reception Monday, June 21, 6-8 p.m., Lobby Atrium, Bathurst Jewish Centre. RSVP Swiss Consulate 593-5371. Exhibit runs to July 15.

SHABBAT DINNER

Israel Cancer Research Fund and Jewish Campus Services Shabbat dinner for students and young professionals in their 20s, Friday, June 25, 7:30 p.m., Bathurst and Steeles area. Guest speaker to be announced. $25. Special student rate available. Tickets/information ICRF 487-5246. Dietary laws observed.

BAYSVILLE SYNAGOGUE

The 1999 summer season of B'nai Isaac Synagogue and Cultural Centre of Baysville begins the weekend of June 25. Saturday morning services are 9:45 a.m. For times of other services or for other information, **Isaac Jesin** 633-2320 or **Dr. Aaron Jesin** 636-2223 or 635-5012. Weekend number in Baysville is 705-767-3084.

AKIM TEA

Canadian Friends of Akim annual tea takes place Wednesday, June 30, 1-4 p.m. at the home of **Lillyan** and **Bill Wiener**, 37 Strathearn Rd. (west of Bathurst). Gentlemen most welcome. Proceeds go to mentally challenged in Israel. For information, 222-7267.

PARENT AND BABY TIME

National Council of Jewish Women, Toronto Section, presents a Parent and Baby Time program featuring baby massage, starting Thursday, June 24, 11 a.m. to noon, for six consecutive Thursdays (excluding Canada Day, July 1) at Council House, 4700 Bathurst St. $48. Register. **Rachel** 905-731-7216.

ABOUT PNAI

Do you have children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren living in Israel? PNAI (Parents of North American Israelis), an organization of volunteers, is dedicated to keeping open the bridge that joins the parents in the Metropolitan area, the United States and Canada with their posterity in Israel. This is a non-profit organization, does not solicit contributions and does not take positions on matters concerning religion or politics. **Charles King** 783-7872.

CASINO RAMA

Join Adath Sholom Synagogue Sisterhood on a fun-filled trip to Casino Rama Monday, June 28. Bus leaves Adath Sholom, 864 Sheppard Ave. W. 8:45 a.m. $7 includes buffet lunch. Reserve. 635-0131.

VARIETY PLAYERS

Mel Lastman Variety Players, a seniors group, perform at Fairview Library Theatre Aug. 29-Sept. 5. Director **Harry Harding**, musical director **Earl Parnes**, choreographer **Betty Arlin**. For information, **Helen Davis** 491-3479 or **Florence Debonis** 665-3934.

ELDER ABUSE EDUCATION

Through dramas and interactive discussions, the Awareness Project Players of the Bernard Betel Centre provide realistic portraits of family life in which elder abuse occurs. Six vignettes – *The Stepfather, Our Pride & Joy, Caught in the Middle, Jack in the Box, The Wild Card, Jake's Lost* – are suitable for for community groups, clubs, conferences, schools. For information and bookings, **Sheila Zane** 225-2112, ext. 133.

JF&CS GROUPS

Jewish Family & Child Service groups. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

Parenting the Young Child is Hard Work, includes 1,2,3 Magic strategy, Barbara Coloroso's techniques and others, begins July 6; Separation and Divorce, begins July 6; Today's Woman: Making It Happen, self-esteem, interpersonal skills, stress and time management techniques, begins June-22; Social Skills for Adolescents, begins July 7 for eight weeks.

SINGLES SCENE

Group 30-50 events:

Discussion/talk, Judging Others Favorably, with **Rabbi Michael Skobac**. Wednesday, June 23, 8 p.m. at Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue.

Summer Sizzler Dance Party, Sunday, June 27, 8 p.m. at Beth Emeth $7 in advance, $10 at door. **Sarit** 905-669-5499 (p.m. only).

FOR SENIORS

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). June 17, Chinese restaurant 6 p.m.; June 24, **Prof. Sara Ginaite** lectures on her experience in the Resistance in Lithuania; Sunday, Aug. 1, dance with the Teddy Band, call **Malka Colla** for tickets 630-5771. Activities in Hebrew, Yiddish, English. **Jerry Bengall**, president, 905-707-7334.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: July 27, trip to Kingston, cruise, entertainment; Aug. 25, morning cruise, matinee *Move Over Mrs. Markham* at Gryphon Theatre; Oct. 12, *West Side Story* at Stratford. **Lena** 785-5773. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Community garage sale and flea market, July 4, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Catskills vacation, Paramount Hotel, July 11-18; Casino Rama, June 30, July 14 and 28; Sunday dance, June 27, 7-9 p.m.; lessons for cutting special glass. 395-7881.

Young at Heart Seniors Catskills trip to kosher Raleigh Hotel, 2 weekends, 10 days starting July 23. Double occupancy $1,399.95 Canadian, single $1,675. German restitution accepted. **Helen** 635-6343.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Intergenerational Dance, favorites of past and present, Thursday, June 17, 1:30-3:30 p.m.

Lifestyles Dentistry information session Dental Care for Seniors, Thursday, June 24, 1:15-2:15 p.m.

Movie, *Analyze This*, Sunday, June 20, 2:30 p.m.

Israeli Club Etrog: Do you speak Hebrew? Join club members Tuesdays at 7 p.m. for movies, lectures, dances, sing-alongs, bingo, picnics. June 22 is a picnic in the park. **Anna** ext. 110.

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave., 924-6211.

Volunteers are needed for the Festival on Bloor, Sunday, July 4, noon to 7 p.m. for children's games, dunking tank, security, set-up (from 9 a.m.) and take down (after 6 p.m.), promotion and sales, and more. **Maureen McIlveen**.

SINGLES EVENTS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 24

PRESENTATION TO MAZON CANADA

Cantor A. Eliezer Kirshblum, chair of the Toronto Cantorial Trust Fund presents a $5,000 check for Mazon Canada to Jacqueline Kott-Wolfe, executive director of Mazon Canada. The trust fund is the fundraising arm of the Toronto Council of Hazzanim. This allocation to Mazon Canada was raised at the concert that took place in December at Holy Blossom Temple. [Dale Studios photo]

REFORM DAY SCHOOLS ASSOCIATION

The annual Conference of the Progressive Association of Reform Day Schools, hosted by Zita Gardner at the Leo Baeck Day School, brought together school heads and volunteer board members from 15 Reform Jewish day schools across North America. From left are Esther Saritzky, incoming chair, Los Angeles; Bonnie Sharfman, incoming president, Phoenix; Zita Gardner, past president, Toronto; and Carol Nemó, past chair, Atlanta.

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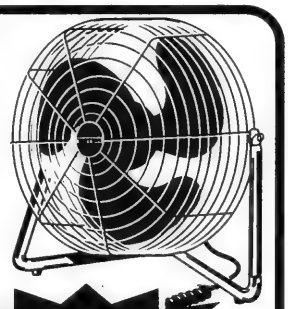

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Greater Toronto Area

Searching for family roots

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Stan Diamond, a retired businessman from Montreal, told a Toronto audience recently that his life took a whole new direction eight years ago after he received a letter from someone he didn't know.

The keynote speaker of a genealogy workshop sponsored by the Jewish Genealogical Society of Canada, Diamond explained that the letter came from someone who was exploring his roots and believed Diamond to be a distant cousin.

After receiving the letter, Diamond said, he began to trace his family tree.

In the first of an afternoon of talks attended by about 80 people, Diamond – founding president of the Jewish Genealogical Society of Montreal – described some of the myriad paths along which his research has taken him.

One of his grandmothers, he said, came to the United States in 1892. He discovered that she had left five siblings in Poland. Through diligent research he also "found 42 branches of her family, many of which were wiped out in the Holocaust."

Genealogical research has also enabled him to "identify the great-great-grandfather who passed down red hair to my father and to me."

Diamond, who carries a rare genetic trait, has also used his research to find other potential carriers within his extended family, and warn them of medical risks associated with the condition.

Researching one's family tree allows one to develop certain skills that can be used to help others, Diamond said. As an example, he cited the case of a Belgian-born man named Maurice, who, after extensive searches, had concluded that his entire family had perished in the Holocaust. Through a chance association, Diamond was able to put Maurice in touch with some cousins in London, England.

With a dramatic flourish, Diamond introduced Maurice, who was sitting in the audience. A Torontonian since 1948, Maurice Klagsbrun told *The CJN* that he has lived most of his life believing he had no living relatives. In April, however, he went to England and visited "a flock of cousins." He has also learned of another branch of his family tree in Australia.

Another speaker, Garry Stein, gave a talk on tracing your Jewish roots, during which he summed up basic steps such as interviewing relatives, visiting archives and libraries, keeping records of your research, and finding tombstones of your relatives and ancestors.

Stein described "leaping over a barbed wire fence" to get into an old Jewish cemetery in Columbus, Ohio, only to be confronted several minutes later with the sight of flashing red lights of a police cruiser. After explaining his quest to the police, he was allowed to continue his search, which turned up tombstones of several relatives.

Other speakers included Gert Rogers, Neil Richler, Rolf Lederer, Henry Wellisch, Alex P. Korn and David Price.

The Toronto Division of the Jewish Genealogical Society of Canada currently has about 180 members. For information, phone 638-3280.

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מיט אַ שטיקל צייט צוריק איז אין אַ יידישער צייטונג פון אַמעריקע דערשינען די נייעס: „פּראָמינענטע אַמעריקאַנער עסקנים באַטייליקן זיך אין דערעפענונג פון בית המדרש לעבן אוישוויץ". האָב איך געטראַכט: טאַטע אין הימל! פון וואַנען נעמען זיך נאָך היינט ביי יידן אַזעלכע בטלנים? מען גייט באַגראָבן צוויי מיליאָן דאָלאַרן צו רעסטאַוורירן די שוהל „לומדי משניות" אין שטעטל אשפיצין, פּוילן, נישט ווייט פון דעם טרויעריק באַרימטן טויט־לאַגער אוישוויץ. פאַר צוויי מיליאָן דאָלאַרן קען מען היינט אין פּוילן קויפן דאָס גאַנצע שטעטל און ווי אַ באַנוס וועלן די פּאָלאַקן נאָך צוגעבן אויך דעם „בורמישטש" (מעיאַר) פון דער שטאָט. ווער גייט באַנייען אַ שוהל אין אַזאַ יידישן מדבר, ווי עס איז היינט פּוילן? איר וועט דאָך נישט געפינען קיין איין לעבעדיקן ייד אויף אַ שטח פון צענדליקער אָדער הונדערטער קילאָמעטערס.

פון וואַנען וועלן די „חכמים" נעמען געלט, ווען די פּוילישע שכנים וועלן יעדן מאָנטיק און דאָנערשטיק ברעכן די שויבן פון דער שוהל, אַרונטערריסן די מזוזה און פאַרשמירן די ווענט מיט האַקנקרייצן? אַפילו צו פאַריכטן אַ יידישן בית־עולם אין פּוילן איז אַ ריזיקע און אין מערסטע פאַלן איז עס אַרויסגעוואָרפן געלט.

אָט איז אַ ביישפּיל: מיט עטלעכע יאָר צוריק האָבן מיר אויפגעשטעלט אַ מאָנומענט פון די צעבראָכענע מצבות אויפן בית החיים אין סטאַשעוו, פון וואַנען איך שטאַם. יעדעס מאָל, ווען עס פאָרט עמעצער אויף קבר אָבות, טרעפט מען דעם מאָנומענט פאַראומרייניקט, פאַרשמירט מיט האַקנקרייצן און אויפשריפטן „אַ טויט די יידן". עס העלפן נישט די געלטער, וואָס מיר געבן צו די פּאָלאַקן, זיי זאָלן אַכטונג געבן אויפן מאָנומענט. צי טראַכטן די בטלנים, אַז זייערע פּאָלאַקן אין אשפיצין וועלן זיין בעסער? . . .

אַ שוהל דאַרף דאָך האָבן ספרים, סידורים, חומשים, כאַטש איין ספר תורה. צי דאַרף איך דאָ איבער־חזרן, וואָס עס איז געשען מיט צענדליקער טויזנטער ספרים און ספר־תורה, וואָס זיינען געבליבן נאָך די יידן? איז דען נישט באַוווסט אויף וואָס די פּאָלאַקן האָבן גענוצט דאָס פּאַפּיר? נאָכן חורבן האָבן פּאָלאַקן פאַרקויפט אויף די יאַרידן צוגעשניטענע שטיקלעך פאַרמעט פון ספר־תורות, וואָס איז גענוצט געוואָרן ווי „פּאָטשעווקעס" פאַר שיך און שטיוול. צי קענען די דאָזיקע אַמעריקאַנער עסקנים ריזיקירן און אַריינשטעלן אין דער שוהל אַ ספר תורה? ווער וועט אַכטונג געבן אויף איר? . . . אפשר וועלן די „גוטהאַרציקע" יידן בעטן דעם אַמעריקאַנער פרעזידענט, אַז ער זאָל דאָרט אַריינשיקן אַ מיליטערישע איינהייט, וואָס זאָל שטיין אויף דער וואַך 24 שעה אין טאָג.

בעת דער מזוזה אָנקלאַפן צערעמאָניע איז אויסגעדריקט געוואָרן, אַז דאָס איז איינע פון די *פריילעכסטע* (מיין אונטערשטרייכונג — ש.ה.) מאָמענטן אין יידישן לעבן פון פּוילן. לויט זייער באַגריף וועט דאָס זיין „אַ ווינקעלע ווו יידן וועלן קענען מתפלל זיין, אַריינקוקן אין זייער פאַרגאַנגענהייט, לערנען און פאַרבינדן זיך מיט זייער עבר". פרעגט זיך די פראַגע: **וועלכע יידן?** אין דער שטאָט אשפיצין וואוינט היינט צו טאָג איין יידישער זקן. פרעגט אים ווען ער האָט דאָס לעצטע מאָל אַריינגעקוקט אין זיין עבר?

מען דאַרף געדענקען, אַז אין דער שטאָט אשפיצין וואוינט מיט איין ייד מער, ווי אין די הונדערטער שטעט, שטעטלעך און דערפער אין פּוילן. ווער וועט קומען אין אַ קליין פראָווינץ שטעטל אין פּוילן זיך אַוועקזעצן און פּלאָזאָפירן וועגן זיין פאַרגאַנגענהייט אָדער צוקונפט? אין אַ געשפּרעך מיט אַ „גייד" אין אוישוויץ האָב איך אים געפרעגט, וואָס עס איז די לאַגע פון אַ ייד היינט צו טאָג אין פּוילן? האָט ער מיר געענטפערט, אַז ער וואָלט נישט גע'עצהט אַ ייד זאָל פאָרן אויף דער פראָווינץ אַן פּאָליציי פּראָטעקציע. מען קען געפינען לובאַוויטשער שליחים אין כמעט יעדן ווינקל אויף דער וועלט, אַחוץ אין פּוילן. זאָגט דאָס עפּעס? . . .

וויפל יידן טרעפט איר אין דער נאָזשיק שוהל אין וואַרשע, אָדער אין דער רמ"א שוהל אין קראָקע? אויב איר טרעפט זיי דאָרט, איז עס נאָר כדי צו באַגעגענען אויסלענדישע טוריסטן, פון וועלכע זיי וועלן אפשר באַקומען אַ פאָר דאָלאַרן. די וואָס קומען יאָ צו אַ מנין טוען עס ווייל זיי קריגן באַצאָלט דערפאַר פון די אַמעריקאַנער צדקה פונדאַציעס.

ביי אונדז אין שטעטל פלעגט מען זאָגן אַ ווערטל, אַז אַ נאָר איז אַ האָלבער נביא. זאָג איך צו די דאָזיקע בטלנים, איר וועט נאָך אויסשטיין פיל צרות פון דעם פראָיעקט. קלערט זיך איבער. דער גרעסטער טייל יידן וועלן אייך זאָגן, אַז עס איז אַרויסגעוואָרפן געלט. אפשר וועלן די דאָזיקע „גוטהאַרציקע עקשנים" זיך לאָזן איבערצייגן. איך בין נייגעריק צו וויסן די מיינונג פון אַנדערע לייענערס.

What's New

Continued from page 20

all ages, clowns, music, door prizes. Meet residents, staff, and tour the facility. 223-4050.

And What Else Is New

VISAS FOR LIFE

The Bathurst Jewish Centre and the Canadian Society for Yad Vashem present Visas for Life, a photographic exhibit documenting the rescue of 62,000 Hungarian Jews by Swiss Consul **Carl Letz** from 1942-45. Opening reception Monday, June 21, 6-8 p.m., Lobby Atrium, Bathurst Jewish Centre. RSVP Swiss Consulate 593-5371. Exhibit runs to July 15.

SHABBAT DINNER

Israel Cancer Research Fund and Jewish Campus Services Shabbat dinner for students and young professionals in their 20s, Friday, June 25, 7:30 p.m., Bathurst and Steeles area. Guest speaker to be announced. $25. Special student rate available. Tickets/information ICRF 487-5246. Dietary laws observed.

BAYSVILLE SYNAGOGUE

The 1999 summer season of B'nai Isaac Synagogue and Cultural Centre of Baysville begins the weekend of June 25. Saturday morning services are 9:45 a.m. For times of other services or for other information, **Isaac Jesin** 633-2320 or **Dr. Aaron Jesin** 636-2223 or 635-5012. Weekend number in Baysville is 705-767-3084.

AKIM TEA

Canadian Friends of Akim annual tea takes place Wednesday, June 30, 1-4 p.m. at the home of **Lillyan** and **Bill Wiener**, 37 Strathearn Rd. (west of Bathurst). Gentlemen most welcome. Proceeds go to mentally challenged in Israel. For information, 222-7267.

PARENT AND BABY TIME

National Council of Jewish Women, Toronto Section, presents a Parent and Baby Time program featuring baby massage, starting Thursday, June 24, 11 a.m. to noon, for six consecutive Thursdays (excluding Canada Day, July 1) at Council House, 4700 Bathurst St. $48. Register. **Rachel** 905-731-7216.

ABOUT PNAI

Do you have children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren living in Israel? PNAI (Parents of North American Israelis), an organization of volunteers, is dedicated to keeping open the bridge that joins the parents in the Metropolitan area, the United States and Canada with their posterity in Israel. This is a non-profit organization, does not solicit contributions and does not take positions on matters concerning religion or politics. **Charles King** 783-7872.

CASINO RAMA

Join Adath Sholom Synagogue Sisterhood on a fun-filled trip to Casino Rama Monday, June 28. Bus leaves Adath Sholom, 864 Sheppard Ave. W. 8:45 a.m. $7 includes buffet lunch. Reserve. 635-0131.

VARIETY PLAYERS

Mel Lastman Variety Players, a seniors group, perform at Fairview Library Theatre Aug. 29-Sept. 5. Director **Harry Harding**, musical director **Earl Parnes**, choreographer **Betty Arlin**. For information, **Helen Davis** 491-3479 or **Florence Debonis** 665-3934.

ELDER ABUSE EDUCATION

Through dramas and interactive discussions, the Awareness Project Players of the Bernard Betel Centre provide realistic portraits of family life in which elder abuse occurs. Six vignettes – *The Stepfather, Our Pride & Joy, Caught in the Middle, Jack in the Box, The Wild Card, Jake's Lost* – are suitable for for community groups, clubs, conferences, schools. For information and bookings, **Sheila Zane** 225-2112, ext. 133.

JF&CS GROUPS

Jewish Family & Child Service groups. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

Parenting the Young Child is Hard Work, includes 1,2,3 Magic strategy, Barbara Coloroso's techniques and others, begins July 6; Separation and Divorce, begins July 6; Today's Woman: Making It Happen, self-esteem, interpersonal skills, stress and time management techniques, begins June-22; Social Skills for Adolescents, begins July 7 for eight weeks.

SINGLES SCENE

Group 30-50 events:

Discussion/talk, Judging Others Favorably, with **Rabbi Michael Skobac**. Wednesday, June 23, 8 p.m. at Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue.

Summer Sizzler Dance Party, Sunday, June 27, 8 p.m. at Beth Emeth $7 in advance, $10 at door. **Sarit** 905-669-5499 (p.m. only).

FOR SENIORS

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). June 17, Chinese restaurant 6 p.m.; June 24, **Prof. Sara Ginaite** lectures on her experience in the Resistance in Lithuania; Sunday, Aug. 1, dance with the Teddy Band, call **Malka Colla** for tickets 630-5771. Activities in Hebrew, Yiddish, English. **Jerry Bengall**, president, 905-707-7334.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: July 27, trip to Kingston, cruise, entertainment; Aug. 25, morning cruise, matinee *Move Over Mrs. Markham* at Gryphon Theatre; Oct. 12, *West Side Story* at Stratford. **Lena** 785-5773. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Community garage sale and flea market, July 4, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Catskills vacation, Paramount Hotel, July 11-18; Casino Rama, June 30, July 14 and 28; Sunday dance, June 27, 7-9 p.m.; lessons for cutting special glass. 395-7881.

Young at Heart Seniors Catskills trip to kosher Raleigh Hotel, 2 weekends, 10 days starting July 23. Double occupancy $1,399.95 Canadian, single $1,675. German restitution accepted. **Helen** 635-6343.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Intergenerational Dance, favorites of past and present, Thursday, June 17, 1:30-3:30 p.m.

Lifestyles Dentistry information session Dental Care for Seniors, Thursday, June 24, 1:15-2:15 p.m.

Movie, *Analyze This*, Sunday, June 20, 2:30 p.m.

Israeli Club Etrog: Do you speak Hebrew? Join club members Tuesdays at 7 p.m. for movies, lectures, dances, sing-alongs, bingo, picnics. June 22 is a picnic in the park. **Anna** ext. 110.

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave., 924-6211.

Volunteers are needed for the Festival on Bloor, Sunday, July 4, noon to 7 p.m. for children's games, dunking tank, security, set-up (from 9 a.m.) and take down (after 6 p.m.), promotion and sales, and more. **Maureen McIlveen**.

SINGLES EVENTS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 24

PRESENTATION TO MAZON CANADA

Cantor A. Eliezer Kirshblum, chair of the Toronto Cantorial Trust Fund presents a $5,000 check for Mazon Canada to Jacqueline Kott-Wolfe, executive director of Mazon Canada. The trust fund is the fundraising arm of the Toronto Council of Hazzanim. This allocation to Mazon Canada was raised at the concert that took place in December at Holy Blossom Temple. [Dale Studios photo]

REFORM DAY SCHOOLS ASSOCIATION

The annual Conference of the Progressive Association of Reform Day Schools, hosted by Zita Gardner at the Leo Baeck Day School, brought together school heads and volunteer board members from 15 Reform Jewish day schools across North America. From left are Esther Saritzky, incoming chair, Los Angeles; Bonnie Sharfman, incoming president, Phoenix; Zita Gardner, past president, Toronto; and Carol Nemó, past chair, Atlanta.

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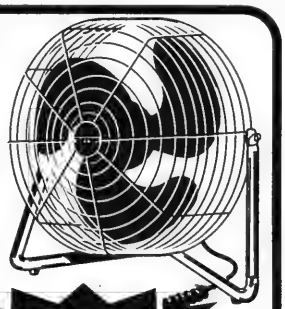

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And, their anticipation will be rewarded. The rooms will be bigger, and all rooms will be private. Each room will have an entrance foyer and an ensuite washroom almost twice as large as in the current building.

This excellent new facility has been made possible by the generosity of our community. It's a wonderful achievement. If you have made a gift, please accept our thanks. If you haven't, please consider making a contribution to the ongoing work of one of the finest seniors' facilities anywhere.

For more information on how you can be part of completing the Apotex Centre, Jewish Home for the Aged, and the Centre for Cognitive Disorders, call Shirley Worth in the Baycrest Centre Foundation at (416) 785-2500, Ext. 2013.

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Photos by Orah Buck, from the permanent installation; "Time in Faces".

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Pluralist Jewish society requires patience, tolerance

By ELISE LEVINOFF
Special to The CJN

Any discussion of pluralism sparks a debate about the possibility of its existence within Judaism.

Opinion

A definition of pluralism suggests that it is a form of society in which members of minority groups maintain independent traditions. This definition implies little about the issue of cohesiveness within the pluralist society in question, and therefore does not offer any type of solution to the lack of unity that is often observed in the Jewish community.

Despite the lack of cohesiveness that stems from religious differences among the different denominations of Judaism, I think it is possible for the Jewish community to function as a pluralist society. However, this can only be done with patience, tolerance and effort.

I would like to describe an event that I believe illustrates the epitome of a pluralist society in the making.

The scene is a dining hall at Brandeis University, in Waltham, Mass., on a Shabbat afternoon last January. Twelve students from York University and the University of Toronto are chatting about the morning's events and the Shabbat services they attended.

One student comments on her aliyah to the Torah, while another talks about the level of *ruach* (spiritual uplifting) felt during the Musaf service.

When the conversation begins to wind down, one of the members of the group announces that it is time to recite Birkat Hamazon, to bestow thanks for the food. The students, who are participating in Jewish Campus Services' pluralist mission, better known as the Unity Mission, know that this is going to be a challenge for the group. How will the prayer be recited so that everyone will be comfortable with issues pertaining to tradition, equality, change and Halachah?

The difficulties that arose around reciting this prayer illustrated to all the students – who represented a group of dynamic individuals committed to promoting pluralism within the Jewish university community – that pluralism really is a complicated ideal.

Nevertheless, after 10 minutes of conflict, impugnment and suggestions, a plausible solution was reached. One would lead the preliminary prayer, Shir Hama'alot, another would recite the mezuman (the "introductory" blessing), and yet another would lead the recitation of the blessings within the prayer. At the conclusion of the prayer, all the students felt satisfied, both with the food they ate and with the way they gave thanks for it.

The tradition of resolving the conflicts that threaten the concept of pluralism and unity has fuelled the commitment of the students who were on the Unity Mission in January.

What we observed during that intense weekend visit to Boston to learn about the three major denominations from an outsider's perspective, was incorporated in mid-March into a Havdalah service that selected readings reflective of a pluralist service. Jewish students from all denominations joined together for this Havdalah service, and supported the notion of pluralism and its importance in the Jewish university community.

I believe that pluralism is crucial within the Jewish community. Some type of maintenance of specific traditions employed by various denominations within Judaism must exist, while at the same time, these denominations must respect the changes implemented by others.

With this tolerance and acceptance, we can certainly ascertain whether the statement "Hinei matov umanayim, shevet achim gam yachad – Behold, how wonderful it is when friends can sit together in unity" is truly a statement reflective of the Jewish people.

SINGLES EVENTS

Singles Events is an advertising feature of *The Canadian Jewish News*
Deadline is Wednesday, 4:00 p.m., 8 days preceding issue date.
For rates or to place an ad, please call
TANYA at (416) 391-1836
***The CJN* encourages readers to direct any queries they may have on an upcoming event to the event's organizers.**

***GAMES JEWISH SINGLES PLAY! Sun. June 20 at 7:30pm.** Beth Torah. 47 Glenbrook Ave. ***BRIDGE, Trivial Pursuit, etc.** $5. **92 couples** have already met! Mollie, 416-733-3634.

Darren, Mark & Ari Present..... 'Round 30 Bash! Sat., June 19th at Rosewater Supper Club, 19 Toronto St. (between King & Adelaide and Yonge & Church). Doors open at 9:30pm. Tickets: $ 12 w/business card, $15 w/out. Complimentary Hors D'oeuvres, D.J., Dancing. Dress with elegance. **'Round 30 Hotline # 416-713-0019.**

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Sunday, June 20 @ 8:00pm at Beth Tikvah. Please join us as we continue our interactive Bible Study Class with *lecturer, Chana Sargon*, Topic: "Isolation & Universalism in the Book of Genesis." "How do We Balance Being Jewish & Part Of The Universe" Refreshments - Cost: $5.00 R.S.V.P. 221-3433, ext. 352

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Galilee Fellowships

TORONTO — The Canadian Committee for the Promotion of College and University Education in the Galilee, chaired by Prof. Irving Abella, recently announced the Galilee Fellowships, in co-operation with the Jewish Agency for Israel and its Partnership 2000 program.

Three regional colleges in northern Israel – Tel Hai, Safed and the Jordan Valley College – are participating in the program, whose aim is to enhance higher education in the Galilee, and create "living bridges" between the academic communities of Israel and Canada.

"The fellowships are an exciting opportunity for distinguished Canadian scholars to spend time in Israel, and experience the Galilee," says Abella.

"Visiting scholars will be expected to take up residence at or near one of the academic colleges in the region for a period of one month, up to one academic year. Soldiers will have a chance to interact with their colleagues, teach and/or consult with faculty and students in the region," he says.

The Galilee Fellowships cover the scholar's travel expenses, housing within the region and an honorarium commensurate with the length of stay. The Israeli colleges are interested in housing scholars from the following fields: biotechnology and environmental sciences, communications, computer sciences, criminology, economics and management, education and interdisciplinary studies, English language and culture, history (with an emphasis on history of the west in the modern era), learning disabilities, mediation, arbitration and negotiation, nutrition sciences, social work and human services, sociology and tourism.

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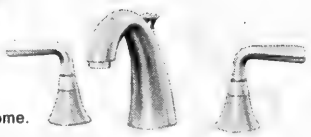

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On this Thursday, the 3rd of Tammuz (June 17), world Jewry will commemorate the fifth "Yahrtzeit" of the celebrated Lubavitcher Rebbe, Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson of Sainted Memory.

Graced by G-d with a towering personality and colossal spiritual profile, the awesome blend of brilliance, loving compassion for every Jew and pragmatic vision he possessed enabled him to positively impact the entire spectrum of Jewish life, changing its landscape forever.

Today, most Jewish organizations have also embraced his holistic and loving philosophy of tolerance, caring and sharing. In his benevolent spirit all have begun to see and feel the needs of those living outside of their immediate orbit and religious and social circles. Consequently, his unique life and times have, and continue to, affect millions.

We ask you to designate this Yarhtzeit-Day to the wellbeing of our people, by increasing your participation in communal activities, religious observances and acts of loving-kindness.

May this bring us to the fulfillment of the Rebbe's lifelong aspiration: A perfect world of peace and prosperity for us all, to be realized, speedily in our days, with the coming of Moshiach. Amen.

Coast to Coast

Ottawa JCC presents awards for volunteer service

By DIANE KOVEN
Ottawa Correspondent

OTTAWA — The community's two highest awards for volunteer service were recently presented to Rabbi Reuven Bulka and Ian Sherman.

Speaking at the 65th Annual General Meeting of the Jewish Community Council (JCC) of Ottawa/Vaad Ha'Ir, executive director Mitchell Bellman said, "A community is only as strong as the people who are involved. Community participation and lifelong learning are important and valuable."

The Gilbert Greenberg Distinguished Service Award was established in 1980, in the name of a late Vaad president. It is bestowed on an individual for exceptional service over the course of many years.

This year's recipient, Rabbi Reuven Bulka of congregation Machzikei Hadas, has already received numerous awards for his efforts, including the Canada 125 medal from the federal government.

Rabbi Bulka is active on several boards and committees in both the general and Jewish communities. He is the host of weekly television and radio programs, has authored and/or edited over 30 books, and also plays in the Jewish men's softball league.

The award was presented to Rabbi Bulka by Robert and Roger Greenberg, sons of the late Gilbert Greenberg.

The Freiman Family Young Leadership Award was established in 1988 to recognize a member of the community under the age of 40, who has rendered exceptional service to the Jewish community.

Ian Sherman, the 1999 recipient, has spent many years on the board of directors of the JCC, currently holding the positions of vice-president and treasurer. A partner at Ernst & Young LLP Chartered Accountants, he is on the Vaad finance committee and is a Vaad trustee.

"When Ian takes on a task, he does it with all of his heart and all of his mind, because that is the only way he knows how to do it," said Ron Prehogan, past president of the JCC.

The award was presented to Sherman by A.J. Freiman, on behalf of the Freiman family.

Ian Sherman holds his Freiman Family Young Leadership Award for 1999. Looking on is his wife Randi and sons Jonathan and Matthew.

Barbara Farber, completing her term of office as president of the Vaad Ha'Ir, presented her final report to the community. She noted that "it was a personal goal of mine to have a shovel in the ground [for the new Hillel lodge] before the end of my term, and we did it – with three days to spare!"

Incoming president Stephen Greenberg noted with pride that "in September 2000, when the new Hillel Lodge is completed, our community will have completed its 20-year dream."

The facility will mark the completion of the Jewish Community Campus, which will serve all segments of the community.

Farewells were said to Hagit and Avishai Goldfarb, community shlichim who are completing their term in Ottawa, and to Chen and Dalia Ivri of the Israeli Embassy, who will be returning to Israel.

The meeting was held at the Joseph and Rose Ages Family Building.

LifeStyle

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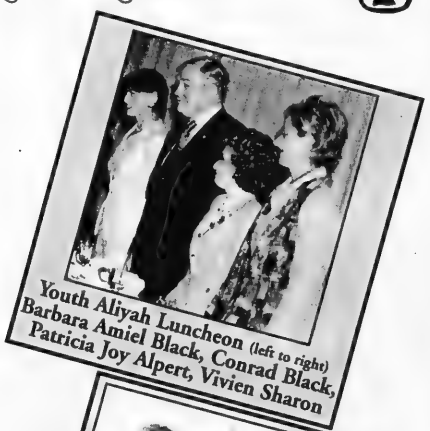
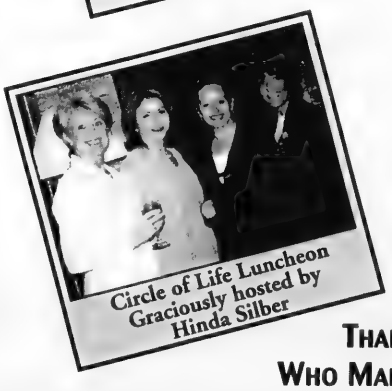
Guest Speaker
Youth Aliyah Luncheon
Barbara Amiel Black



Youth Aliyah Luncheon (left to right)
Barbara Amiel Black, Conrad Black,
Patricia Joy Alpert, Vivien Sharon



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*Photos by Arnold Machtinger

In Winnipeg:

Jewish school enrolment continues to decline

By MYRON LOVE
Prairies Correspondent

WINNIPEG — The Winnipeg Jewish Community Council (WJCC) has had to dip into its reserve fund to bail out the Winnipeg Board of Jewish Education (BJE), which is projecting a continuing decline in enrolment for the fall term.

The WJCC voted to give the BJE $77,000 to make up for the smaller number of students enrolled.

Since the BJE opened the Gray Academy, which runs from junior kindergarten to Grade 12, on the Asper Jewish Community Campus in September 1997, the student population has declined by almost 25 percent. The school was formed by combining the south Winnipeg Ramah Elementary School, and the north Winnipeg Talmud Torah Elementary School and Joseph Wolinsky Collegiate.

The new school started with about 850 students, a slight increase from the last pre-amalgamation year. Last fall, enrolment at the BJE school was down around 760 students. Currently, 600 students have registered for September 1999, with another 50 or so expected to be registered for junior kindergarten.

BJE business manager Jack Cipilinsky says changing demographics is one of the reasons for declining enrolment.

"Six years ago, the Prairie Research group projected that there would be fewer little ones in the community. That has turned out to be accurate. The younger kids just aren't out there in large numbers. That is something we have no control over."

In the higher grades, the Gray Academy has been hurt by the University of Winnipeg's high school program.

Enrolment in the grades 9-12 level is 135 for September 1999, as compared to 170 last fall. In part, Cipilinski points out, the drop in numbers is because this year's graduating class of 45 was the largest in the school's history. The 1999-2000 Grade 12 class will number 18. "Much depends on the peer group," he says. "For some students, Jewish education ends after Grade 9 or 10 and they leave for the University of Winnipeg."

Finally, Cipilinsky says that perhaps the school system has lost its public perception as a centre of excellence in education. "This is something that goes in cycles," he says. "We went through this in the early 1980s also. We are looking hard at the curriculum."

He also concedes that the BJE decision to go to a middle school concept, introduced at the Gray Academy when it opened, was a mistake. The middle school concept divides the school into three levels with four grades at each level, rather than the former JK-6, grades 7-9 and 10-12 breakdowns.

"We thought that the middle school approach would help, but it seems to have had the opposite effect," Cipilinsky says. "It has given students different exit points. We have students leaving after Grade 4 now.

"Before, we never lost any students before Grade 6. Similarly, we are losing students after Grade 8, whereas before, they were more likely to stay until Grade 9."

Further complicating the Gray Academy's future, is a new observant Hebrew Day School that has been opened at the Herzlia Synagogue in south Winnipeg. The Ohr HaTorah Primary Years Hebrew Day School held an open house on June 2, which attracted quite a bit of interest.

"We had an excellent turnout," says Ellery Broder, president of the new school. "We had a number of phone calls as a result of the open house."

Ohr HaTorah opened its doors last September with a combined nursery/kindergarten class of about ten students. For September 1999, a Grade One class is being added. There are already 12 students registered in the nursery program for the fall, and eight signed up for the kindergarten class.

Ohr HaTorah was started by a group of parents who were looking for a more traditional Jewish educational for their children. When efforts to work out an arrangement with the Winnipeg Board of Jewish Education failed to succeed, the parents set out to create their own institution.

"There are always parents who want more religious content," says Jack Cipilinsky. "The problem is, we can't offer everything to everybody. We don't have the money or the student numbers."

The Ohr HaTorah parents began working on the financing two years ago, says Broder. "We knew that without a proper financial base, we wouldn't be able to secure the high quality teachers or provide the curriculum we wanted."

The founding parents were able to link up with the Torah Mesorah system, a network of Jewish day schools headquartered in New York City. Torah Mesorah is providing the curriculum, supervision and a large chunk of the funding Ohr HaTorah needs to operate for the next two years until the school receives government grants. (A new private school has to be in operation for three years before the provincial government will provide funding.) Torah Mesorah's financial support is being supplemented by private donations and tuition fees.

To teach the Grade 1 Judaics program, Ohr HaTorah has hired Rabbi Yaakov Weissler from Montreal. Broder notes that the Grade 1 program will include a computer lab, a gym and swim program, French and music all taught by professionals. As well, he notes, all classes are capped at 12 students to provide an ideal student to teacher ratio.

Ohr HaTorah is currently housed at the Herzlia Adas-Yeshurun Synagogue but, vice-president Molly Morris reports, as the school grows, there will be need to acquire a proper school building.

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Media awards presented at BBC convention

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — B'nai Brith Canada's (BBC) 24th annual Media Human Rights Awards were presented during the recent BBC convention here.

Singled out for tribute at the gala dinner was the late John Humphrey, who in 1946 wrote the draft for the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights*, described as serving as the "magna carta" for human rights around the world.

Humphrey's widow Margaret, attended the dinner, and called for more education of youth to stem the worldwide tide of intolerance and bigotry.

Humphrey's remarks followed a speech by McGill law professor and human rights advocate Irwin Cotler.

Cotler said that while there is a welcomed human rights revolution and "explosion" transpiring worldwide, there appears to be a counter-revolution, marked by continuing genocides and human rights violations, in countries ranging from Rwanda to the Balkans.

Cotler, whose speech was met with a standing ovation, said the Holocaust "did not begin with the gas chambers, it began with words," and he pleaded for an end to indifference and for a culture of respect.

He said the crimes of Yugoslavian President Slobodan Milosevic could have been dealt with a decade ago had "the wall of silence" following the ethnic purges in Bosnia not been erected.

Irwin Cotler

That silence, he said, "opened the door" to the ethnic cleansing of Kosovo.

"You must speak on behalf of those who cannot be heard," he said.

The media was described by BBC president Lawrence Hart and by Quebec region vice-president Steve Slimovitch as playing a pivotal role in that regard.

In a speech during the dinner, Montreal Mayor Pierre Bourque spoke of the need for its citizenry to "stay open to the other, in a spirit of tolerance and mutual good will. I call on you to support this vision which is so close to yours," he said.

The BBC convention, presided over by Hart and convention chair Herb Brownstein, included a panel discussion on anti-Israel bias in the media and the passage of 11 resolutions.

The most noteworthy called for the admission of Israel into the Asia regional group; urged Canada to refrain from "statements or actions in international forums that prejudge the outcome of bilateral negotiations" between Israel and the Palestinians; and called on Ottawa to recognize Jerusalem as Israel's capital.

BBC also pledged to work with the Canadian government on an acceptable Holocaust museum; seek ways to give humanitarian aid to civilians in the Balkans; establish a committee to negotiate with the Ontario government on the issue of public financing of Jewish day schools; and enhance Holocaust education across the country.

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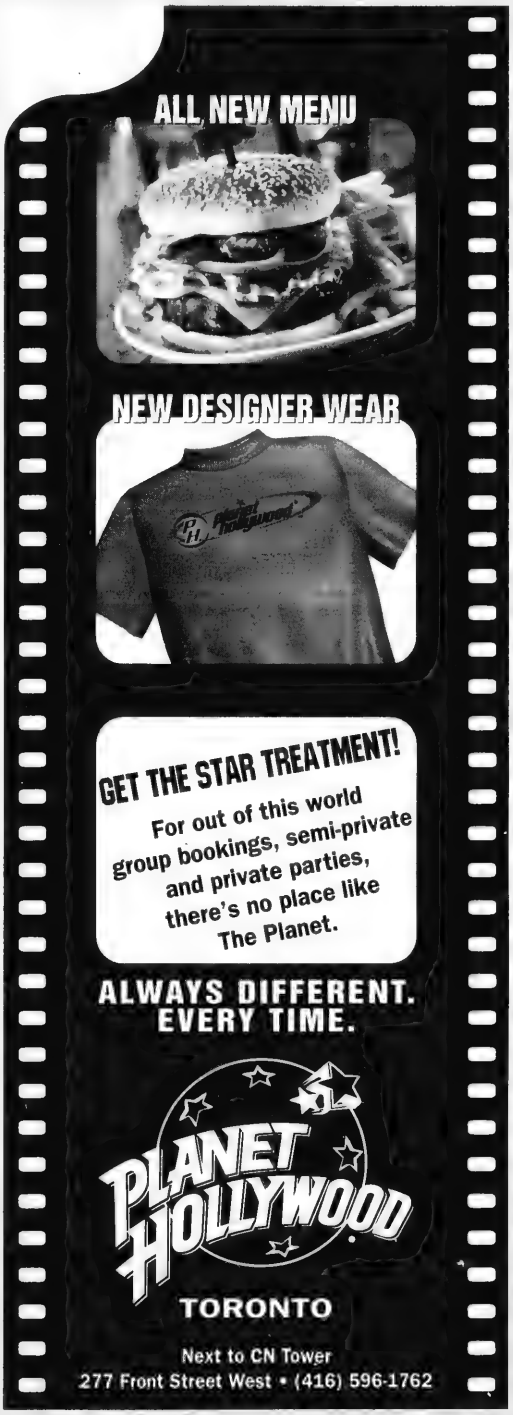
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Coast to Coast

JNF pays tribute to Loewith family

By MOURA WOLPERT

HAMILTON — The community paid tribute to the Loewith family at the recent Jewish National Fund (JNF) Negev Tribute Dinner.

Minna Loewith, her sons Harry, Carl and David, and their wives Liz, Verna and Bonnie, award-winning dairy farmers from Lynden, Ont., were honored by 500 guests at Adas Israel Synagogue, including federal, provincial and local politicians, representatives of the agricultural and dairy industries and Guelph University, and family and friends from across Canada.

Prime Minister Jean Chrétien, who sent greetings, praised "three generations of the Loewith family" for their "outstanding record of community service and innovation in the agricultural sector, and for their enduring contributions to the community."

Israel's ambassador to Canada, David Sultan, expressed pleasure at attending a tribute dinner "to a family so dedicated to their country, their community and to the State of Israel."

Proceeds from the dinner go towards developing dairy facilities at Kibbutz Neve Harif in the Arava Valley in Israel.

Rabbi Irwin Zeplowitz of Temple Anshe Sholom, the family's congregation, made the official presentation.

Minna Loewith said the evening was a bittersweet occasion because her husband Joe died shortly before his 88th birthday, just weeks after learning of the Negev Dinner tribute.

She recalled the family's arrival in Canada from Czechoslovakia in 1938, their early struggles here, and the help they received from members of the community, particularly, Morris and the late Rose Silbert, the late Dr. Nicholas Sole, neighbors and fellow farmers.

David Loewith described his impressions of kibbutz life in the desert, and dairy farming on Kibbutz Neve Harif, which he and Bonnie personally selected as the family's development project during a recent visit to Israel, and which will be twinned with the Loewith farm.

On behalf of JNF Canada, national vice-president, Dr. Sharon Marcovitz Hart said "The Dream has only just begun. The desert has only just begun to bloom."

Others taking part in the program included Hamilton JNF president, Hilda Rosen, Rabbi Bernard Baskin, rabbi emeritus of Temple Anshe Sholom, and Cantor Efraim Sapir of Toronto's Beth Tikvah Congregation.

Dinner chair was Sandy Silver.

WJCC honors volunteers

By MYRON LOVE
Prairies Correspondent

WINNIPEG — The Winnipeg Jewish Community Council (WJCC) has chosen two longtime volunteers as recipients of its two most important awards.

On June 1, at the WJCC's annual Koved Evening, the Max Shore Memorial Award was given to Ron Polinksy, and Evelyn Katz received the Sol Kanee Distinguished Community Service Medal.

In the first half of the decade, Katz was a member of the national executive of Jewish Immigrant Aid Services, and vice-president and chair of planning for the National Council of Jewish Federations.

Locally, Katz has been a WJCC board member for 21 years including three years as president. She was recently appointed to the Board of Governors.

"I feel honored indeed to have received the Sol Kanee Medal," Katz says.

Ron Polinsky has chaired the CJA campaign as well as several JNF Negev Dinners.

Scene in Ottawa

By G.K. SIMCOE

Canadian Jews who have served in Parliament or one of the provincial legislatures have always had a certain 'cachet' within the Jewish community. Often, they have been called upon to intervene with their colleagues on issues of particular concern to the community. Always, they are expected to be credible and dignified ambassadors of the community.

Over the last few decades, Jews have almost taken for granted that any given election will yield a group of *eigener (our own)* who can be relied upon to carry the ball. To be sure, there have been numerous Canadian Jews who have enjoyed successful political careers. Currently, there is a smattering of Jewish representation in parliament that has done great service to the community, while honorably carrying out parliamentary responsibilities.

But what about those who run and lose? These are individuals who have put all else on hold while they seek to serve both the Jewish and wider community. The costs associated with a run at a seat in Parliament are staggering...and then there are the financial costs to consider! The toll demanded of a candidate on her (or his) family, the strain on one's time and resources, compels otherwise stout-hearted individuals to balk at the thought of public office. Placing one's name on a ballot is riddled with uncertainty, with no guarantee of success.

Given those risks, those who do make the decision to offer their candidacies in an election deserve the highest praise. More to the point, they deserve the tangible support of the Jewish community. After all, that same community has no compunction about soliciting their intervention on Jewish issues when the politician is successful in his bid. As with all things in life, "ya gotta give t'get".

This brings us to the efforts of one Barry Campbell. Campbell successfully ran for office in the prestigious Toronto riding of St. Paul's. Although greatly admired by all sides of the House, he decided not to run for a second term. Instead he returned to private law practice. At the same time, he has become increasingly involved in Jewish life.

One of his central messages has been this: Jews – of all political stripes – must become more actively engaged in the political process. They must run for office, they must join political parties, they must become more visible. It is a message to which Jewish leadership should pay some considerable attention.

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Families fear for safety of Iranian prisoners

By TOM TUGEND
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

LOS ANGELES — Amid an international effort to secure the release of 13 Iranian Jews who face possible execution, American relatives of the accused spies are publicly expressing fears for the lives of their loved ones.

Nasrin Javaherian of San Jose, Calif., is the sister of Nasser Levihaim, 49, the oldest among the prisoners. She said her brother's family was at first reluctant to even acknowledge that Levihaim had been arrested. Iranian Jews have traditionally refrained from making public statements about their situation, for fear of reprisals.

When the charges were announced, Javaherian called her family five times in one night.

"I was so scared, I was crying all the time," she said in a phone interview, trying hard to control her emotions.

She said her brother is the father of three sons, the youngest 18 months old, and a manager of an electric company in Shiraz. She speculated that the Iranian authorities might have gone after him because he frequently volunteered as a Hebrew teacher.

Levihaim's wife has not been allowed to see her husband since his arrest in March, but she can bring kosher food to the prison once a week, a process that involves signing four different papers. "We have no idea whether he's getting the food," Javaherian said.

Javaherian was one of the relatives who met with Rev. Jesse Jackson, who declared his readiness to fly to Tehran together with the same ecumenical team that earlier obtained the freedom of three American soldiers held in Yugoslavia.

Political leaders in the United States, Israel, Germany and France sought to mobilize world opinion on behalf of the threatened prisoners. Efforts are also underway to enlist the support of Italy, Spain, Britain, Holland and other European Union countries, as well as the United Nations, the Vatican, Japan and Canada.

In Washington, resolutions have been introduced in the House and the Senate calling on the Bill Clinton administration and foreign governments to seek the release of the 13 Jews and condemning Iran's treatment of its religious minorities.

While the world outcry continues, many observers are puzzled why Iran would arrest the Jews during a time when the government of President Mohammad Khatami has signaled a desire to improve relations with the west.

Sam Kermanian, secretary general of the Iranian American Jewish Federation in Los Angeles, said the answer lies in an internal power struggle between Iranian moderates, led by Khatami, and fundamentalist hardliners.

"There are conservative groups in Iran which advocate strict Orthodox Islamic values and see any contact with the west as threatening these values, and they try to sabotage Khatami's policies," Kermanian said.

It is the hardliners who control the security apparatus under which the Jews were arrested, as well as the judiciary, he noted.

The high-profile public actions follow months of behind-the-scenes manoeuvering during which Jewish organizations sought to influence Tehran through quiet diplomacy.

The first group of five Jews was arrested in January, Kermanian said.

In the second wave of arrests, Iranian security forces took another eight Jews into custody in late March, shortly before Passover.

The 13 Jews range in age from 16 to 49 and were mainly residents of the southern city of Shiraz; the others were arrested in Tehran and Isfahan, Kermanian said.

During the first months of imprisonment, the Jews were not charged with any crimes, and some signals from Tehran indicated that they might be set free.

Then early last week, in a confusing series of announcements and retractions, Iranian officials accused the 13 of spying for Israel and the United States, which "in certain instances provide for capital punishment," the Islamic Republic News Agency reported.

The espionage charges are ridiculous, said Kermanian. "No one would recruit spies among a group [of Jews] who have high visibility and are constantly watched by the authorities," he said.

In a country riddled with corruption, any nation hostile to Iran could have its pick of spies at $1,000 a month, he added.

The 13 prisoners, including a 16-year old boy arrested in his classroom, are mainly religious Jews, Kermanian said. They incurred the government's displeasure for such "crimes" as teaching Hebrew, holding religious classes and requesting permission to close their businesses on Saturdays.

Following the March arrests, an informal consortium of American Jewish organizations began a quiet effort to mobilize their most influential contacts.

Coalition nears completion

Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

JERUSALEM — Senior One Israel sources say that Prime Minister-elect Ehud Barak has almost completed putting together a minority government jigsaw puzzle, and will present the government to the Knesset by the end of next week. The proposed coalition will include 59 MKs.

Significant progress was achieved in a series of secret negotiation held over the weekend between David Libai, the head of One Israel's negotiating team, and the representatives of Meretz, Shinui, the Centre party and Yisrael b'Aliyah. A uniform draft coalition agreement between One Israel and these parties has been drafted.

Negotiations with United Torah Judaism (UTJ) are deadlocked over the issue regarding the drafting of yeshiva students into the army. Barak will keep a portfolio for the UTJ, assuming they will subsequently join the government when this issue has been resolved.

An agreement with One Nation has not yet been reached, due to its demand that it be given a cabinet seat despite the fact that it only has two MKs.

According to the sources, Barak had hoped to complete the distribution of cabinet seats with his coalition partners by Wednesday, and will then allocate the remaining seats among his own party.

The likelihood of the Likud joining the future coalition is getting dimmer by the day as the party gears up for an unprecedented leadership battle.

Meanwhile, Professor Alex Lubotzky, who represented the Third Way in the last Knesset, has thrown his kippah in the ring for Meimad's cabinet seat.

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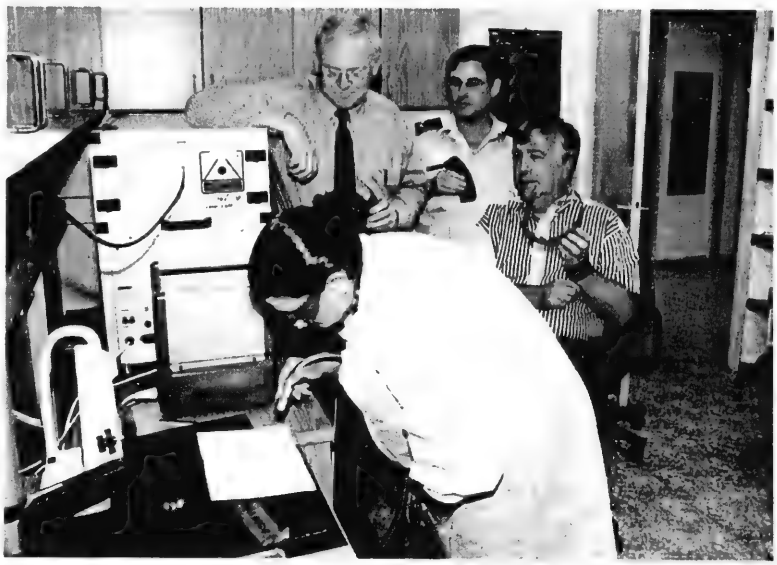
Canadian forensic experts visiting Israel

By EDGAR ASHER
CJN Israel Bureau



From left, Brian Dalrymple, Brigadier General Dr. Joseph Almog and Dr. James Young. [Israpet]

TEL AVIV — Two of Canada's top forensic experts are now in Israel as guests of the Division of Identification and Forensic Science of the Israel Police in Jerusalem (DIFS).

Dr. James Young, assistant and deputy solicitor general and chief coroner of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP), and forensic analyst Brian Dalrymple are here to tell their Israeli colleagues about the latest Canadian high-tech advances in the fight against crime. They also want to see some of the techniques being used in Israel, particularly in the development of reagents to identify finger prints.

This is Dalrymple's fourth time in Israel, and he sees these visits as an ongoing process to develop new forensic procedures and improve existing ones.

"We have a mutually advantageous relationship with Israel," he said. "It's a two-way learning process. By sharing the results we have with the technologies we use, we find that there are basic differences, for example, in climates. There are a variety of factors which over the years have resulted in frustrations – where Israel would achieve good results in one instance and not in another, and we in Canada also would have both good and bad results; then we want to know why.

"There are also technologies where Israel has been the forerunner in the world," Dalrymple said, "and we very much want to avail ourselves of this technology. By the same token, we have developed some technologies at home that Israel would like more information on. To this end we have hosted our Israeli colleagues in Canada on a number of occasions."

In 1976, Dalrymple, together with colleagues at the Xerox Research Centre in Mississauga, explored the use of argon lasers in detecting fingerprints. This was the first time in the world that this had been investigated, Dalrymple said, and one of the first visitors to the research centre was the current DIFS director of the Israel Police, Dr. Joseph Almog.

That was really the beginning of Israeli-Canadian forensic co-operation, and shortly thereafter, Israel started its own program of laser development and fluorescence as a detection technique.

Under Almog's direction, Israeli forensic scientists were first in the world to look at a basic fingerprint technique called a ninhydrant.

"Dr. Almog and his team performed very sophisticated chemistry," said Dalrymple. "What they did was to redesign the molecule of that reagent in a number of different ways and optimize the reaction and give us the biggest punch for the most easily recordable, longest-lasting, most fingerprints. This was one of the biggest advances in the chemistry of fingerprint science this century.

"In simple terms it turns visual fingerprints purple. There were, of course, up until then, fingerprint brushes and powder, but around 1980, this was a real forensic watershed. Today Israel has one of the top research centres in the world for fingerprint science."

Young was called in by the chief medical examiner in Nova Scotia last September to assist with the identification of the victims of the Swissair crash.

"My real expertise is bringing together all the different forensic disciplines and making them work," Young said.

"This is my first visit to Israel, although I have worked with the Israel Police and Dr. Almog when he has been in Canada. I am interested to see how the contact point is made between the science and the identification officer at the crime scene. I also want to see how the facilities are being used here, particularly as they compare to what we are doing in our lab back in Canada.

"I am looking at new ideas and concepts to take science off the bench and put it to work in the field. I want to make the police more effective in using and gathering evidence. We want to look at our successes, like for instance, the Swissair crash, where we achieved identification of all the victims, and of course, we want to look at some of our failures, so that we can learn from them as well."

Young spoke of an evolving agenda for the future as far as Israeli-Canadian cooperation is concerned. "Brian [Dalrymple] has had a close relationship all along with DIFS. We will be sending more of our people back to Israel to follow up on current research and we expect Israeli experts to continue to come to Canada. We are actively working on joint projects, particularly in the field of identification.

"This visit we want to see the new Israeli-made, copper vapor laser which is an impressive fingerprint tool," Young said.

Dalrymple summed things up by saying, "We don't waste time by reinventing the zipper. If, for example, the Israelis have found that pursuing a particular type of reagent doesn't work because, say, it is too expensive to make or has too short a shelf life, and even that there are health and safety implications, there is no point in redoing that research ourselves. Let's move on to other aspects of that particular forensic science. Let's share our research and not duplicate everything."

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The Week in Israel

June 7

• Members of the 15th Knesset were sworn in at the inaugural session of the new legislature. Shimon Peres, the most senior member of the chamber, presided over the session as acting speaker.

• Israel will display a model of its Arrow anti-missile system at the upcoming Paris Air Show, Defence Ministry officials said. The system will not be for sale but it will be the first time it will be displayed abroad.

June 8

• An Israeli journalist reporting on the conflict in Kosovo was wounded when members of the Kosovo Liberation Army fired at his car, according to a Serbian media report. Ben Yishai, a reporter for *Yediot Achronot*, sustained injuries to his leg and was taken to a hospital in Pristina.

June 9

• President Ezer Weizman attempted to break the logjam in Prime Minister-elect Ehud Barak's attempts to form a government. He hosted Yossi Sarid, leader of Meretz and tried to convince him to join a government that includes Shas.

• Hezbollah gunmen killed an Israeli officer during clashes in south Lebanon. Lt. Roi Keller, 21, was the 10th Israeli soldier killed in the region this year. Another IDF soldier was lightly wounded in the exchange of fire.

June 10

• Club-wielding Muslim protesters scuffled with the Christian mayor of Nazareth, whom they accused of ignoring their rights. The city of 60,000 has been tense since April, when clashes over land use erupted between Nazareth's Christian and Muslim populations.

June 11

• Negotiations between One Israel and the United Torah Judaism on finding a compromise for the bill on drafting yeshiva students, will continue. Both sides hope to bridge differences. In related coalition developments, Ehud Barak met with Avi Ravitzky, Meimad's candidate for a ministerial position.

Files from JTA and Ha'aretz.

Espionage detainees in danger of execution

Continued from page 1

Espionage is punishable by death in Iran, the AP report said, noting that in 1997 Iran hanged two people convicted of spying for Israel and America.

Israel's Foreign Minister Ariel Sharon met briefly last week with United Nations Secretary General Kofi Annan to discuss the arrests.

Annan has made "numerous approaches on behalf of these people," according to Malcolm Hoenlein, the executive vice-chair of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, which has been involved in the issue since the Jews were arrested in March.

In New York on a personal visit, Sharon "declared that none of the arrested men was involved in espionage and that none of them has, or has had in the past, any connection with any Israeli intelligence agency," according to a statement from Israel's Foreign Ministry.

"Israel is worried about these arrests, which have occurred only because they are Jewish. Israel is deeply concerned about their fate, and demands their immediate release," the statement said.

The detainees – who are believed to include rabbis, teachers and leaders of the Isfahan and Shiraz communities in southwestern Iran – had been held for nearly three months without being charged.

Testifying before the House International Relations Committee, Martin Indyk, U.S. assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern affairs, called on Iran "to ensure that no harm comes to these individuals and to release them immediately."

All three members of the committee, who offered opening remarks at last week's hearing on developments in the Middle East, also raised the plight of those under arrest.

This arrest "is certainly not conducive to Iran changing its image in the West," said Representative Tom Lantos.

"Phony charges against innocent civilians is not a good way for the Iranian government to attempt to re-integrate itself into the civilized world community," said Lantos, who has frequently expressed a desire to travel to Iran.

The announcement of the charges has lent urgency to a situation that Jewish groups have been monitoring for several months.

Hoenlein said much has been done during the past 10 weeks to press the Iranian government to release the detainees.

In related developments, Germany's Foreign Minister Joshka Fischer announced last week that it would also press Tehran for a quick release of the 13 prisoners. Germany, which currently holds the rotating presidency of the European Union, is "gravely concerned" about the arrests, Fischer said.

Khatami's foes blamed

By DAVID MAKOVSKY
Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

JERUSALEM – The arrest of 13 Jews in Iran on espionage charges may have been orchestrated by domestic opponents of President Mohammed Khatami in an effort to embarrass him and sabotage developing Iranian-U.S. relations, according to a senior Iranian source.

The Iranian Jews are accused of spying for Israel and the U.S.

Following international condemnation of the incident, Tehran radio reported that the president had spoken of his responsibility for the welfare of all religious minorities.

According to the source, pro-Khatami officials had been seeking to resolve the issue quietly at the end of March, when the Iranian Jews were apprehended.

"I was assured by a pro-Khatami official two weeks ago," the source said, "that the matter would be resolved in a constructive fashion and that the 13 would not be charged with espionage.

"But something changed. I can only see this as an effort by Khatami's opponents to undermine President Khatami in the eyes of the West."

According to the Iranian News Service, the Jewish community there has expressed its disapproval of the foreign show of sympathy. The community says it "has always been loyal to the Iranian people and government, is sorry to hear of this incident, and is confident that justice will be served with full consideration of the rights of the prisoners," the news service reported.

Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi Yisrael Meir Lau said he knows the suspects are entirely innocent, and called on all Jews, wherever they may be, to pray for their release.

Rabbi Eliyahu Bakshi-Doron, the Sephardi chief rabbi, also spoke out, calling on community leaders in Europe to call politicians' attention to the "outrage... in order to bring about the release of the 13 Jews who have been unjustly imprisoned in Iran."

Rabbi Bakshi-Doron is also reported to have sent urgent pleas for help to many world religious leaders, asking them all to act to save the Jewish prisoners from, as hard-liner Ayatollah Mohammed Yazdi, head of the Iranian courts, put it, "being sentenced to death – not once but several times."

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Nazi-looted artwork returned to owner's family

By DOUGLAS DAVIS
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

LONDON — When German authorities hand over a $5 million sketch by Van Gogh to Gerta Silberberg in the next few weeks, a small fragment of a destroyed world will be returned.

The 85-year-old widow greeted with mixed emotions last week's news that the umbrella body representing most of Germany's museums, the Foundation for Prussian Cultural Heritage, had approved the return of Van Gogh's *L'Olivette*, which has been hanging in Berlin's National Gallery since 1935.

"The whole issue brings back many disturbing issues for me," she said at her home in the British city of Leicester. "I wish to continue to live modestly and quietly for my remaining years."

'No one knows how big this problem is'

The return of this work and another owned by Silberberg's father-in-law before the Nazi era – as well as a decision by the German foundation to give its president the power to negotiate directly with prewar owners or their heirs to avoid lengthy litigation – is expected to open the way to claims by other owners and their heirs to thousands of artworks worth billions of dollars, in museums, galleries and private collections throughout the world.

"No one knows how big this problem is, but we suspect it is huge," said Constance Lowenthal, the director of the Commission for Art Recovery, a subsidiary of the World Jewish Congress.

Since the death of Gerta Silberberg's husband Arthur, in 1984, she has been the sole surviving relative of Max Silberberg, her father-in-law.

Max Silberberg was a wealthy industrialist in Breslau, now Wroclaw, Poland, and co-owned M. Weissenberg, a company that produced magnesite, a key ingredient in making steel.

He used his great wealth to amass a fabulous, 143-piece collection of Impressionist art, which was considered one of the finest private collections in Europe.

Works from his collection, featured prominently in German art magazines during the 1920s, included paintings and sketches by Cezanne, Renoir, Delacroix, Degas, Matisse and Pissarro.

At today's values, it is estimated that the collection would be worth some $35 million.

Soon after Hitler came to power in 1933, however, Silberberg's world imploded: the Nazis "Aryanized" the magnesite industry, and Silberberg was suddenly forced out of his job and stripped of his assets.

By 1934, it was clear that he would have to sell his collection of art at one of the many "Jew Auctions" organized by the Nazi Chamber of Culture throughout Germany between 1933 and 1938.

These sales were designed to force Jews in Silberberg's predicament to sell their collections at a fraction of their real values.

"When everything else was taken from them, they could not eat their paintings," noted one researcher.

Details about the auctions have trickled in only in recent years, as records have been declassified.

One reason for the lack of information, is that many of the works that were sold at these forced auctions were later plundered by the invading Soviet Red Army, surfacing decades later in collections in the former Soviet bloc.

There is special sensitivity in Germany about the subject of the auctions.

Not only do revelations of the sales again highlight Germany's cruelty toward its Jewish citizens even before the outbreak of war, they also underscore the extent to which many German citizens must have been aware of – and collaborated in – the process of dehumanizing their Jewish fellow citizens.

German law finally acknowledged in 1989 that it considered artworks sold at these auctions to be looted property.

Archives documented fate of collections

The Silberberg collection was, in fact, disposed of at four different such auctions, but the choicest pieces – 50 works – were auctioned by Paul Graupe, himself a Jew.

Graupe's position derived both from his knowledge of art and from his close business association with the Swiss-based Hans Wendland, who was, in turn, close to the art buyers for both Hermann Goering and Hitler himself.

As the war clouds darkened, fates were sealed: Gerta and Alfred Silberberg fled to Britain in 1937 and Graupe found a safe haven in the United States. Max Silberberg, unable to leave, was arrested and transported to a concentration camp, where he died.

Last week's decision came after Greta Silberberg had almost abandoned hope of ever recovering any of the artworks that had belonged to her late father-in-law.

But her hopes were revived with the fall of the Berlin Wall, and the discovery of an archive from the former East Germany that documented the fate of collections sold at the auctions.

Gerta instructed a Berlin attorney to hire a team of art historians to comb the newly available information. They soon struck paydirt. Not only did they find the Van Gogh, but they also found another picture from the Silberberg collection in the museum – *Man With Yellow Coat*, by the 19th-century German painter Hans von Marees.

Other paintings in the Silberberg collection are being tracked down, and legal action for their recovery is now expected to proceed – even though the deadlines for such claims have passed.

"The expiration of legally set deadlines cannot be a reason that injustices are not set right," said the president of the German foundation, Klaus-Dieter Lehmann, who is understood to have personally informed Gerta Silberberg of his decision.

Wolfgang Kahlke, spokesman for the foundation, said he hopes the return of the pictures from the Berlin museum would spark further claims.

Anne Webber, the co-chair of the European Commission on Looted Art, described the German move as a "landmark" decision.

"The Nazis carried out the greatest art robbery in history," she said. "They stole one-fifth of all the art in Europe, and much of it is now kept in galleries or private collections."

A spokesperson for London-based Holocaust Educational Trust called the move a "turning point in the restitution procedure," adding that "museums and galleries around the world must follow this example."

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Health

Test developed to help fight a cancer early

TORONTO — A team of Toronto researchers have developed a simple test that promises to significantly reduce mortality rates for a deadly form of cancer.

The research is published in the May issue of the *Journal of the National Cancer Institute*.

Researchers at the Hospital for Sick Children, Mount Sinai Hospital, Toronto General Hospital, the University of Toronto, and the Rouge Valley Health System's Centenary Site have completed a clinical trial of a new strategy for the detection of nasopharyngeal cancer (NPC), a tumor that grows deep behind the nose.

NPC is the major cause of death from cancer in Hong Kong, southern China and several Pacific and Mediterranean rim countries. Most North American patients who develop this cancer are of Asian, Mediterranean or African descent. In Canada, Chinese immigrants, Jews and Inuit belong to high-risk groups.

"Usually this type of cancer is detected only very late in its progress because of its obscure location in the body and the lack of signs and symptoms," says Dr. Jeremy Freeman, Temmy Latner/Dynacare Chair in Head and Neck Oncology and an Otolaryngologist at Mount Sinai Hospital.

"The diagnostic test we have developed can be administered by an ear-nose and throat or general physician on a routine basis and represents a true breakthrough because it detects the cancer at an early stage and allows us to act more proactively," he said.

"In this cancer, every single tumor cell carries the Epstein-Barr virus, and we believe that the virus plays a direct role in tumor development," says principal investigator Dr. Michael Dosch, a senior scientist at the Hospital For Sick Children. "We have now learned to use this relationship to detect the tumor by tracing the virus."

The Toronto team developed an ambulatory testing technique using a sheathed brush. Cells are gently retrieved from the back of the nose where the tumor develops. The cells are then analyzed for the Epstein-Barr virus with a gene-based test. The test has an accuracy rate of over 90 percent. The presence of the virus gene is a strong predictor of the cancer.

"The next stage in this exciting development will be to conduct a large population-based screening test in some of the high risk groups," says Dr. Raymond Ng, an otolaryngologist at the Centenary Site of the Rouge Valley Health System.

"This early screening test will help us identify patients with no overt clinical symptoms. The benefits of treating the disease early and the long-term cost savings for the Canadian health care system will be substantial," he says.

Bye-bye baby at Branson Hospital

TORONTO — Obstetrical services at the Branson Division of North York General Hospital has been transferred to three receiving hospitals, as part of the realignment of services mandated by the Health Services Restructuring Commission (HSRC) in July 1997.

The annual caseload of approximately 1,500 births will be transferred to the three hospitals designated by the HSRC.

- 250 case will relocate to Humber River Regional Hospital, Finch Avenue site;
- 800 cases will transfer to North York General Hospital, Leslie site;
- 500 cases will move to York Central Hospital.

"We decided to transfer obstetric services now because the three receiving hospitals are ready to accept the increased caseload," said Susan Kwolek, maternal newborn program director at North York General Hospital.

Patients are being fully informed of the move. Each receiving hospital has prepared an information package for physicians to give patients. The information package explains the changes and provides details of the new hospital and a map. The hospitals are also contacting registered patients directly.

No jobs are being lost. The physicians are moving their services and 45 nursing staff have all taken positions at the receiving hospitals. Support staff are remaining at the Branson Division.

The Branson Division continues to operate as an acute inpatient hospital with a wide range of services. Emergency, medical, surgical and mental health services will continue to be provided at the Branson Division until 2002. After restructuring, the Branson site will be converted to an ambulatory care with a focus on services for seniors.

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- The new funding will make it possible to increase efforts to prevent Fetal Alcohol Syndrome, the leading cause of preventable birth defects in children.
- There are a lot of other ways to give our children a good start in life. For details about this and all of the other services for children, call for your free copy of the Guide to Federal Programs and Services for Children and Youth.

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Canada

CJSeniors

Direct Care provides private ambulance service

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A private company providing ambulances and licensed paramedics to the elderly and infirm for non-emergency trips, says its business is increasing to the point that it now handles 100 calls a week.

The cost of an ambulance from Direct Care within the greater Toronto area is $65 one way, or $120 for a round trip. If the call is from outside the GTA, the cost is slightly higher. Out-of-town calls to Buffalo, Ottawa, Montreal, Windsor, or other cities, are also higher.

In operation for the past three years, Direct Care has a fleet of four ambulances. It says that half of its calls come from private homes. The other 50 percent come from hospitals or nursing homes, when they want to clear a bed for an incoming patient, explains company president Yechonan Buksbaum.

Direct Care often takes the same patient for chemotherapy to Princess Margaret Hospital two or three times a week. The service also gets calls from people at hospital emergency clinics, who cannot wait for the provincial ambulance service if there is a delay

Direct Care has a large Jewish clientele. Among the major hospitals it services are Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care and Mount Sinai Hospital, Buksbaum says.

In addition, Direct Care provided a free ambulance service for Israel at 50 and for a fun run at Humber River Regional Hospital.

Though not on a charitable basis, Direct Care also provides an ambulance and personnel at events attended by as many as 1,000 people, and where the risk of someone collapsing is high, Buksbaum notes.

"The difference in the time that it would take another ambulance to reach the site could save a life," he says.

Bed to bed

Many of the calls from private homes originate from children who cannot spare the time from their day to take an aged parent to a doctor's office or a hospital fracture clinic. In such a case, the ambulance might deliver the patient to a hospital, and then return on call so the ambulance and personnel are not tied up all that time.

In a significant number of cases, family members accompany the patients in the ambulance. Each is equipped with such life-saving instruments as an oxygen, monitors, IV equipment and defibrillators.

The service, which is able to take a patient from the second floor of a home, operates on a bed to bed basis. Two trained paramedics accompany each patient on a trip.

Dr. Sheldon Cheshesj, head of the emergency service at Peel Memorial Hospital, is medical director of Direct Care, which runs 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

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COOL ZAIDE

Arthur Geller, 74, is one of the coolest zaides around. The member of YOWIE (Yidden on Wheels) says he is one of the oldest people driving a Harley Davidson. [Barbara Silverstein photo]

Condo linked to Baycrest facilities

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A condominium going up at 2 Neptune Drive, a block from Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care, will allow owners to age in place, by taking advantage of some facilities in the area, and paying for other Baycrest services, on a fee for service basis.

The 119 units in the nine-storey, Baycrest Residential Properties' building range in price from $130,000 to $260,000. They are available only to those 65 and over, and they offer a life lease arrangement.

The life lease feature enables owners to register the title to their unit to protect them against any future liability.

At any time, or when the occupant is no longer capable of living in the unit, it can be sold for market value to anyone, including family, who is 65 or older, capable of independent living. The new occupant enters into a new lease with the Baycrest corporation.

There are 37 one-bedroom units, including seven with a den, and 82 two-bedroom units, 16 with a den. They are scheduled to be completed at the end of 2000 or early in 2001.

The building has been designed with the special needs of seniors in mind, including entrances for wheelchairs and walkers.

Residents are entitled to membership in the Wagman Centre, on-site activities at 2 Neptune Drive and outings organized by staff of the building. A shuttle bus service will be available from the condominium to Baycrest Centre and the Wagman Centre.

As admissions to all nursing homes, including Baycrest, are now controlled by a central government office, residents of 2 Neptune Drive will have no priority.

A total of 35 percent of the building has been sold to a diverse group of buyers, including single people and couples. One of the new owners is nearly 90, and another is 64 but approaching his 65th birthday.

There is no commercial element, as the ground floor will be devoted to recreation and multi-purpose activities.

The marketing centre at Bathurst and Neptune, at the site of the old Associated Hebrew Schools building, is open Monday to Thursday 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday 12 to 5 p.m. Call 932-2560 for information.

Father's Day

Beer makes cooking better for Father's Day

BY EILEEN GOLTZ
Special to The CJN

Father's Day always seemed like a second class holiday to me. There's no big budget push by FTD or Hallmark to get us to send sentimental bouquets or cards to dad and not many phone calls. This hardly seems fair. My dad, like most involved, caring, allowance giving, curfew setting, no-man-is-good-enough-for-you fathers taught me just as much as my mom.

Here is my tribute to my dad, and recipes you can make to show him just how special he is. All of the recipes contain beer, a favorite drink of many of the dads I know.

FOR MY DAD

Thanks, Dad, for teaching me to think *logically* when you taught me to ride my bike: "If you don't pay attention you'll fall off, break your neck, we'll have to take you to the emergency room and you won't be able to ride your bike."

Thanks, Dad, for teaching me about *social acceptance* when I wanted to pierce my ears: "If you pierce your ears, everyone will think you're easy." When I asked him what easy meant he told me to ask my mother.

Dad, you taught me about *finance* when I opened my first bank account: "If you don't learn to balance a cheque book you'll eventually end up broke or in jail for tax evasion."

You taught me about *men*. You told me that if a guy ever says, "If you loved me you'd let me," then I should say, "If you loved me you wouldn't ask." Good advice but no one ever put it quite like that. Don't worry, I learned to paraphrase.

BEER-BE-CUED CHICKEN

2 chickens, cut up
1 can beer
2 tbsp. molasses
2 tbsp. minced onions
3 tbsp. lemon juice
¼ cup ketchup
1 tsp. salt
2 tsp. sugar

Make sauce of beer, molasses, onion juice, lemon juice, ketchup, sugar and salt. Marinate chicken in sauce overnight. Cook on outdoor grill approximately 1 hour or until done, turning and basting with sauce every 10-15 minutes. Serves 4.

STEAK/HAMBURGER SAUCE

2 cups ketchup
2 tsp. steak sauce
1 tsp. whole celery seed
1 tsp. hot pepper sauce
2 tbsp. soy sauce
⅔ cup dark brown sugar
Juice of 2 lemons
4 tbsp. horseradish
½ tsp. garlic powder
½ tsp. sage
1 tsp. salt
1 can beer
2 small onions finely chopped

Combine all ingredients in a saucepan. Bring mixture to boil. Simmer sauce over medium-low heat, uncovered, for 5 minutes, stirring constantly. This sauce can be made 2 or 3 days ahead of time and stored in the refrigerator. Makes about 3 cups.

ONION AND GARLIC BEER SOUP

For a different take on onion soup, a traditional beef broth base is here spiked with beer and fortified with garlic. Rye bread croutons are great to top this soup.

4 lb. onions (about 10), sliced thin
4 large garlic cloves, minced
2 tbsp. olive oil
1 12-oz. bottle of beer (not dark)
5¼ cups beef broth
2 tbsp. sugar
2 tbsp. unsalted margarine
4 slices of day-old rye bread, crusts discarded and the bread cut into ½-inch cubes

In a heavy kettle cook the onions and the garlic in the oil over moderate heat, stirring occasionally, until the mixture is browned. Stir in the beer and the broth; simmer the mixture, covered, for 45 minutes. Stir in the sugar and salt and pepper to taste. While the soup is simmering, in a heavy skillet melt the margarine over moderate heat, add the bread cubes, and cook them, stirring, until they are golden. Divide the soup among 6 bowls and top it with the croutons. Serves 6.

SPICE TURKEY CHILI

1 pound ground raw turkey
1 medium onion, chopped
3 cloves garlic, chopped
2 28-oz. cans tomatoes, cut up
1 15½-oz. can red kidney beans, drained
1 12-oz. can beer
1 4-oz. can diced green chili peppers, drained
1 tbsp. chili powder
2 tsp. Italian seasoning
1 tsp. sugar
1 tsp. ground cumin
1 tsp. bottled hot pepper sauce
½ tsp. ground allspice

In a Dutch oven cook turkey, onion and garlic until meat is brown and onion is tender. Drain off fat. Stir in undrained tomatoes, kidney beans, beer, green chili peppers, chili powder, Italian seasoning, sugar, cumin, hot pepper sauce, allspice, and ½ tsp. pepper. Bring to boil; reduce heat. Simmer, uncovered, for 30 minutes or to desired consistency. Spoon into serving bowls. Makes 8 servings.

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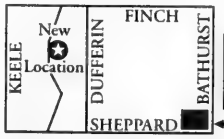

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Family Matters

by

John Syrtash, B.A. (Hon.), LL.B.

Fathers: access and support

In the May 27 issue I discussed how recent feminist trends in the Supreme Court of Canada may, ironically, undermine the practical ability of disadvantaged women to access money when their husbands fail to obey Court orders. While the Supreme Court has increased the onus on men to support such women, the "social safety net" of public assistance has become less accessible. If men don't obey Court orders for support, then such women and their children fall between the cracks: the Government's support enforcement agencies across Canada (particularly in Ontario) are underfunded and much too slow to act.

The decision of *Bracklow* in the Supreme Court expands women's rights of entitlement, but perhaps at the expense of those whose husbands fail to obey orders.

With Father's Day approaching, it's timely to examine how *Bracklow* and other recent case law affects fathers (or "payers"), particularly the overwhelming majority who *do* obey Court orders and comply with support agreements.

The answer depends somewhat on the part of Canada in which estranged fathers reside. In Ontario, I created a service called the **Spousal Support Database**. Lawyers across Canada give us details about their clients' cases and we do a computerized search through our database of some 8,000 cases going back to 1992. The search results tell them, in the form of graphs, charts and summaries, what range of spousal support awards have been ordered by the Courts for similar fact situations.

Support orders 50–70%

Our research confirms the views of such noted Toronto lawyers and professors as Tom Bastedo and Carol Rogerson. *In Ontario, it is now not unusual for a male payer to be ordered to pay in excess of 50% of his net income for child/spousal support, and the average may be more in the range of 60-70%, depending on the number of children.*

Moreover, with *Bracklow* on the books, it will now be much harder for men to claim that their wives are not entitled to spousal support if there is any reasonable difference between their incomes, even in a short marriage. All you have to prove now is (a) there was a relationship of "interdependence", which exists in virtually every relationship; and (b) the "poorer" spouse is at an economic disadvantage. Furthermore, after three years of cohabiting, one is subject to the same rules of support as if one was unmarried. In other provinces the amount of support ordered is not as high, but the current trend is to follow Ontario's lead.

In addition to support, other areas of family law will make it more onerous for the "richer" spouse to leave a marriage. Homosexual partners are now entitled to support in Ontario after three years of cohabitation, just like unmarried heterosexual couples (see *M.v.H.* in the Supreme Court of Canada). "Psychological" parents of children who they did not adopt, but treated as their own during cohabitation (married or not) cannot "unilaterally withdraw" from that relationship and are liable for child support across Canada — yes, even in Manitoba! (See *Chartier* in the same Court).

Access to children by fathers is not normally a problem, especially when support is paid and paid on time. Mothers are less resentful in such cases, although the Courts do not always tie the two issues together, unless there are additional "parenting" concerns about the father and his conduct towards the children (such as "anger control" or "substance abuse").

Paternal custody issues

Courts usually want to preserve the relationship between children and their fathers, because the absence of such contact can sometimes hurt the children. But in cases where mothers refuse to follow agreements or Court orders for access, *fathers have no practical remedy to ensure that mothers do so, even if these fathers are obeying support orders.* If they ask a Judge to cite the mother for contempt of Court, it can result in an expensive "mini trial". If the mother still refuses, then the Court's options are limited, draconian and therefore rarely used: jail or a switch in custody.

Moreover, if the children are sufficiently mature (there is no specific age of "maturity") and can determine their own desire to attend access visits, it becomes problematic to force them to do so. Usually the intervention of a mediator or a lawyer from the government-funded Children's Lawyers Office can be quite helpful. However, estranged fathers point to "parental alienation syndrome", whereby the mother supposedly influences the children not to see their father, either consciously or subconsciously (through body language or other indirect means).

Although the Courts recognize that certain mothers wrongly influence their children and use them as retaliatory weapons (*"You left me for another woman, so why should you see the kids?"*), in Canada they have generally rejected the syndrome theory as a psychological model. They have, however, become increasingly suspicious of child sexual abuse allegations raised by mothers in the middle of custody/access battles. According to a recent paper published by Professor Nick Bala of Queen's University Law School, the overwhelming majority of such allegations are ultimately proven to be groundless. During the investigations (which can take weeks or months), a father's access to his child is often cut off as a precaution by the local Children's Aid Society.

This is not to diminish the severity and horror of the crime when it does happen. Professor Bala concludes that most of the women who make these false allegations honestly believe the abuse occurred and are not, from their perspective, lying. Nonetheless, where the allegations are groundless, both the child and the father become victims. This paper can be found on the Quicklaw legal research on-line subscriber service under my database, the "**Syrtash Family Law Netletter**" or "**db sfln**").

To conclude, unless the "richer" spouse has a good relationship with his "ex" and can make reasonable financial and custodial arrangements, it's getting much tougher to be a divorced Dad. The only alternative is to disregard the agreements/Court orders at one's peril or to follow our Torah scriptures and avoid divorce at all costs!

Divorce rates are in sharp decline recently. Is this due to the aforementioned legal trends, or Torah reading? Happy Father's Day.

John Syrtash is a partner and family law lawyer with the Toronto firm of Basman Smith. Neither B'nai Brith Canada, Basman Smith or John Syrtash is liable for any consequences arising from anyone's reliance on this material, which is presented as general information and not as a legal opinion. John Syrtash can be reached at (416) 860-1942.

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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

GEARING UP FOR ASHKENAZ EVENT

Ashkenaz, the festival of new Yiddish culture, returns to Toronto's Harbourfront Centre for its third biennial incarnation, Aug. 30 to Sept. 6.

Director **David Buchbinder** has organized eight days and nights of soul-charging performance, provocative exhibition and celebratory public spectacle for this multidisciplinary event, which has become the largest Jewish cultural festival in the world, and a major event in Toronto's cultural calendar.

Ashkenaz '99 promises to be bigger and better than ever, with more than 175 artists from 10 countries participating. Highlights include the premiere of the Ashkenaz Orchestra Project (Sept. 1 and 2), involving 20 musicians exploring Yiddish music interwoven with Middle-Eastern, African-American, Roma and New Music influences in six new works.

There are also exciting theatrical and literary components to the festival, including participation by **Michael Wex**, **Yehuda Elberg**, **Lillian Nattel**, **Jason Sherman**, **Cary Fagan** and many other writers. Film and visual arts programs and children's workshops help round out the week-long festival, which is being promoted internationally in the *New York Forward* and other Jewish newspapers.

The Ashkenaz parade (Sept.5) has become part of the tradition, along with a communal havdalah ceremony. Most events are free. For details, contact the Ashkenaz office at 703-5479 or visit the Web site at www.ashkenaz.org.

* * *

Yiddishland: The Workmen's Circle presents Endless Love: Love Songs in Yiddish and Black, an unusual Yiddishland Cafe evening in Yiddish and English. Performers are **Denise Williams**, **Ben Stein** and **Sasha Luminsky**.

June 27, 7:30 p.m. 471 Lawrence Ave. W. $12 in advance, $15 at the door. Available at Lasting Impressions One Hour Photo, 243 Wilmington Ave. 630-0720, or at the Workmen's Circle, 787-2081.

* * *

Mirvish Party: "Honest" Ed Mirvish, the Canadian theatre impresario, restaurateur, bargain king and department store owner, is the focus of a luncheon tribute on the occasion of his 85th birthday. Sponsors are the Variety Club of Ontario and the Children's Charity.

Hosted by actor-director Al **Waxman**, the celebration features entertainment by **Camilla Scott**, **Graham Bickley**, **Louise Petrie** and the cast of *The Pajama Game*. Confirmed head table guests include **Sandra Shamas**, **Shirley Douglas**, **Keifer Sutherland**, **Charmion King**, **Gordon Pinsent**, Police Chief **David Boothby** and **Johnny Lombardi**.

June 23, 11:30 a.m., luncheon beginning 12:15 p.m. in the 1,200-seat Canadian Room of the Royal York Hotel. Tickets $39.99. 367-2828, ext. 227.

* * *

Theatre Notes

• The Mel Lastman Variety Players present the sixth annual Jerry At Trick Review, a lively variety show by seniors. Fairview Library Theatre, Aug. 29 to Sept. 5. $15. 665-3934.

• Stage Centre Productions has announced its 23rd season with this roster of five plays: *Hobson's Choice, The Night of the Iguana, The Matchmaker, The Madness of George III* and *Side by Side*. The season begins in late September and runs to mid-May 2000; each play runs three weeks. Fairview Library Theatre. Adults, $64. 299-5557.

* * *

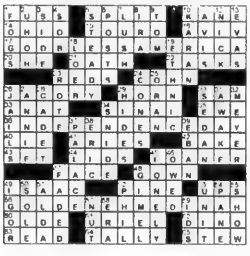
Quotable Quote: Here's **Isaac Bashevis Singer** on the importance of brevity in literature.

"One of the wonderful things about the Book of Genesis and the Bible generally is that the stories there are very, very short – so short that even a short short story today would be too long in comparison. Often a story is told in five or six sentences.

"I said to myself that modern literature suffers terribly from verbosity. No matter what they tell you, they tell it to you again and again, and it makes it so that there's no place left for the reader's imagination.

"In the Bible, so much is left to the reader that actually the story is but a hint and the rest is for the reader to finish. I don't mean that you should make things short when you have to tell a lot, but to give the essentials, and leave as much as possible to the imagination of the reader."

ANSWERS TO THIS WEEK'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE.



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Former Miss Brooklyn an accomplished photographer

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Over 20 of photographer Sheila Reisman's works will be featured in a solo exhibition titled European Summer, at Sassafraz, 100 Cumberland St., from June 22 to Aug. 30.

Born and educated in the United States, the former Miss Brooklyn's love of photography began when she was 5 years old. To overcome her homesickness when she went to camp, her mother bought her a camera.

"My camera became my best friend and ignited my passion for photography."

As a busy model and as Miss Brooklyn, Reisman recalls that she was more interested in the camera techniques than the glamor of being in the limelight.

She went on to study at the New York Institute of Photography. "I was interested in photographing the beauty of life and nature, and capturing people's emotions."

After her move to Toronto 25 years ago, Reisman continued her photographic studies, and was an award winner for black and white photography at Ryerson Polytechnic University.

Today, her photographs are on the cutting edge of digital processing. She combines old world sentiments with computer age technology, and works in both brilliant colors and black and white.

Reisman's work has been exhibited at numerous group exhibitions at The Engel Gallery of Long Island, George Photography in Toronto, and the Collingwood Library, among others.

Her work is in many private and corporate collections and her photos have appeared in *The CJN*.

A world traveller, Reisman always has her camera with her. The mother of six and grandmother of 12 captures the human condition and people's unique surroundings.

The Sassafraz exhibition features limited edition photographs which have been digitally transferred to an optical photo CD ROM with additional color processing done exclusively on computer and printed on watercolor paper.

A portion of the proceeds of this exhibition will be donated to Operation Herbie which brings children from around the world to the Hospital For Sick Children, for medical treatment.

A selection of phototgraphs by Sheila Reisman.

Versatile actor learns by osmosis

By KATHRYN KATES
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Actor Avery Saltzman started his career at the top and stayed there!

Twenty years ago, Saltzman quit his third year York University theatre class, to join the prestigious Shaw Festival and has continued to work steadily in television, film and theatre on both sides of the 49th parallel.

Currently co-starring as Alfred P. Doolittle in *My Fair Lady* at Mississauga's Stage West All Suites Hotel Theatre Restaurant, the Toronto born actor has appeared on the Broadway stage in *Pajama Game* and *Candide*, in *Forum, Kismet* and *Promises, Promises* in the United States. In Canada, he has been in *Into the Woods, The Mikado, Damn Yankees, Joseph, Sunset Boulevard, Napoleon* and *Aladdin*.

Saltzman's TV roles include *PSI Factor, Due South, Traders*, and *T&T*, and his own short-lived sitcom *Mayonnaise*. A silver screen highlight included being directed by Sir Richard Attenborough in *In Love And War* starring Sandra Bullock and Chris O'Donnell.

"I have worked with some wonderful directors and actors and have learned by osmosis. Last year, I did *Candide* on Broadway with Andrea Martin. Working with a person with her dedication is refreshing to me," he says.

"Stage is my first love; I have a great time. Each audience makes a difference. I love the immediacy of the audience, but I also love film. I love the fact that you can dive in, do your work, then it's over with."

Since the actor's father was born in New York, Saltzman is allowed to ply his talents freely in both countries. However, he is an ardent supporter of Canadian talent. "I have sat on the council of Actors Equity for six years working with the commercial theatre community and helped negotiate the Livent agreement."

Saltzman says there is a huge difference between American and Canadian actors.

"I teach a lot of workshops in Toronto and I'm a firm believer in empowerment. A lot of theatre schools in Canada like to tear you down to get to the core to make you act. I think they should be building you up and making you feel terrific about what you do. We also have to educate the Canadian public to realize that what we have in this country is very good.

In *My Fair Lady*, Saltzman is thrilled to be working with an all Canadian cast. "It's a very ambitious show for Stage West to do. They're very brave to do a three-hour production without an American star. They took big chances with this show and spent an exorbitant amount on the set."

My Fair Lady runs until July 20 at Stage West. Then Saltzman is back in New York for the rest of '99, where he'll be auditioning for a number of Broadway and off-Broadway shows. He will perform in his third workshop for Livent U.S. in a new Marvin Hamlisch Broadway musical slated for the year 2001, based on the '50s film, *Sweet Smell of Success*, about theatre critic Walter Winchell.

When the actor is not on stage, he spends his free time working out at the gym and hanging with friends and close family, including his parents, two older brothers, four nephews and one niece, all living in the Toronto area.

Saltzman is the only member of his family to have ventured into acting, but he credits his family for instilling values that have helped him on and off the stage. "Our family has always had a great sense of humor and a respect for one another. We were allowed to do what we wanted to do. Our work ethic is, whatever you do, try to do the best."

For tickets to *My Fair Lady*, call the box office at 905-238-0042 or 1-800-263-0684.

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Trio performs unique versions of old standards

By DAVID SILVERBERG
Student Intern

TORONTO — When Steve Koven was very young, his father played boogie-woogie, rag and blues on the piano. Exposed to music, Koven knew it would be a large part of his adult life.

Koven, 35, is living his dream, and he wants it to continue to roll. The Steve Koven Trio is a 4-year-old Toronto-based jazz group that has accomplished a lot. The trio has released two CDs (*Live at the Senator* and *Sandbox*), performed at the Barbados International Jazz Festival and the Jamaica Jazz Festival, and will showcase its talent at the DuMaurier Jazz Festival on June 29 at the King and John streets tent pavilion. Throughout this week, the trio has played at Top O' the Senator.

"I'm starting to find the voice," says Koven, of a distinct personality every jazz musician must have. "It's very important for every artist to have a unique sound. I'm trying to do that."

The trio tends to favor performing energetic renditions of jazz standards, such as *Summertime* or *Honeysuckle Rose*. Yet, Koven says, each standard should be different than another musician's rendition. Each musician has various life experiences that must come through in the music, he says.

The Steve Koven Trio, which consists of Koven on piano, Rob Clutton on bass and Harvey Pipher on drums, has received high acclaim. Critics have described the music "as showing a proper reverence for melody" and "rhythmically powerful and expressive."

Koven sees all music as a language, with jazz as a dialect.

"It's about communicating," says Koven. "If I go across the world and meet someone who doesn't speak my mother tongue, I can communicate through music because it's a language. Jazz happens to be my language."

Koven loves playing renditions of jazz songs because "they're so perfect."

Those songs have lasted many years, says Koven, of standards like *Summertime* by Gershwin and *In A Mellow Tone* by Duke Ellington.

"I like to make those songs my own," he notes. "We are instruments that take a piece and bring it to life."

Recently, the trio has made several appearances on television. It performed on *Studio 2*, which airs on TVO, and has done two videos for Bravo! Also, after a cross Canada tour last year, the trio has decided to tour Europe next year.

Koven, born and raised in Toronto, splits his time between the band and Yellow Dog Music, a music school focusing on creative improvisation and composition, which he founded with his wife Katrina.

"Jazz is all improvisation," says Koven. "It's capturing the moment."

When relaxing, Koven likes to listen to classical music and old rock bands like Genesis. He finds some leisure time, thanks to his agent Jaine Brent of London, England who handles the business aspect of the music.

"I listen to a lot of jazz," Koven says. "The more you listen to jazz, the more you understand it."

Growing up, Koven was fascinated by Jewish music. As a member of Temple Sinai, he loved the melodies of composer in residence Ben Steinberg.

"During Sabbath," remembers Koven, "the family got a kick out of the harmonies I used to pull off during the prayers."

As a solo artist or with Clutton and Pipher, Koven has done shows for Baycrest and has performed private functions such as weddings and bar/bat mitzvahs.

After the DuMaurier Jazz Festival, The Steve Koven Trio will be heading to the Hillebrand Jazz Festival at Niagara-on-the-Lake. Jazz lovers can expect the trio to perform at the Montreal Bistro in the fall.

Koven admits he will never stop making music.

"I have a life-long commitment to master jazz," he says. "I have chosen this path, and it is my ambition to play jazz on an international level."

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CJN Rosh Hashanah Photo Contest

The CJN announces its fifth annual Rosh Hashanah photo contest. We are asking readers to submit their own original photographs either of Israel or on any Jewish theme in their community.

Anyone can enter except *CJN* employees or members of their families.

A maximum of three photos per entrant may be submitted. Please write your name, address and phone number on the back of each photo. We can only return the photos if you provide a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

You may mail or deliver your photos to: *The CJN* Rosh Hashanah Contest, The Canadian Jewish News, 1500 Don Mills Road, Suite 205, Toronto, Ont., M3B 3K4.

The contest closes at 5 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 16, 1999.

The judges will choose three photographs which, in their opinion, are the most expressive and evocative. These three photos will be published in *The CJN* Rosh Hashanah issue, Sept. 9, 1999. Each of the "winning" photographers will receive a cheque for $100.

We will undoubtedly receive many worthy submissions. But only three will be selected as the "winners." The decisions of the judges will be final. The odds of winning depend upon the number and the quality of submissions received.

Winning entrants will be notified by telephone before Shabbat on Aug. 27, 1999.

Any litigation respecting the conduct and awarding of a prize in this contest may be submitted to the Régie des Loteries et courses du Québec.

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Reviews

The musical spectrum

By JOSEPH SERGE
Arts Editor

Trio Lyra
Harbord Street
(Opening Day)

Fresh from the critical acclaim of their debut album *Ravel, Debussy and Fauré*, Trio Lyra has changed pace with their recent release *Harbord Street*.

This time the Toronto trio (Suzanne Shulman, flute; Mark Childs, viola; and Erica Goodman, harp) opted for works by local greats – Milton Barnes, Srul Irving Glick, Harry Freedman and Andrew P. MacDonald. The result is very pleasing to the ear.

The title track was composed by Barnes and evokes memories of downtown Toronto where he grew up. Starting off with a slow, piccolo march, it picks up in the third movement, called *Ragtime*.

The viola, harp, flute combo is rather unique these days and Trio Lyra seem to have mastered its wonderful mix.

"The colors of these instruments," Glick writes, "create a rich, interweaving tapestry." All the compositions on this CD are world-premiere recordings

Harbord Street is released on Opening Day Recordings.

Tsufit
Under the Mediterranean Sky
(Sunbird Records)

On the other side of the musical spectrum is this fun recording from Toronto lawyer-turned-comedian-turned-singer Tsufit.

Under the Mediterranean Sky combines songs with various rhythmic influences including klezmer, gypsy and Middle Eastern.

It begins with a take of Leonard Cohen's *Dance Me to the End of Love* and ends with Richard Farina's *A Swallow Song*. In between is a quirky collection of Tsufit's own compositions.

Her ironic take on human relationships is noticeable on most of her songs. In *Last Bridge*, for example, she sings, "I wrote you sappy songs for years, but now I hate you/ Sweet songs through the tears, but now I hate you/ It's true, get outta my life."

Interspersed are a couple of traditional chassidic songs and the Israeli *Erev Shel Shoshanim*.

Listening to her beautiful, powerful voice, which is emphasized by the strong, rhythmic Mediterranean melodies, is a real treat. Co-producer and musician Tony Quarrington deserves a lot of credit.

Distributed by Hummingbird Productions, the CD gets its official release in August.

Jazz pianist to tickle the ivories at downtown festival

By KATHRYN KATES
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Jazz pianist Dick Hyman is so popular with local audiences that the folks at duMaurier Downtown Jazz have invited him back to the Montreal Bistro & Jazz Club for an encore booking June 28 to 30.

Not only does the versatile musician tickle the ivories, he's an organist, composer, conductor and arranger for stage, television and movies. He has recorded over 100 albums under his own name and even more in support of other artists. In addition, he has just released a CD ROM called *Dick Hyman, One Hundred Years Of Jazz Piano*. In his spare time he travels the world giving concerts, recitals, lectures and jazz piano clinics.

Hyman has been playing piano since he was in high school in Mt. Vernon, N.Y. "When I was at Columbia College in New York City, there were a lot of opportunities to play campus affairs and on the campus radio station. After graduation in 1948, it naturally blended into becoming a full-time profession."

In no time, the winner of six Most Valuable Player Awards from the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences made a name for himself as a top studio musician. His credits include musical director for various broadcast programs, including Benny Goodman's last television appearance, and two Emmy Awards for his score for the daytime drama, *Sunshine's On The Way*, and for a PBS special on Eubie Blake.

On Broadway, Hyman orchestrated the hit musical *Sugar Babies*. On film, his compositions were heard in *Moonstruck, The Lemon Sisters, Billy Bathgate, Scott Joplin, King of Ragtime* and *Alan and Naomi*.

Hyman has had a long-standing working relationship with Woody Allen, composing the music for *Zelig* and *The Purple Rose of Cairo*.

"I'm just about finished arranging the music for the next Woody Allen film. As usual, I don't know the name, but it will be released in the fall. The lead is played by Sean Penn; he plays the part of a guitarist in the 1930s."

When he's not on tour, the father of three and grandfather of three enjoys spending time with Julia, his wife of 50 years, at home in Venice, Fla.

Even while at home, Hyman keeps busy. He's performing at the Venice Community Centre in October in a benefit for the Jewish Community Centre. Next April, in neighboring Sarasota, he'll be organizing the millennium Sarasota Jazz Festival, for which he plans to gather many musicians who have played the festival in the past.

In concert

Asked what medium he prefers, Hyman said, "I like to do it all, but the core of it is playing solo piano, so I continue to do a great many recitals, sometimes turning them into a lecture. Being a performer has allowed me to play for so many different audiences. I sometimes think it is a blessing as musicians, to be able to reach out to people and make them happy."

In concert Hyman masterfully intertwines his own unique style, complementing the works of jazz pioneers like Eubie Blake, Scott Joplin, Jelly Roll Morton and Fats Waller, to name a few.

At Montreal Bistro, Hyman will do a one-night solo performance, and then he will be joined by internationally renowned Toronto pianist Ralph Sutton for two evenings of duo piano.

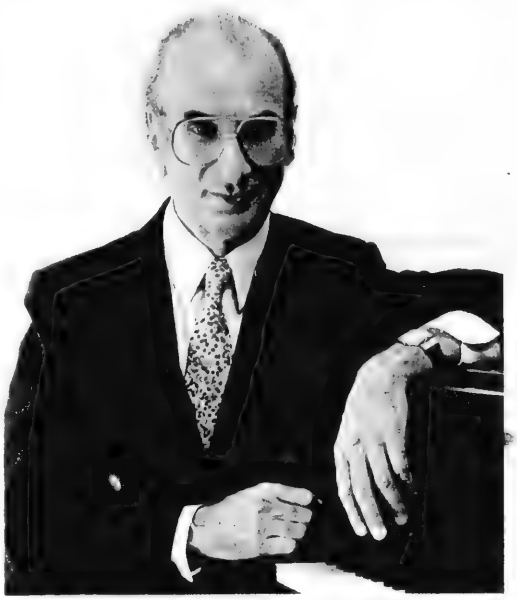
"Ralph and I were both playing various affairs where they had two pianos. We sat down and began to play together and realized we had a great deal of repertoire and style in common. We have now performed together in a number of places," Hyman says.

"I look forward every time I get to play with Ralph, because we have a great meeting of the minds and its fun to play piano ad lib. We are both improvising. This makes it both dangerous and very satisfying when you do it right. We'll be playing the old standards, *Sweet Lorraine, I Found A New Baby, Honeysuckle Rose*...We do things we both know very well individually."

Hyman feels his latest CD, *Dick Hyman in Recital*, on Reference Records, is his best to date.

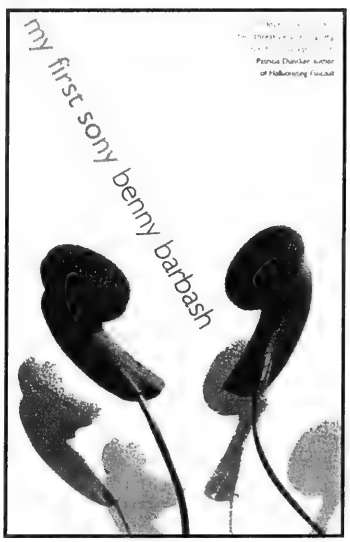
He has no plans to slow down, he says. "It crosses my mind because people continue to suggest that, since I now live in Florida, I must be retired. I have to defend myself and say, 'Hardly.' I'm not retiring, I will do what I've always done. I might cut down the travel a little bit, but I haven't yet!"

For ticket information contact the Montreal Bistro & Jazz Club at 363-0179 or the duMaurier Downtown Jazz Web site at www.tojazz.com.



Dick Hyman

Lichtman's Feature Title



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Benny Barbash is an acclaimed Israeli playwright and author and lives in Tel Aviv. *My First Sony* is his first novel to appear in English.

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Film festival offerings available on video

By LARRY ANKLEWICZ
Special to The CJN

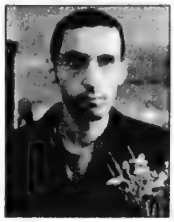
The Toronto Jewish Film Festival recently completed its highly successful seventh season, and one of the questions I have been asked is whether any of the films on this year's program, or past programs, are available on video.

The answer is a definite yes. Although quite a few of the films presented by past festivals are available on video, some of them may be difficult to track down. I will have a look at some of these films and will try to indicate where they can be obtained.

It should be pointed out that some of these films are available in better video stores throughout the country, or can be ordered by them. Others are available from Ergo Media Inc., a mail order company in the United States that specializes in Jewish videos. They can be contacted at 1-800-695-3746 or at www.jewishvideo.com.

The Toronto Jewish Film Festival premiered in the spring of 1993 and one of the best films from that year's program was *The Summer of Aviya* (Mongrel Media 516-9775 or Ergo), the story of one summer in the life of a 10-year-old girl whose mother survived the Holocaust but lost her mind in the process. The film is based on the life of Israel's foremost actress, Gila Almagor, and was directed by Eli Cohen, one of the leading filmmakers working in Israel today.

The Long Way Home



The Truce (La Tregua)

In the following years, the festival presented the following films: the dramatic film, *Good Evening Mr. Wallenberg* (Fox Lorber/Orion), about Raoul Wallenberg's frantic efforts to save as many Hungarian Jews as possible from the last minute roundups by the Nazis; *Jonah Who Lived in the Whale* (Sullivan) which tells the true story of a young Dutch boy who was imprisoned in a camp during the Nazi occupation of Holland; and *The Last Butterfly* (New Line/Columbia) which describes the efforts of an actor to put on a play in the Terezin camp before being shipped out to an extermination camp.

Also shown at the Toronto Jewish Film Festival were *Song of the Siren* (Ergo), an Israeli film that explores love and lust during the Gulf War and *Genghis Cohn* (A &E) a strange British film about revenge and retribution against a Nazi war criminal.

The 1997 festival featured *Underdog: A (Sports) War Movie* (Ergo) about the passions aroused in an Israeli development town by its soccer team and *A Tickle in the Heart* (Mongrel), the enchanting documentary about the Epstein Brothers' klezmer band and the music they have played for over half a century.

In 1998 the festival presented a number of excellent films that included *The Truce* (Alliance/Atlantis), the true story of Italian writer/philosopher Primo Levi, who was liberated from Auschwitz, and then spent a year trying to make his way back to his native land. Also shown that year was *Mendel* (CHV), the story of a young boy and his family's attempts to return to an ordinary life after the war.

1998 also saw the screening of *The Long Way Home* (Morningstar), a documentary about the thousands of Jewish DP's after the War and the Israeli classic, *Sallah* (Ergo), one of the funniest films ever produced, in Israel or anywhere else.

That year's program also included *Blood Money: Switzerland's Nazi Gold* (Ergo), a very timely presentation that exposes the shameful behavior of Swiss bankers who accepted millions of dollars in deposits from Jewish depositors, before and during the war, and then refused to return the money to the survivors after the war.

Mendel

Salla

This year's festival also presented a number of excellent films that are available on video. The Diane Keaton directed comedy, *Unstrung Heroes* (Disney), has been available at video stores for some time and is an offkilter farce about a young Jewish boy who moves in with his eccentric uncles after his mother contracts a terminal illness.

The two Yiddish classics shown at this year's festival, *The Light Ahead* and *The Singing Blacksmith* are both available from Ergo, as is the Israeli short film, *Hitchhikers*.

There are other films that are available on video. Some of them can be obtained through Ergo. Others require a more protracted search. In the future, I hope to have an opportunity to outline a few of the more obscure sources for Jewish videos.

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Single female, European, attractive, enjoy outdoors, the beach, movies, fishing, cooking, dancing, trailers. Seeking a well established male, late 50's. AD#1327

OPEN MINDED
Single female, over 40, charming, independent, intelligent, cultured, giving and forgiving Seeking a male, Orthodox, open minded and understanding, who would like to learn AD#1473

KNIGHT IN SHINING ARMOR
Single female, 36, 5'4", attractive, slim brunette, enjoy cottage life, theater, country. Seeking a professional male, 35-44, who is intelligent, interesting, attractive, inside and out. AD#1561

SERIOUS RELATIONSHIP
Single female, 40, 5'3", professional, attractive, medium build, enjoy movies, travelling, tennis, dining out. Seeking a sincere male, 36-50, attractive and successful. AD#1195

YOUNG AT HEART
Divorced female, 44, pretty, slender, Jewish, employed, dark brown hair and eyes, enjoy sports, art, theater, swimming. Seeking a Jewish male, 40-49, non smoker, healthy in body, soul and mind, independent, sensible. AD#1094

GOOD TIME
Single Jewish female, 38, educated, loyal, thoughtful, pearl of a person, creative, active, enjoy laughter. Seeking a Jewish soulmate, 36-45, tender, honest, family oriented AD#1254

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Single female, creative, sensitive, beautiful. Seeking a confident male, who is kind, modern , with strong principles. AD#1560

SIMILAR INTERESTS
Single female, attractive, professional, physically fit, outgoing, enjoy sports, dancing, travelling, outdoor activities Seeking a male with similar interests AD#1067

WELL GROOMED
Attractive Jewish female, 38, 5'5", brown hair & eyes, down to earth, family oriented. Seeking an educated male, well groomed, intelligent, 37-44, sensitive, active, likes to have fun. AD#1846

NICE GUY WANTED
Single Jewish female, 38, 5'5", brown hair & eyes, attractive, honest, caring, down to earth, fit, enjoy movies, dining out, dancing. Seeking a Jewish male, 35-45, active, non smoker, honest, caring, down to earth. AD#2005

BEST FRIENDS
Single female, attractive, professional, late 50's, 5'4", university grad, good sense of humour. Seeking a male, university grad, 55+, 5'8"+, bright, funny and warm. AD#2042

FRESH AND MATURE
Single female, 36, young looking, beautiful on the inside & outside, financially secure, enjoy theater, love life. Seeking a nice, down to earth male, 33-38, 5'8"-5'11", contemporary thinker. AD#1550

CULTURE ADVERTS
Divorced Jewish female, 44, 5'5", 120lbs, attractive, slim, warm, romantic, outgoing, employed, enjoy sports, culture adverts, theater, travelling, working out, swimming. Seeking a mature, independent male, 40-50, healthy in body, mind and soul, non smoker. AD#1379

LASTING FRIENDSHIP
Young looking Jewish female, 56, blond hair, blue eyes, attractive, quiet, intelligent, love life. Seeking a nice Jewish male, honest. AD#1120

FAMILY ORIENTED
Single Professional female, enjoy tennis, golfing, boating, sailing, travelling, dining out, family oriented. Seeking a professional or business male, who lives in Toronto, enjoys sports, dining out, movies, family oriented, with similar interests. AD#1193

COMEDY CLUBS
Attractive Jewish female, 5'4", dark brown hair, hazel eyes, professional, enjoy movies, working out, theater, roller blading, bowling, camping, outdoors, dining out. Seeking an attractive male, 32-43, with similar interests and qualities. AD#1602

KNOW WHAT HE WANTS
Single Jewish female, 5'4", 122lbs, brown hair, green eyes, enjoy working out, long walks, dancing, music, travelling, cycling, dining out, swimming. Seeking a male, 5'7"+, preferably jewish, university educated, good sense of style and humour, similar interests. AD#1400

KINDRED SPIRIT
Single Jewish female, professional, attractive, slender, romantic spirit, family values, with many interests. Seeking a Jewish male, 38-50yr olds, attractive, easy going, family values, funny, kind, who enjoys life and shanng. AD#2041

HEALTHY LIFESTYLE
Single Jewish female, attractive, 36, quick witted, active minded, enjoy reading, classical music. Seeking a Jewish male, good hearted, concerned for others and loves to talk. AD#1075

NON SMOKER
Single Jewish female, attractive, mid 50's, 5'7", romantic, warm, enjoy travelling, dining, dancing, movies, long walks, quiet times. Seeking a male with similar interests to be a friend and lover. AD#1505

Men seeking Women
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WARM AND CARING
Single white male, 57, romantic, self employed, businessman, enjoy travelling, movies, quiet times, good conversation. Seeking a female with similar interests. AD#2044

SERIOUS RELATIONSHIP
Single male, 50's, young looking, 5'8", slim, professional, trim, world explorer, strong, well educated. Seeking a slender female, 25-45, intelligent, compassionate, attractive, very wise and adventurous. AD#2045

ONCE BITTEN, TWICE SHY
Single male, financially secure, from the Thornhill area, handsome, 50's. Seeking a female, good looking, good sense of humour, slim, age not important, picture a must after contact made, financially secure enough to escape winters is a definite plus. AD#1810

SOULMATE
Israeli male, 6'1", 160lbs, compassionate, enjoy the country side, night shows, classical music, dancing, dining. Seeking a female with similar interests AD#1012

LANE-WAY TO LOVE
Jewish male, 37, 5'9", attractive, compassionate, enjoy theater, conversation, fun. Seeking a female, 26-37, with similar interests. AD#1194

UNCONVENTIONAL
Single male, 36, 6', have a Master degree, professional, enjoy camping, cycling, travelling, film, dining out, cooking. Seeking a female, under 40, no children, down to earth, caring, chatty, mid size, unconventional. AD#1053

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WITTY
Single Jewish male, 40, bright, witty, kind hearted, enjoy long walks, theater, hiking, travelling, table tennis and other games. Seeking a female with similar interests. AD#1086

EASY GOING
Jamaican male, 48, 160lbs, enjoy house work, gardening, music, down to earth, good sense of humour. Seeking a female with similar interests. AD#1230

CALL ME
Single Jewish male, attractive, 36, 5'10", 190lbs, enjoy tennis, reading, movies, dining. Seeking a Jewish female, 28-45, fit, outgoing, with a good personality. AD#1192

MR. NICE MAN
Single Jewish male, non smoker, seeking a slim, attractive female, 65+, with a great sense of humour, who likes sports and travelling. AD#1292

GREAT OUTDOORS
Single male, 25, enjoy walks, camping, sports, biking, outdoors. Seeking a Jewish female, 21-25, similar interests. AD#1055

OPEN MIND
Single Jewish male, 48, 5'11", young looking, handsome, emotionally fit, dark brown hair, good shape, enjoy travelling, art, photography, writing. Seeking a female, 36-44, sensitive, intelligent, attractive, slim, good communicator, with an open, curious mind. AD#1648

SOCIALIZING
Single Jewish male, attractive, early 50's, 5'10", caring, compassionate, enjoy dancing, electronics, computers, socializing. Seeking a female, attractive, intelligent, caring, compassionate. AD#1119

AFFECTIONATE
Single Jewish male, 42, attractive, honest, sincere, never married, enjoy movies, travelling, sports events, swimming, walking. Seeking a Jewish female, 32-43, up to 5'3", non smoker, attractive, honest, petite. AD#2032

SOULMATE
Single male, 6'1", 160lbs, young looking, compassionate, enjoy nature, country site, classical music, dancing, dining out. Seeking a female with similar interests, looking for my soulmate. AD#1005

BEST IS YET TO COME
Single Jewish male, 53, 5'9", professional, successful, healthy, handsome, traditional, enjoy dining and dancing, long walks. Seeking a female with similar interests and qualities for long term relationship. AD#2017

FUN LOVING
Single male, 33, 6', blue-green eyes, slim, attractive, financially secure, fun loving, enjoy dining out, movies, dancing. Seeking a Jewish female, 28-35, tall, attractive, with similar interests. AD#2008

MARRIAGE MINDED
Single Jewish male, 46, fit, easy going, sincere, hard working, enjoy art, music, movies, long walks. Seeking a female, 25-35, for marriage minded, serious relationship. AD#2086

WHAT A CATCH!
Single Jewish male, 36, 5'10", 190lbs, enjoy tennis, squash, reading, movies, dining & dancing, TV. Seeking a Jewish female, 28-47, fit, outgoing, personality is a plus. AD#2014

ATTENTION LADIES!
Single male, reformed, 40, tall, slim, handsome, fair hair, hazel eyes, non smoker, social drinker, medical specialist, enjoy movies, blading, the outdoors, trying new foods. Seeking a slim, educated, fit, employed female, with a car and blue jeans, no kids or cats. AD#2000

ATTENTION LADIES!
Single white male, 56, self employed, romantic, warm caring, enjoy travelling, movies, quiet times, good conversation. Seeking a female with similar interests and qualities. AD#1996

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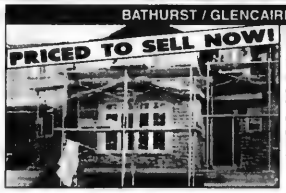

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Charming centre hall bungalow on huge lot. Main fl. family rm. w/walkout overlooks gardens. Skylight. Fin. lower level. Private drive, attached garage. *Edith Weiss.

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Executive, custom built 4+ bdrms. Spacious kitchen. Main fl. family rm. Finished lower level. Fireplace. Sauna. CAC. Private drive, dble. garage. *Lena Rauchwerger

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Rare opportunity. 1 + acre lot. Build new or renovate. 6+ bdrms. Main fl. library. Fin. l. level. Tennis court. Inground pool. *David Bloomstone

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ST. CLAIR/AVENUE RD. - $1,395,000
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Charming 2 family residence[SOLD]separate entrances. Multi fireplaces. Double garage. Quiet street. Convenient to TTC, park & schools. Live in & rent. *Edith Weiss.

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LESLIE/VAN HORNE - $249,000
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YORK MILLS BUNGALOW - $539,000
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• • •

FINCH/YONGE - $135,000
Spacious 1 bdrm. +, solari[SOLD]th exposure. CAC. Parking. Fabulous facilities. Terrific location. *Edith Weiss

• • •

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BATHURST - CLARK - YONGE. 343 Clark Ave. "The Conservatory". Absolutely spotless, stunning view, 2 bths., balcony + solarium, ensuite lndry, 8th flr., 2 bdrms., 28' LR/DR combo.

JUST LISTED - BATHURST-FINCH. 10 Torresdale Ave., "The Savoy". 2 split bdrms., 2 bths., w/o to balc., 9th flr., indr. pool, $175,000. Act fast! This one won't last!

YONGE - CLARK - BROWNSTONE CIRCLE. Totally upgr. lux. Freehold townhme., hrdwd. flrs., marble firepl., 5 pce. ensuite, approx. 2200 sq. ft., fin. bsmnt., mn. flr. fam. rm., gourmet kit.

SHEPPARD-WILMINGTON. Bathurst Manor. Spacious sidesplit on beautiful lot, side entrance to in-law suite, 2 kitchens, 3 baths, hardwood, large front porch.

YONGE - BLYTHWOOD - LAWRENCE PARK. Condo. Elegant residence, magnificent centre atrium, beautiful east exposure, overlooking fab. gardens, gourmet kitchen with huge pantry, 2 pkg. + locker. Calif. Shutters, black marble gas fireplace. This suite is totally upgraded. $459,900.

YONGE-FINCH. Custom built homes. Models now open. 50 ft. frontage. Stone front, fin, bsmt., 3200-3400 sq. ft., 30 day poss.

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(416) 783-8335

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90 FISHERVILLE, 2 bedroom condo, reduced to $179,900, needs TLC.

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Sutton Group Admiral Realty
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REAL ESTATE LIMITED REALTOR
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FINCH-BATHURST
3 bdrms., 3 baths, den, fam. rm., sep. liv. & din., fin. bsmnt., lge. lot, dble. gar., steps to all.

• • •

BATHURST-WILSON
4-plex, 4- 2[SOLD], 4 garages, good income, A-1 buy!

• • •

AVENUE RD.-WILSON
Store + 2 apts., reno'd., fully rent., good income, don't miss.

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BATHURST MANOR
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Bath./Chabad - bright, spac., 3 bdrm., home w/fam. room, lge. lot, $265K. 416-398-0136.

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

NEW! NEW! YORK MILLS PLACE!
$379,800. Stunning, spacious 2 bdrm. condo, overlooking treed area - 24 hr. sec., 2 prkg.
SUE FELDMAN
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The Prudential Sadie Moranis Rlty

DON MILLS - FINCH
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CHRISTINA LEE, Associate Broker
Homelife Gold Pacific Realty
(416) 490-1068

35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

271 Ridley Blvd. - 2 bdrm., 2 bth., 5 appl., pkg. 905-833-1932

Bath./Clark - 2+ bdrm., 2 bth., lau., eat-in kit., pkg., air, avail Aug. 1. $1475. 905-764-8909.

Bath./Steeles - Townsgate, lux. 2 bdrm, 2 bth., 5 appl., huge PH terrace, 2 pkg. 905-882-1534.

40 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE/ RENT

Bathurst/Steeles, lux. corn. 2 bdrm + solarium, 2 bths., main flr. w/huge priv. patio w/priv. entry to apt. Pool, tennis, sec. etc. $1795/mo all incl. or sell. Leave message at 416-739-0105 and your call will be returned.

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• **155 Marlee Ave.**[SOLD]ms., fabulous view, ensuite [SOLD]ndry. $149,000
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65 SKYMARK DRIVE "THE ELEGANCE"
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MARILYN FIELDS
(416) 925-9191
Chestnut Park Real Estate Ltd.

60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

Seeking female, non/smkr. to share 2 bdrm., 2 bth. apt. at Yonge/Eglinton for July 1. $560 per mo. Call 416-544-1552.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

BATHURST-SHEPPARD
Very lg. 1, 2, 3 Bedrooms., ample closets, some 1½ baths & 2 balc., roof, laundry, ravine setting, pool, ind. pkg., 6 apts. per flr. From $900.
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377 or 631-0388 - Super

Lge. lux. 3 bdrm. avail Aug. 1. Bath./Wilson. $1150. 787-6886.

Shep/Wilmington, spac. bright, 1 bdrm. bsmt apt., CAC, lau., close to TTC, beaut. area. $750 incl. Refs. Aug. 1. 789-9620.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

BATHURST WILSON

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NEWLY DECORATED SPACIOUS 1, 2 & 3 BDRMS.
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- Sunken living rooms
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- Outdoor swimming pool
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- Underground parking available

125 Neptune Dr.
(416) 787-7171

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Bath./Baycrest, spac. bsmt apt, new kit & bth, exc loc. n/smkr, n/pets. $495/mo. 782-5887.

84 ROOM WANTED

An out of town 17 yr old male student seeks room in Jewish family home in the GTA. He will be here 2x/mo for a wkend from Sept 99 - June 2000. 398-0136.

105 COTTAGE FOR SALE

Belle Ewart - Lakefront, shared lot, 3 bdrm., equipped, no agents. 905-881-3317.

Wasaga Beach - FOR SALE
2 cottages in Shomer Shabbos beach frnt co-op. 416-223-7147

112 FURNISHED COTTAGE FOR RENT

Lake Simcoe, Mara Pt., rustic 4 bdrm, lkfront, scrnd porch, privacy, 90 min from Toronto, July $3000; (416) 487-6050.

125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE

GLENEAGLES COUNTRY CLUB
Delray Beach, Florida
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3 bdrms. and 3 baths, 2nd floor, Furn., include Golf Equity $112,000
2 bdrms., 2 baths + den, Bobby Jones Furn. include Golf $132,000
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130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

Hemispheres - 2 bdrm., 2 bth., oceanfront, high flr., furn., tennis, etc. Yearly rental only. Call 416-963-8469.

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

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210 LAND/LOTS FOR SALE/LEASE

2 building lots. 50 ft. frontages. For sale by owner. Located on Charlton Blvd. (Finch/Bath.) between numbers 173 & 179. Principals only. 416-225-4359, leave message on machine.

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Accts. payable clerk req'd for El Al Israel Airlines. Must be exper. in all phases of recording, processing, correlating & paying invoices, as well as reconciling supplier statements. Background in airline acct'g will be an advantage. Location: Bloor & Bay. Please fax resume to 416-967-1643.

B'nei Akiva Schools seeks full-time secretary for boys yeshiva high school in Downsview. Computer skills necessary. Experience preferred. Fax resume to 416-398-5711.

Teacher, London Community Hebrew Day School requires full & part-time Hebrew/Judaic studies teachers commencing September, 1999. Hebrew fluency is required. Fax resume with ref. to 519-439-0404.

Office Administrator for Clinical Trials Office. Office experience a must. Working knowledge of MS Word Applications and Bookkeeping skills. Individuals applying must be able to work independently while contributing to team efforts in achieving goals. We are looking for a person who is creative, wanting to grow in their position. Please fax resume to 905-471-9043 no later than June 24.

Tax consultant looking for individual to assist in areas of GST & PST. Individual must be very meticulous & organized. Hours negotiable. Send resume to CJN Box # 7192.

TRADITIONAL SYNAGOGUE
in Dallas, Texas, 110 year History, 400 + families, seeks energetic Associate Rabbi to lead youth, family & adult programming & assist Senior Rabbi with all congregational & life cycle events.
Fax resume to Attn:
Search Committee at
214-739-5625
or e-mail:
SteveBlas@Yahoo.com

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Manager Food Services

Required for Forest Hill Place, a luxury retirement residence in Toronto.

Must have 5 years' management experience in unionized hospitality and/or hotel restaurant "fine" dining service. Red Seal Certification required with several years' experience in menu planning, food costing/budgeting and food production/presentation. Proficient in Word & Excel. Eligibility for membership in CSNM an asset.

Please fax your resume by June 25th, to:
Manager, Human Resources
905 270-3018

We appreciate all applications, however, only those chosen for an interview will be contacted.

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PARTY PLANNER/ FUNCTION COORDINATOR
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Day Camp counsellors, age 15-up. 4 + wks. 785-4600, eves

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905-475-2518 416-759-4333

Experienced cleaning lady avail., refs. Sophia 532-6693.

Experienced home maker seeking jobs in homes for elderly. Refs. 416-265-3809.

Filipino workers avail. to clean homes & babysit, live in or out. 905-669-0793.

Frustrated by trying to find a suitable nanny? Let us help you. We have dependable, caring nannies who are thoroughly qualified, personally interviewed & pre-screened. All refs. are checked. Some are CPR trained. Low finders fee.
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Housekeepers, elderly care, nannies, cleaning ladies, party helpers. 905-771-6543.

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THE BEST PERSONAL SERVICE
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255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

Family w/boy age 11 seeks housekeeper, cook & driver for long term position; pleasant environment, reas. hours. Excellent refs./driving exp. req'd. Call Susan (days only) 489-3431.

Full time live-out nanny for Avenue/Eglinton area. For 2 & 3 yr old girls. Starting September. Hebrew an asset. Salary negotiable. Fax resume: 482-2860 or email: bnashman@yahoo.com

Live-in companion/housekpr req'd. immediately for senior male. Cooking essential. Refs. Bath./Sheppard. 905-731-6593.

Looking for intelligent, kind companion for our intelligent, kind, competent elderly mother. Live-in. 229-4956 or 787-7613.

255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

Senior lady seeks Jewish lady companion to live-in. Free room & board in exch. for cooking (Kosher kitchen) & some cleaning. Lawr/Marlee. 416-781-0942

257 HEALTHCARE AVAILABLE

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- ✓ Child Care
- ✓ Homemaking Services

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258 HEALTHCARE WANTED

Live-in HCA req'd for senior lady in Ottawa who needs f/t care. Refs. req'd. 613-825-4404 or 613-224-2702.

259 SENIORS

Ahavath Achim Retirement Home. The home with a Neshama. Planned activities, 24 hr. supervision. For information contact Joseph or Louise Sahar, office (416) 398-5486 or (905) 660-4831.

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

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Jewish Singles Registry. Over 1730 registered. 416-483-4151.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Early 40's widow w/17 yr. old son, slightly physically challenged would like to find male companionship, 43-50, young Israel, Modern Orthodox background. CJN Box # 7186.

Male, 5'9', 160 lb , Israeli origin, youthful, professional, tolerant, loves countryside, classical music, cultural affairs. Looking for a real partner, female, 47-54. 416-386-0218

Replying to a Companion ad with a CJN Box Number?

Address your mail to:

The Canadian Jewish News
1500 Don Mills Rd.
Suite 205
North York, Ontario
M3B 3K4
Box # ________

*** CJN Boxes for Personal Companions Wanted ads are valid for 30 (thirty) days only (from 1st publication date). Replies must be received within this time frame in order to be forwarded to the correct CJN Box #.**

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

SJM, very professional, handsome, 5'11", outgoing with traditional Jewish values, seeks an attractive, accomplished SJF, 28-35 with similar background. CJN Box # 7191.

Slim, feminine lady, 37. Interests: film, nature, art, politics wishes to meet a man to share life with. 416-398-9931.

Very special, attractive, slim, prof., classy widow who enjoys a full and active life with many varied interests is looking for a special man, 58-68, n/smkr., fit, prof., emotionally and financially secure. CJN Box # 7187.

We are looking for an outgoing, educated, assertive young lady for our kind, non-assertive, academic son in his early 30's. Please respond with interests & picture to CJN Box # 7189.

330 OBITUARIES

YAD VASHEM
at Landmark Monuments
Memorializing Life for over 20 Years
3429 Bathurst (corner of Melrose)
(416) 782-8995

KRAVCHENKO, Talla - on May 27, 1999, late of 145 Marlee Ave.
KOTLER, Rubin - on May 27, 1999, late of 262 Ridley Ave.
GOULD, Ruth Beverly - on May 27, 1999.
KHODORKOVSKY, Zhanna - on May 27, 1999, late of 20 Cedar Springs Grove.
MYERS, Gertrude - on May 26, 1999.
KOUDICH, Ion - on May 31, 1999.
DAVIDS, Bertha - on May 31, 1999, late of 242 Armor Blvd.
VIG, Edit - on June 1, 1999, late of 279 Maxwell St.
KRASNOV, Jakov - on June 1, 1999, late of 205 Cummer Ave.
ZLOTNIKOVA, Rakhil - on June 2, 1999, late of 15 Tangreen Crt.
ZIGLER, Samuel - on June 2, 1999, late of 980 Albertson Cres.
ROBEROV, Etlya - on June 3, 1999, late of 5900 Yonge St.
TOFFLER, Peter - on June 3, 1999, late of 370 Ridelle Ave.
STERNBERG, Joseph - on June 4, 1999, late of 2700 Bathurst St.
BERGER, Elsie - on June 5, 1999, late of 3705 Bathrust St.
GREEN, Herman - on June 5, 1999.
LEBI, Margaret - on June 5, 1999, late of 80 Antibes Dr.
GOODMAN, Henry - on June 6, 1999, late of 33 Arran Cres.
HOFLICH, Jack - on June 6, 1999, late of 25 Garthdale Crt.
LIGHT, Herbert - on June 6, 1999, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
IMMERMAN, Thelma - on June 7, 1999, late of 10 Tangreen Crt.
NOSENKIS, Ida - on June 7, 1999, late of 60 Marathon Cres.
HALLER, Michael - on June 9, 1999, late of 150 Neptune Dr.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

330 OBITUARIES

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(just north of Lawrence)

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335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late

FAYE WISEBROD ז"ל

will take place

Sunday, June 20th, 10:00 a.m.

Lambton Cemetery
(Royal York Rd., between Eglinton & Dundas)
Beth Jacob Section

Relatives and friends are invited to attend

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the loving memory of the late

JACK ISRAELI ז"ל

will take place

Sunday, June 20th at 2:30 p.m.

Beth Tzedec Memorial Park
5822 Bathurst Street

Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the loving memory of the late

CLAIRE FROMER ז"ל

loving wife, mother and aunt

will take place

Sunday, June 20th at 10:00 a.m.

Mount Sinai Memorial Park
Shaarei Shomayim Section

Our relatives and friends are invited to attend

338 SHIVA CATERING

YITZ'S

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630-0666
SHIVA
CATERING

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late

GIZA FEUER ז"ל

will take place

Sunday, June 27th, 1:00 p.m.

Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Solel Section

Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late

IRVING SCHACTER ז"ל

will take place

Sunday, June 27th, 10:00 a.m.

Mt. Sinai Cemetery
Shaarei Shomayim New Section

Relatives and friends are invited to attend

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late

HELENA STRASSER ז"ל

loving mother, grandmother, great-grandmother & aunt

will take place

Sunday, June 27th at 11:00 a.m.

Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
(Bathurst S. of Steeles)
Torah Emeth Section

Relatives and friends are invited to attend

TO PLACE AN UNVEILING NOTICE PLEASE CALL AT LEAST **14 DAYS** PRIOR TO THE DATE OF THE UNVEILING

CLASSIFIED DIRECTORY

Call (416) 391-1836
for information on classified rates

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Travel, Arts & Business

Self-improvement books popular with rabbis

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to The CJN

In an era when bookstores prominently display multiple versions of the popular *Chicken Soup for the Soul*, it is clear that the masses crave the sort of spiritual nourishment promised by self-improvement literature.

This genre, not surprisingly, has proven popular with rabbis. One runaway bestseller of the last decade or so, is Rabbi Harold Kushner's *When Bad Things Happen to Good People*. One might also include Rabbi Shmuel Boteach's more recent title, *Kosher Sex*.

This apparently substantial category of modern rabbinical literature runs the gamut from Reform to black hat. Even kabbalists have rushed into the literary arena

Rabbi Naomi Levy, the first woman to lead a Conservative congregation on the U.S. west coast, recently added to the genre with *To Begin Again: The Journey Toward Comfort, Strength, and Faith in Difficult Times* (Knopf, $32).

Rabbi Levy was in the first class to admit women to study for the rabbinate at the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, but much of her learning evidently came from the much harder school of real life. Her father died abruptly, the victim of a shooting, when she was 15.

The school of real life

Rabbis are privy, often on a daily basis, to myriad tales of suffering and hardship. Rabbi Levy presents a bounteous crop of woes that cannot be dismissed lightly.

A woman takes years to recover after being raped; a couple tries to rebuild their life after losing their daughter; a cancer patient tries to live his remaining moments with dignity and purpose.

Moral imperative

In each case, the rabbi focuses on the hidden good of such trials, their constructive purpose, and the moral imperative to find the life-affirming values in the devastating aftermath of personal crises.

So brimming are these pages with heart-breaking problems and lamentations that the book sounds at times like *A Bintel Brief*, the famous advice column of the *Yiddish Forward* from earlier in this century.

However, Rabbi Levy offers the long view, the view of heaven, with clarity and compassion.

She is gifted at seeing the path towards peace and comfort which may, in difficult times, be elusive. Many of her 33 chapters conclude with simple prayers composed by her.

Offering comfort to those who need it, *To Begin Again,* which is part secular and part holy, is another example of a contemporary wisdom book that seems to sip at ancient founts.

While readers may find less diluted forms of the same wisdom in Proverbs, Psalms and Jonah, Rabbi Levy is to be commended for providing a warm and compassionate context, and especially for turning her suffering into a constructive tool for the benefit of others.

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Sports

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The Canadian Jewish news

Pan-Am Maccabi competition in Mexico City

Soccer midfielder spearheads Canadian team

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Dan Sankar's soccer career has taken him to a lot of places in his 30 years. This summer, he'll add Mexico City on his resume.

Sankar is a key member of the Canadian indoor soccer team that will fly down to Mexico to take part in the 9th Pan-American Maccabi Games in July. An attacking midfielder who scores goals in bunches, Sankar has spent the last five years of his career living in Vancouver, playing for the Indo-Canadian Football Club and prior to that, for Westview Soccer Club.

Cosmopolitan by heritage, Sankar's family hails from India. Searching for greater opportunity, they moved to Toronto where Dan was born. He grew up in Oakville, Ont. where he played for the Oakville Soccer Club until age 18.

His skill earned him a four-year NCAA Division 1 athletic scholarship at Dartmouth College in New Hampshire. Between Dartmouth and Vancouver, Sankar played briefly for the defunct Toronto Shooting Stars and for the North York Rockers in the Canadian Soccer League.

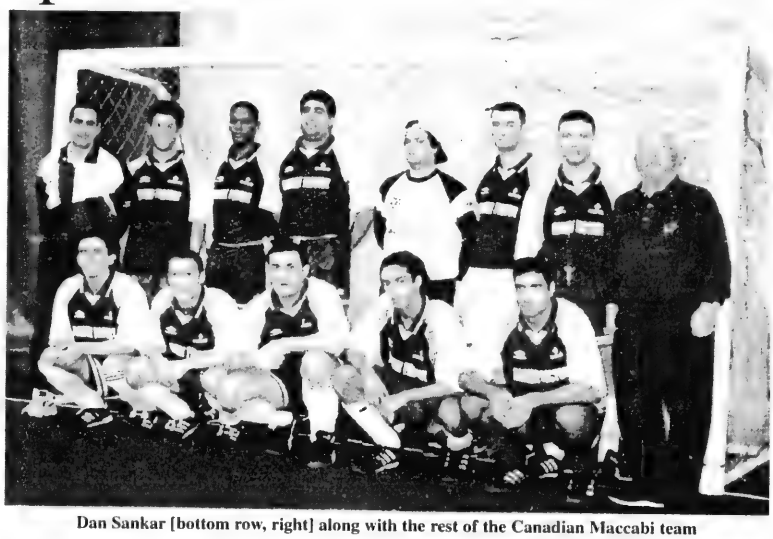
A true cosmopolitan when it comes to the world of soccer, his skills also earned him a spot on the indoor soccer team that represented Canada at the 1997 Maccabiah Games in Israel.

More recently, he ended the 1999 season playing in British Columbia for the Indo-Canadians, who lost the provincial championship in double overtime. With three men red-carded for various infractions, the Indo-Canadians went down to defeat to Metro Ford of Vancouver on a penalty shot awarded with only 10 minutes left to play.

It was a tough way to end their season – one that was otherwise personally satisfying for Sankar. He led the team in goal scoring, notching 23 in 27 games.

The Indo-Canadians play in the province's top league. "We take it very seriously," said Sankar, who plans to enrol in the PhD program in psychology at the University of British Columbia next year.

At five foot eight, 160 lbs., Sankar is a dynamic striker/attacking midfielder for whom "speed is a key part of my game. If I've gotten enough sleep the night before, my touch is good and so is my dribbling ability in the attacking one-third," he said.



Dan Sankar [bottom row, right] along with the rest of the Canadian Maccabi team

"I've scored a fair number of goals over the years, but I like to think of myself as more of a possession guy, who plays well with the other guys."

Consisting mostly of Hindus, Sikhs and Muslims, the Indo-Canadians are mostly young Indians, with Sankar the lone Jew. Although he was born in Toronto, his family traces back its Indian roots hundreds of years.

There are three "tribes" of Indian Jews, he explained. One of the better known tribes lived in Cochin, south of Goa, and boasted one of the oldest synagogues in Asia.

A second group of Jews lived in Calcutta. They were descended from Iraqi Jews, who moved to India for business and trade reasons.

The third group is the B'nai Yisrael who live in Bombay. Dan's late father Moses, was from Bombay and his mother Esther, was born in Karachi, Pakistan. Like other Jewish immigrants to Toronto, the Indian Jews stuck together. Dan remembers attending High Holy Day services at the National Council of Jewish Women's building on Bathurst Street, along with about a dozen other Indian Jewish families. Nowadays, about 50 families take part in the services, he said.

Sankar has travelled to India a couple of times, visiting relatives in Bombay and New Delhi. "It's the closest thing to being on another planet without leaving the planet," he said.

Two years ago, during the Maccabiah Games in Israel, Sankar met a member of the Indian team who, it turned out, knew his family in India. Talk about a small world.

Straddling two worlds, Jewish and Indian, Sankar has gotten many quizzical looks from people who've never before met an Indian Jew. His soccer teammates didn't know such a creature even existed, he said.

At High Holy Day services in Richmond, B..C. last year, members of the congregation were curious about the new addition to their community, he added.

The downside of his background is the racism he's experienced. In Canada, the racism is subtle, but it's there. "We're a peaceful nation and no one comes out and says it, but I really think it breeds in some circles," he contends.

"It's hard to prove, but I think the Canadian soccer community wouldn't rate many Indian players," he said. "They wouldn't open their eyes to see if I can play."

Not so Martin Scott, organizer and coach of the Canadian Maccabi team. He's happy to have Sankar on the team, which consists of players with origins ranging from Russia to Israel to Argentina.

Others recruited for the squad include: Irvin Studin, Ziv Fishman, Ruven Hay Chaia, Ofer Winkler, Roy Haviv, Eliezer Amir and Mike Leichenko.

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The Inside Back

Look inward this Father's Day

As I was saying...

By RON CSILLAG

Good Jewish men hitting their wives? It happens, despite our tendency to downplay or turn away from unpleasant social ills. Violence, anger, aggression, threatening language... even road rage. We are not immune.

The ancient Roman magistrate Cato wrote that an angry man opens his mouth and shuts his eyes. So it could be said that the goal of a groundbreaking anger management and abuse prevention program for men offered by Jewish Family & Child Service (JF&CS) opens men's eyes – and, it's hoped, their hearts.

David openly admits that he hit his first wife. His inability to deal with anger – and the everyday irritants which triggered it – finally crystallized for him when he realized that the same cycle of violence was repeating itself with his second wife.

"It got so bad that she threw the phone at me," David, a stout man in his 40s, recalls calmly. "That just enraged me. But I realize now that she probably did it as a defence. I must have followed her from room to room, yelling the whole time."

He says "must have" because his memories of these episodes of blinding anger with his second wife are foggy. He does recall that their three children were "traumatized" by his behavior, which, even though it did not involve direct physical violence, was verbally and emotionally abusive.

Things came to a head when the police were called one night during a particularly nasty yelling match. No arrests were made, but David was shaken up. He and his wife separated for six months.

"I realized something had to change. What I thought was gone was happening again. I had to nip it in the bud."

David signed up for and completed the 16-week JF&CS program. "Now, when something upsets me, a silent alarm goes off," he says. "I don't feel the need to yell or react." Since finishing the program, he has not had one of his old fits of rage. "I just don't get as angry as fast."

Looking back, David has learned well the program's central lesson: "I just didn't take responsibility for my actions."

There's the rub for program leader Bernie Finnigan, a veteran JF&CS social worker. The common thread among the dozen men in the workshop is not only their inability to manage their anger appropriately (and recognize its triggers), "but they don't accept responsibility for their actions. It's always someone else's fault."

Finnigan has also noticed something about men: Being angry is almost an entitlement. "Somehow, it's [seen as] part of being a man. It's about power and control."

The program is modelled on a similar, successful effort in Duluth, Minn., and draws a wide range of men, from their 20s, to their 60s. Not all are Jewish, but those who are represent the full spectrum of religious affiliation. Finnigan has noticed that shame is a big factor in Jewish men's contrition.

About half the participants are referred by the courts; they have to be there. The others, like David, have come voluntarily.

They meet at the Lipa Green building for two hours, once a week. They role-play, talk, watch films and keep an "anger log," as they are advised to do. They also bond, and learn from each other.

None of the men has committed a serious offence, such as causing bodily harm, but as first-time offenders, some are on the cusp. Finnigan has noticed two distinct types: those who "stuff," or internalize their feelings, and those who escalate, or make a mountain out of a molehill. The program sees more stuffers than escalators.

But what gets men so angry that they feel the need to lash out? Mainly, it's their perception that they're being nagged or deliberately provoked, or being forced to do something they feel is beneath them.

In David's case, partly, it was feelings of powerlessness, that he wasn't being listened to. The program "changed me. I got my last chance," he says, happily relaying the news that he and his wife are expecting their fourth child.

Another ancient Roman, Horace, warned that anger "is momentary madness; so control your passion, or it will control you."

JF&CS's next program begins in the fall.

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BROWNIE BISCOTTI

1/3 cup butter
2/3 cup white sugar
2 tsp. baking powder
2 eggs
1 tsp vanilla
1/3 cup unsweetened cocoa powder
1 3/4 cup all-purpose flour
1/2 cup semisweet chocolate pieces
1/4 cup chopped walnuts
1 beaten egg yolk
1 tblsp milk or water

Cream butter in food processor until softened. Add sugar and baking powder. Beat until combined. Beat in eggs and vanilla until combined. Beat in cocoa powder and as much flour as you can. Stir in chocolate pieces and walnuts. Divide dough in half.

Lightly grease cookie sheet. Shape each portion into 9"x2"x1 loaf. Place the loaves 4" apart on cookie sheet. In small bowl stir together egg yolk and milk. Brush mixture over loaves. Bake for 25 mins. at 375°F. Cool on cookie sheet for 30 mins.

Cut each loaf diagonally into 1/2" thick slices. Lay slices cut side down on cookie sheet. Bake 15 mins. at 325°F. Turn slices over. Bake 10-15 mins. more or until dry and crisp. Remove from cookie sheet and cool on wire rack. Store in airtight container at room temperature for up to 3 days.

About Seniors

Dear Jesse,

About six months ago, my mother fell and broke her hip. After spending about a month at a rehabilitation hospital, she is now at home and not doing very well. She is afraid of falling again and very anxious. In fact, she will not leave her apartment unless someone in the family accompanies her. We want to help her, but don't know how.

Feeling Helpless

Dear Feeling Helpless,

Your mother's loss of autonomy appears to be impacting on your entire family. I suggest you begin by calling your local social service agency and asking for an assessment of your mother's needs.

The social worker might recommend having your mother attend a day hospital program with a rehabilitation component. Day hospital rehabilitation services can help your mother physically and emotionally. She would learn the skills needed to regain her sense of independence, while boosting her confidence to manage on her own.

As for the family, you might consider a support group for family caregivers. It is often very comforting to be among other family caregivers who share feelings similar to yours.

Readers are invited to send any questions they have for Jesse to The CJN. *Jesse represents the management and staff of Jewish Support Services for the Elderly (JSSE) in Montreal.*

What are you laughing at?

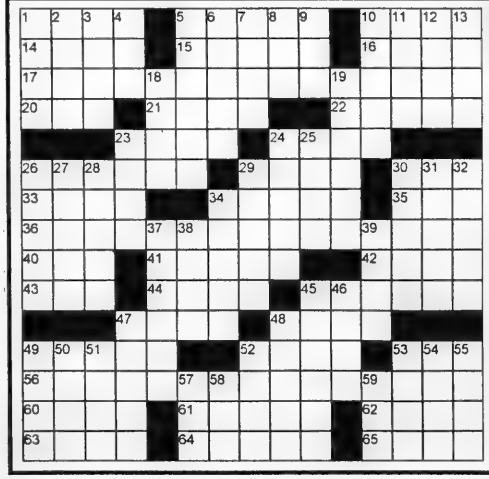
A schnorrer once wangled his way in to see mighty Baron Rothschild by writing that he had a surefire way for the Baron to make half a million rubles.

"So, let's hear your great idea," the doubting Rothschild said.

"It's very simple and absolutely foolproof," answered the schnorrer. "Everyone knows that when you daughter gets married, you're going to give her a dowry of a million rubles."

"Nu, so what?"

"So, I'll marry her for half that amount!"



The Canadian Jewish news

Land of the Free

By Matt Gaffney and David Bianco (QSyndicate@aol.com)

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(This week's answers are on page 40.)

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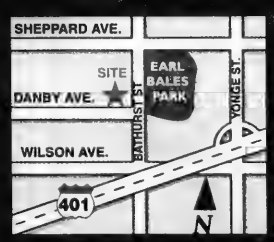

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This Week

National

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Family, friends praise Ruth Kelman for her dignity. *Obituary.* *Page 6*

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Israeli astronaut Ilan Ramon has the right stuff. *Page 23*

Arts

Lilian Nattel wins prestigious prize at Jewish Book Awards. *Page 38*

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www.cjnews.com

Israel provides an oasis

By VIVA PRESS
CJN Israel Bureau

Special Report from the Stankovic refugee camp

SKOPJE, Macedonia — For Mentor Abdely, playing basketball is one of his greatest passions. Abdely, 22, and his friends play ball every day.

Dressed in black Adidas shorts and a white T-shirt, the sporty looking Abdely could be any sports fanatic anywhere.

But he's here. In the Stankovic refugee camp. And basketball is his only real refuge from the monotonous day-to-day life in the camp.

The makeshift basketball courts – nets set up on dusty and flat open areas – are filled with young kids and teens. Bright orange basketballs stir up dirt with every bounce. Balls fly in the air towards the nets.

But this isn't summer vacation. If this was a typical day, these kids would be in school. Abdely would be teaching in a high school in his native Preshova in Kosovo. The adult spectators would be working as doctors, shop owners and farmers.

Instead, the kids are playing ball. And the adults are milling around – often aimlessly.

"I love basketball, but I want to go home," said Abdely, who has been here for more than two months. "There's nothing to do here."

The Stankovic refugee camp, located 12 kilometres north of Skopje, is home to 25,000 ethnic Albanian refugees. The area is fenced in so that, as one official explained, the refugees – or more correctly, deportees – don't infiltrate the city.

Green and white tents are carefully organized in long straight rows. The tents, which look like they can fit six people comfortably, often shelter double that.

The tents are dark with a dank smell. Shoes line the outsides, and a water jug hangs by the opening of each tent.

Those residing here hope NATO's triumphant calls of peace will mean they can return to Kosovo soon.

Selim Halimi came to Stankovic four weeks ago. He and his family – 21 people in total – share two tents.

"I'd like to go back. I know my house is fire, but I like to go back," Halimi said in halting English.

Halimi talks about his family's harrowing journey in which they fled on foot from Pristina to Blaza, from where they took buses to Macedonia.

He knows that in a way he's lucky. He is here with his two brothers, their families, and his own

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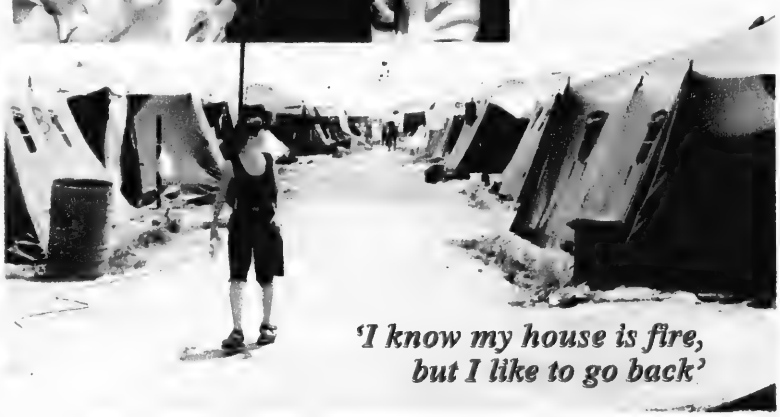

'I know my house is fire, but I like to go back'

In these photos we see children at Israel's activity centre in the Stankovic refugee camp in Macedonia and a view of the camp's "housing." Relief efforts for the refugees are funded in part by the Jewish Agency for Israel, which in turn is supported by local Federations throughout the Jewish world. *[Viva Press photos]*

Canadian Jews reach out

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The national office of Jewish Immigrant Aid Services of Canada (JIAS) says it has been swamped with "literally hundreds" of letters, calls, faxes and e-mails offering support for Jewish Kosovar refugees, both those seeking shelter in Canada, and those who fled to neighboring European nations.

JIAS says the response from individual Jewish Canadians, synagogues and organizations has been "absolutely overwhelming." Adds the agency's national executive director, Michael Briks, "We should all be proud."

The agency has grouped the inquiries into three areas: those fearful for the welfare of Jewish Kosovars; family members seeking to be reunited with loved ones, as well as those interested in sponsoring refugees to come to Canada; and professionals and lay leaders seeking information on evacuation and resettlement activities.

According to JIAS, none of the ethnic Albanian Kosovars staying temporarily at Canadian installations have identified themselves as Jewish; however, the agency says that may change as the refugees grow more at ease, or wish spon-

Continued on page 24

INSIDE

A special celebratory insert: *Reflexions Montreal.*

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Iran wants dialogue with Israel

The News in Brief

CANADA

Press Complaint Upheld

TORONTO — The Ontario Press Council has upheld part of a complaint that the *Globe and Mail* denied redress to the Ontario region of Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) over a memorial notice.

The notice, placed as a classified ad, claimed Israeli soldiers "executed" the keeper of the Garden Tomb, the traditional burial place of Jesus, in Jerusalem in 1967. CJC claimed the ad was "untrue and potentially defamatory," and that its research showed there was no evidence the keeper of the tomb had been executed.

CJC told the council it would have been satisfied to have the *Globe* publish a retraction of the ad, or print its letter correcting the ad.

The council found no fault with the *Globe* for publishing the ad, noting it took CJC months to determine what happened in 1967 (Israeli soldiers believed they had come upon a pocket of resistance when they opened fire and killed the Tomb's keeper.)

But the council criticized the newspaper for telling CJC it did not publish letters to the editor commenting on classified ads, and for suggesting that Congress take out its own ad to correct the first one.

A letter challenging the content of the ad, if printed promptly, would have provided appropriate redress, the council found.

ISRAEL

General's Release

JERUSALEM — An Israeli general who has been in jail for an arms scandal involving the United States could be released later this month. An Israeli army spokesperson said that Rami Dotan, who has served nine years of a 13-year sentence for fraud, bribe-taking and breach of trust, would be freed on June 27 if no other Israeli authority blocks the decision. In 1997, Israel's High Court of Justice blocked Dotan's release. Dotan has returned more than $10 million to Israel's Defence Ministry.

New Ethiopian Efforts

JERUSALEM — Outgoing Israeli Foreign Minister Ariel Sharon has been appointed co-ordinator of Israel's efforts to bring some 3,000 Ethiopian Jews to the country. At a special meeting of ministers, Israel also decided to send food and medical aid to Jews in Ethiopia's Kwara region. Israel closed down its operations in Ethiopia last year.

Settlers Would Stay

JERUSALEM — Only 26 percent of Jewish settlers in the West Bank and Gaza Strip would be willing to move to communities inside Israel proper if peace is reached, according to a poll commissioned by Peace Now. Some 55 percent of the 414 settlers polled said they would not move even if offered money.

Palestinians Suspicious

JERUSALEM — Almost two-thirds of Palestinians are suspicious of Israeli Prime Minister-elect Ehud Barak's intentions regarding the stalled peace process. Some 45 percent of the 1,320 people polled support armed attacks against Israel, down from 53 percent in January.

Swiss Funds In Israel

JERUSALEM — Needy Holocaust survivors living in Israel have begun filing claims for money from a $185 million Swiss fund created in 1997. Approximately 60,000 survivors are expected to receive $1,000 each from the fund.

WORLD

Chrétien Meets Wiesenthal

VIENNA — Prime Minister Jean Chrétien and famed Nazi-hunter Simon Wiesenthal last week condemned the atrocities NATO forces are unearthing in Kosovo.

Wiesenthal, 90, refused to compare events in Kosovo to the Holocaust, saying it was important to remember that the Balkans have a tradition of intercommunal warfare.

He also repeated his frequently stated criticism of Canada's record on Nazi war criminals.

Sol Littman, Canadian representative of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre, said Chrétien joined a long list of European dignitaries who have honored Wiesenthal on his 90th birthday.

Urges Charges Dropped

PHILADELPHIA — A lawyer for a New Jersey rabbi charged with arranging the 1994 murder of his wife called last week for the dismissal of the charges against his client. The attorney for Rabbi Fred Neulander claims the local prosecutor's office leaked information last year from a grand jury investigating the case.

Axworthy Expresses Concern Over Iranian Jews

OTTAWA — Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy last week expressed his concern over the arrest of 13 Iranian Jews who have been charged with spying for Israel and the United States.

"Canada is disturbed by the arrests of Iranian Jews," said Axworthy. "I asked senior officials to call in the ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran for a meeting (which took place June 15) to underline Canada's concerns about the charges facing the accused, and to seek assurances regarding their well-being. I have asked Iran for further assurances that the judicial process will be fair and will conform to the norms of international human rights law."

Axworthy's office says Canada has taken a leading role in seeking the protection of religious minorities in Iran at the United Nations, within the UN Commission on Human Rights and through bilateral discussions with Iranian authorities.

Last weekend, the Canadian Embassy in Tehran sought clarification from the Iranian Foreign Ministry on the nature of the charges, and received assurances that the accused would receive fair treatment and due process in accordance with Iranian law.

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Vol. XXIX, No. 25 (1,402)*

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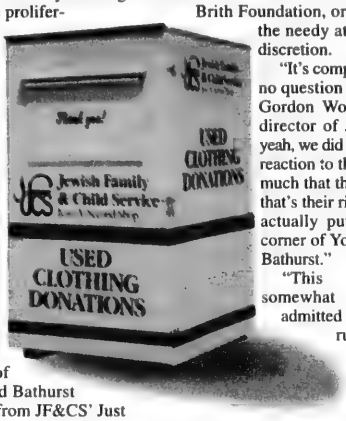
JF&CS, BBC square off over clothing boxes

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Among the many clothing drop-off boxes that have proliferated in the Toronto area in the past year, are three bright yellow installations along Bathurst Street.



The boxes represent an effort by Jewish Family & Child Service (JF&CS) to take more aggressive action in collecting clothes to benefit needy people in the community.

Its effort is modest compared to that of B'nai Brith Canada (BBC), which has 29 clothing boxes, including one at the north-east corner of York Downs Avenue and Bathurst Street, just half a block from JF&CS' Just A Second store.

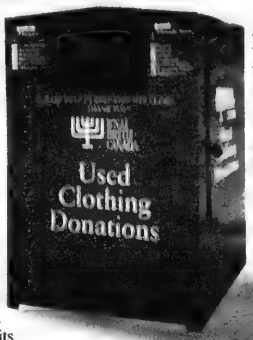
Clothing placed in the green BBC boxes is either sold to a Montreal-based business – Somodif, co-owned by Jack Kupfert, brother-in-law of BBC's executive director Frank Dimant – to raise funds for the B'nai Brith Foundation, or distributed to the needy at B'nai Brith's discretion.

"It's competition, there's no question about it," said Gordon Wolfe, executive director of JF&CS. "And yeah, we did have a negative reaction to the fact – not so much that they're doing it, that's their right – but to be actually putting it at the corner of York Downs and Bathurst."

"This has been somewhat contentious," admitted Wolfe. JF&CS runs Just A Second, a used clothing shop that has been in existence for over a dozen years – first on Bathurst near Ranee Avenue and now in the plaza at the south-east corner of Bathurst and York Downs – four doors south of the intersection.

Merchandise is sold from the store at reduced prices to the public, and provided free to clients of JF&CS and Jewish Immigrant Aid Services, about 1,400 of whom use the store annually.

The store relies on donations from the community, which decreased by about 20 to 25 percent after the B'nai Brith boxes appeared. Donations subsequently increased once JF&CS began to seek them more actively, Wolfe said.



Partly because donations were affected, JF&CS recently put up its own clothing boxes to collect items for Just A Second. One is in front of the store, and the others are at the Bathurst Jewish Centre and Chabad Gate plaza.

The other reason for the boxes, said Wolfe, was feedback from donors who would like to drop off clothing at off hours.

B'nai Brith has given clothes from its boxes to JF&CS on at least one or two occasions.

Clothing donations have also been used for the Out of the Cold program and for victims of Hurricane Mitch, said Dimant.

The B'nai Brith Foundation funds Holocaust education, seniors' programs, humanitarian relief and B'nai Brith human rights programs.

Dimant insisted the box location near Just A Second had nothing to do with the proximity of the store, but was based on availability of parking spots along Bathurst Street.

Continued on page 15

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Israel must be prepared for new wave of Soviets: Patt

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Israel must enlarge its economy to make room for a possible new wave of Russian immigrants, a former Israeli cabinet minister said recently.

Gideon Patt, the minister of construction and housing in Menachem Begin's first government in 1977, said that Israel may have to absorb upwards of one million Jews from the former Soviet Union.

Patt, currently president and chief executive officer of Israel Bonds, said that the former president of the Soviet Union, Mikhail Gorbachev, conveyed this information to him last November.

Once chair of the Knesset's economic affairs committee, Patt said that Israel has come a long way in developing its economy since statehood in 1948.

"I remember the times when we had almost nothing," he recalled at an Israel Bonds meeting at the newly opened Village Shul. "An egg a week. Meat we never saw."

Gideon Patt

Today, however, Israel has a vigorous and flourishing economy. Among 135 countries, Israel is in the top 23 in terms of development, according to the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund.

When a country is strong economically, it is strong socially and militarily, and can withstand external political pressure, he observed.

Patt, who served in the Knesset as a Likud party member until 1996, disclosed that Israel Bonds has sold $20 billion worth of bond certificates since its founding.

And in the past five to seven years, Israel Bonds sales have hit the $1 billion mark per year.

Citing his organization's tangible contributions to the Jewish state, he said that bonds revenues have helped Israel enormously in building a modern economy.

Even today, 45 percent of Israel's current development budget is derived from the sale of bonds, he said.

Almost 600,000 Jewish families world-wide own Israel Bonds, Patt revealed.

Israel Bonds, he added, cement Israel's partnership with the Diaspora.

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The Food Inspection Agency of the government of Canada is again warning consumers with an allergy to peanuts that the following Hadar cookie products imported from Israel may contain peanuts that are not declared on the label.

This is the second recall of Hadar brand products due to undeclared peanuts.

This allergy alert follows the June 10 recall of Hadar Wafers, lemon flavored, net weight 6 oz., UPC code 0 47039 00555 2; and Hadar Wafers with choco cream, net weight 6 oz., UPC code 0 47039 00554 5.

The affected products now also include: Tirosh Sandwich Biscuits, net weight 175 grams, UPC code 0 47039 00325 1; Choco Chips Cookies, net weight 250 grams, UPC code 0 70420 00330 1; Tea Biscuits, net weight 175 grams, UPC code 0 70420 00654 8; Tea Biscuits, Vanilla Flavored, net weight 175 grams, UPC code 0 70420 00686; Tea Biscuits, Cocoa Flavored, net weight 175 grams, UPC code 0 70420 00685 2; Yarden Cream Crackers, net weight 200 grams, UPC code 0 70420 00672; Dganit, Whole Cream Crackers, no sugar, no salt added, net weight 250 grams, UPC code 47039 00215; Napolitana Wafers With Cocoa Filling, net weight 250 grams, UPC code 0 47039 00551 4; Coated Wafer with Schoco Cream, net weight 40 grams, no UPC code; Start Coated Wafer Chocolate Cream Flavor, net weight 20 grams, UPC code 596 655; Jack and Jill Tea Biscuits, net weight 400 grams, no UPC code.

These products have been distributed in Ontario and Quebec.

The products were manufactured in Israel by Magdaniat-Hadar Company. They are being voluntarily recalled by the Canadian importers, Allied Food Distributors Inc. of St-Laurent, Que., and Supreme Foods Ontario Limited of Concord, Ont.

Consumers may return these products to the point of purchase for a refund.

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A TIMELY REMINDER

The cause of agunot must never slip from community priorities. [Photo by Miller]

EMUNAH SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Shira Shiderman (left) and Shuly Adams, both graduating from Ulpanat Orot, are recipients of the second annual Emunah Scholarship Award, presented by Emunah Women of Toronto, which established the scholarship towards a year of study in Israel at a religious Zionist institution.

JIAS Toronto planning to expand intergration program

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Not content just to sponsor Jewish immigrants and help them settle in, the Toronto branch of Jewish Immigrant Aid Services of Canada (JIAS) plans to continue, and even widen, its integration programming.

"It's not enough just to settle them. It's not enough just to have a roof over the heads," JIAS Toronto president Guidy Mamann told the agency's recent annual meeting. "We have to re-dedicate ourselves to providing [Jewish emigres] with a sense of belonging."

Mamann said JIAS's many integration programs will continue on two levels: introducing new arrivals to synagogues and communal organizations, and helping them celebrate Jewish holidays – all intended to strengthen Jewish identity.

The agency's programs include family life education, vocational and youth programming and events centred around Shabbat and major Jewish festivals. JIAS Toronto also offers English language training.

Its summer camp subsidy program has allowed 90 Jewish immigrant children to attend camp, Mamman said.

He reported that over the last fiscal year, the agency handed out some $550,000 in financial assistance.

Efforts to establish a cultural, educational and drop-in centre for Jewish newcomers at the Promenade Mall in Thornhill will continue, he added.

Drop-in centre

Over the last year, fewer Jewish families – but more individuals – came to Toronto under JIAS sponsorship than over the previous year.

The agency sponsored 570 families (compared to 636 the year before) and 1,450 individuals (compared to 1,384 over the previous 12 months) in 1998-99.

Again this past year, the majority (54.3 percent) of the community-sponsored immigrants came from Russia. The second largest group, 35.5 percent, arrived from Ukraine. Other countries of origin were Belarus, Moldova and the former Soviet Union's Asian and Baltic republics.

The agency's new executive director, Jack Kugelmass, was introduced. He was hired recently to replace Sharon Zeiler.

JIAS Toronto's annual Jack Shindman Scholarship Awards were presented by its namesake to three recipients: Alexander Estrin, a student who arrived two years ago from Belarus; Alina Shilo, a journalism student originally from Russia; and Michelle Yarin, who was born in Leningrad, and hopes to become a doctor.

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— *Advertising Feature* —

The Readers Ask:

Earl Allan Dick

By:
EARL CRACKOWER
RICHARD ORVISS
&
ALLAN KALIN

Question: Why is there a limit of 20% foreign content in one's RRSP?

Answer: Well, the simple answer of course, is that our tax laws have this limit in place. Considering that the Canadian economy represents about 3% of the world equity markets, it would seem such a waste that our RRSP's cannot hold more foreign content in them. One might hope that in time, political logic would give way to investment logic.

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extend their sincere thanks and appreciation to family and friends for their thoughtfulness, support and comfort following the recent loss of their beloved husband, father and grandfather

DR. SHALOM BERGMAN ז"ל

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CN TOWER

Family, friends praise Kelman for her dignity, graciousness

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Ruth Kelman was praised by her husband, Rabbi Joseph Kelman, as the rebbitzen who could teach rebbitzens how to be rebbitzens.

Obituary

She also excelled as the mainstay of her family, communal worker, confidante, and adviser.

Her death from cancer on June 12, at the age of 65, brought forth an outpouring of grief from members of Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Congregation and other congregations, family and friends.

Kelman was born in Toronto, in 1933. She was an excellent student and a talented pianist. Her sister, Sheila Train, remembers friends coming over and being told to wait while she finished studying or practising.

When she was only 20, she gave up her potential career as a concert pianist to marry Rabbi Kelman and move with him to Sherbrooke, Que., and then to several posts in the United States.

In 1959, when Beth Emeth was "just a hole in the ground," as Rabbi Kelman described it, the family moved back to Toronto.

Ruth Kelman was active in the sisterhood and in the Women's League for Conservative Judaism, organizing programs and institutes, speaking and chairing committees.

She also taught those who wanted to increase their Jewish knowledge.

She went to Cheltenham Nursing Home, especially before the holidays, to play piano for the residents and to tell stories about the holidays. When she herself was hospitalized, she performed for the other patients on a keyboard her family brought her.

Ruth Kelman

When Rabbi Kelman founded Kadima, a school for the developmentally handicapped, his wife first became involved through her music. When the supervisor left, however, she took over, a responsibility she kept for some 25 years.

Her daughter, Tova Gutenberg, told *The CJN* that even during her mother's final illness, she was making sure that things at Kadima were running smoothly.

Among the first phone calls received after her death became known were some from dedicated Kadima students. Two of the students who came to the shivah sang a special song that Kelman had taught them.

Gutenberg noted that while her mother was known for her dignity and graciousness, she "didn't look for honor. She was always ready to unpack boxes at rummage sales, act as informal bridal consultant, and offer hospitality to family and friends."

A man at the shivah told a story about how Kelman had saved his life by contacting someone at the Mayo Clinic and arranging for him to go there for cancer treatment. She was so modest that she never told anyone about it, her husband said.

She had an eye for detail, Gutenberg said, as well as an eye for insincerity, which, she said, balanced her family's rather more trusting nature.

She was able to be close both to her own contemporaries and to her children's. "My friends used to come here and talk – they envied me my relationship with my mother," Gutenberg said.

At the shivah, Kelman was praised by a friend, who said the rebbitzen was the only person in the community who made her feel welcome when she was lonely after moving here from Winnipeg.

Most of all, she was devoted to her children and her husband. Although she was always busy, Gutenberg said, "she was always there for us."

She was a "bedrock" for her husband, said Gutenberg. "They were an amazing team."

Although she had been ill for about a year, she made a special effort last month to attend her grandson's bar mitzvah.

She died at home, on Shabbat, after saying a formal goodbye to her family.

Rabbis and members of the Jewish community of all ages and from every denomination came to the funeral and to the shivah home to pay their respects, and to relate how their lives were touched by her.

She is survived by her mother, Yetta Friedman; her husband; children Tova and her husband Allan Gutenberg, Rabbi Jay and his wife Ilana, and Rabbi Moshe; sister Sheila and her husband Dr. Louis Train; brother Avraham and his wife Bernice; and seven grandchildren, Pnina, Daniel, Joshua, Zahava, Ariel, Elisha, and Atara.

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next week

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Greater Toronto Area

Canadian, Israeli courts said facing similar issues

By ANNA TURKIENICZ
Special to The CJN

From left: Stephen Adler, Elisheva Barak and Rick MacDowell.

TORONTO — Many disputes facing Israeli courts today are also being dealt with by their Canadian counterparts, says the president of the Israeli National Labor Court.

"Canadian and Israeli constitutional similarities create common issues and problems," said Justice Stephen Adler, speaking at a recent Canada-Israel seminar held at the faculty of law at the University of Toronto.

At the seminar, Israeli and Canadian labor law specialists discussed issues ranging from non-standard employment relations, and non-conventional strikes, to the constitutional aspects of labor law.

A recent Israeli Supreme Court decision determined that non-conventional strikes, or strikes for political purposes, are not deemed lawful and could, therefore, be limited, said Adler. The court felt that unions in key industries might use their striking powers to endanger the political process, he explained.

This decision overturned the Israeli Labor Court's ruling, which had been more lenient towards non-conventional strikes, he said.

University of Toronto law professor, Patrick Macklem, said these types of issues are also interesting for Canadians from labor law and constitutional perspectives.

"The fact that political strikes may be deemed illegal in Canada impacts on our constitutional freedoms. Basic freedoms, such as the freedom of expression and the freedom to assemble, are all affected by these types of decisions," he said.

We certainly can learn from the Israeli legal experience," Macklem said. "The nature of their limitations are more balanced than the blanket prohibitions we have in Canada.

"The history of unionism in Israel and the relationship between union, state and civil society are of interest for Canadians," he said. This is especially true in the current Canadian legal environment.

A recent Canadian example would be the Ontario teachers' strike, Macklem said. This was a non-conventional strike for political purposes, in response to the government's new policies, and it's just the kind of political unionism they have a great deal of experience with in Israel.

"We hope to have many more joint conferences between Israel and the faculty of law at the University of Toronto," said Ron Daniels, dean of the law school. "We clearly have a lot to learn from each other."

Other participants at the seminar included Justice Elisheva Barak from the Israeli National Labor Court; R.O. MacDowell, chair of the Ontario Labor Relations Board; and Prof. Harry Arthurs, president emeritus of York University.

Durham Reform congregation has hopes for its own building

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — B'nai Shalom V'Tikvah (Children of Peace and Hope), is the first Reform congregation in Durham, the region just east of Toronto.

Services are currently held in rented quarters in St. Paul's United Church in Ajax. But the dream of Harley Saltzman, B'nai Shalom's founding president, is for the congregation to have its own building.

"The church has bent over backwards to help us, stringing a cloth across their cross," he said.

As the population of Ajax, Pickering and Whitby – some of the main centres of Durham – has grown, so has the number of Jewish families in the region. It is estimated that in addition to the 50 family units in the congregation, there are at least another 50 who are unaffiliated.

Most of the shul's members live in Durham, but others come from Burlington, Toronto, York Region and Port Hope.

"The congregation is open to anyone who wants to join," said president Michael Chasler.

Before settling in the church five years ago, B'nai Shalom held services in a golf club, a public library and a community centre.

The shul is an outgrowth of a loose community group of 30 families called the Jewish Families of Durham Region.

Sunday school

A poll of its members revealed "an overwhelming desire" to become a Reform congregation, according to Saltzman, a Toronto accountant. Other founding members were Susan Bloom and Eli Edelson.

The need for a local children's religious education program was what motivated a group of Durham residents to establish B'nai Shalom, Saltzman said.

Rabbi Paul Golomb, executive director of the Canadian Council of Reform Judaism, leads the Sabbath services, as well as Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur services.

The Sunday school program, headed by Ron King, a teacher with 14 years experience at Holy Blossom Temple Religious School, operates in a Durham School Board building located next to the Pickering Go station. A total of 25 children attend classes in Hebrew and religious studies.

The congregation boasts 10 bnei and bnot mitzvah, so far, and there have been several baby-naming ceremonies. Sometimes tutors come from the synagogue in Oshawa.

With its own consecrated Jewish cemetery section in Durham Region, funerals and burials can also be arranged.

Other members of the executive include Saltzman, as treasurer; Peter Kerns, as religious chair; Roz Chasler, as communications director; Esther Jacobs, as fund raising chair; and Deborah MacKinnon, the ad hoc chair.

For more information, call 905-420-4429.

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Stanching poison's invisible flow

NATO's campaign in the Balkans has now entered its second phase. The first phase was to create the conditions for peace in Kosovo. The 78 days of unceasing aerial bombardment achieved that. Finally, Yugoslavia's president Slobodan Milosevic could endure no more. Capitulating to the demands of the western alliance, he agreed that Yugoslav forces would withdraw from Kosovo, that a peacekeeping force under NATO auspices would supervise the peace in Kosovo and that Kosovar refugees would be able to return to their homes.

As of this writing, Serbian troops have completed their withdrawal from Kosovo; Kosovo rebels have reportedly laid down their arms, and Kosovar refugees are returning in droves to their former homes.

Now the second phase of the campaign, to enforce the terms of that peace, swings into play. Much like the first phase, however, it is fraught with risks and dangers.

Like an invisible wellspring, ethnic hatred is so deeply embedded in the culture and very bedrock of the area that it courses underground, nourishing the people of the region with water poisoned by enmity and distrust towards each other.

Each day, with Serbian forces rushing to complete their retreat back into Yugoslavia, new evidence has come to light confirming the west's worst nightmares about Milosevic's policies of ethnic cleansing: torture, brutality, mass graves, jail camps, rape and murder. Reuters News Service has reported rumors that the United Nations believes as many as 3,000 ethnic Albanian political prisoners have been secretly transported from Kosovo to Serbia to be used later as bargaining chips by the Yugoslav strongman, in a perverse game of negotiations.

As Albanian Kosovars return to their homes, Serbian Kosovars flee theirs. In somewhat of a reversal, NATO forces are now deployed to protect the few remaining ethnic Serbs in Kosovo from possible revenge attacks and reprisals by ethnic Albanians.

The cycle of strike, counterstrike, dispersal and looting continues. But this is precisely the cycle that must be broken if the Balkans are to be rebuilt into a freer, more stable, cluster of coexisting nations.

Breaking the cycle will be phase 3 of the campaign. But this phase will take a great deal longer to achieve than the two preceding ones. It will entail dismissing Slobodan Milosevic and his henchmen, encouraging strong democratic forces to emerge on all sides of the political-ethnic divides, and erecting interdependent, regional structures with closer economic ties underpinning them.

Europe has promised to provide Yugoslavia with more than $1.5 billion (US) over three years to reconstruct Kosovo. Additional funds will flow for humanitarian aid. But the money will not flow to Slobodan Milosevic.

Gunter Burghardt, the director-general for Europe's Balkan policy referred last week to Milosevic as a cancer. "We have to get rid of the source of the cancer that has been spreading throughout the region over the past eight years. That means we have to isolate Mr. Milosevic and put democratic institutions in his place," said Burghardt.

The NATO campaign against the ethnic cleansing practices of Slobodan Milosevic was just. So too is the campaign to restructure and rebuild Yugoslavia away from old hatreds and hostilities towards newer, more tolerant, inter-ethnic relationships. Bolder local leaders will have to emerge to try to stanch, if not alter, the flow of the poisonous underground spring.

We are glad that Canada has been and continues to be part of both campaigns.

WISDOM OF THE AGES
And the people lived in Kadesh and Miriam died there and was buried there. ***(Parshat Chukat)***

Dry Bones
THE RUBIK'S CUBE PUZZLE HAS TOTALLY DISAPPEARED
EXCEPT, OF COURSE, FOR ITS LOCAL VARIANT...
THE COALITION ASSEMBLING PUZZLE
WHICH WE HAND TO EVERY PRIME MINISTER ELECT.
@!#%?!!

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Incorrect to assign collective guilt to Hungarians

Re: Letter to the Editor, "Anti-Semitism still alive and well In Hungary" (*CJN*, June 3).

To establish my credentials, let me tell a few things about myself. I was born in Hungary, in January 1930, in a medium-size town. Most of our family lived in the countryside. I experienced anti-Semitism from my early life. From age 12, during the bi-weekly, compulsory paramilitary "training," we had to wear yellow armbands, and we experienced physical and verbal abuses.

Most of our family was deported to Auschwitz and other camps where they were either killed immediately or during the following months. My father was killed in Buchenwald. In hiding at Budapest, we were captured, and taken to the Nazi party headquarters where we were badly beaten.

At the time of the liberation on Jan. 16, 1944, I was in a Swiss Red Cross-protected children's home and I was already very sick. I spent nearly the next five years in hospitals and sanatoria. All my life, my family and I have had to deal with the consequences of my health problems.

With my mother's seven and my father's three married siblings, once we had a large family in Hungary. Now, I have not even a distant relative. For this reason, I made only two trips back to Hungary. They were painful trips. I visited the cemeteries and the places where the family used to live. There were no family members or old time friends to visit.

As you see, I do not have much reason to have favorable prejudices towards the Hungarians.

Despite all of this, I cannot speak badly of the whole nation 55 or more years later, and I certainly cannot lump the entire new generation together with the murderers. I met good non-Jewish people even during the Holocaust. I met some who held out helping hands.

Because of my health, I started my university studies at the age of 22 and I was a university student at the start of the uprising. In a very small way, I helped to organize the students in my class. During the revolution, I was helping out at the Technical University's headquarters. Our commander was Lieut.-Col. Istvan Marian, a brave Jewish man. There were other Jewish officers and students at the university taking part in the uprising. Perhaps this was the reason that, at least in Budapest, there was very little overt anti-Semitism. I also heard about Itzig, Itzig; but despite the fact that I moved around town, I never saw the sign mentioned in the letter.

Jews were accused in Budapest and at other places of being members of the dreaded AVO (political police), abusing managers and communist leaders. As the days passed, atrocities were reported, mainly from the country, and our fears increased daily.

After the uprising, in the Camp Roeder refugee camp, near Salzburg in Austria, for safety reasons, we Jews had our separate barracks, and the Austrian gendarmerie kept a watchful eye for our safety. Some nights we were standing on guard.

There was a Hungarian speaking American Red Cross nurse, perhaps the daughter of an earlier DP, who posed the question in front of me: "What are the Jews doing here? They are not Hungarians!"

Despite everything, I feel that it is incorrect to judge a whole people and assign collective guilt. We Jews should know this better than anybody else. I am a volunteer at the Holocaust Memorial Centre, speaking to Jews and non-Jews. I tell them that there should not be any prejudice in people against each other. Just a few days ago, I was visiting a Roman Catholic secondary school and I thought that in the racially mixed group I got a good reception again. I think they understood the danger of prejudice, regardless of which side it is coming from.

George Salamon
Toronto

Judaism teaches to eradicate child poverty

This morning, I enter a huge gymnasium inside a church where well over 100 interested individuals from diverse faith communities come together to share breakfast and open dialogue about the Campaign Against Child Poverty (CACP), established over a year ago.

I do not come representing any institution or organization; I bring no agenda with me. I come to listen and learn – to understand the issues, to find out what I can do to participate in this significant effort in this campaign for children.

June Callwood passionately expresses how vital it is that all kids have the opportunity to get the affection and stimulation they need and deserve. "Investing in our kids will solve a lot of society's problems," she reminds us.

This issue is just that complex – and just that simple. And we all must get plugged in! Working together creatively and collaboratively, we can make it happen.

Judaism teaches that apathy is foreign to our values. Judaism pushed us to have, create, and form opinions – to take responsibility by taking a stand and to get our voices heard. That is what the Jewish community is all about. Now I have no choice but to find some way to act to eradicate child poverty.

So now you know too! Now we must all find our unique way to participate in CACP. There is room and a place for all of us!

Susan Steinberg
Toronto

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures. Letters sent by e-mail must also include the sender's municipal address.

Perspectives

Chillul HaShem can take many forms

By MARTIN LOCKSHIN

The Torah attributes to Jews a very strange power; it claims that we are able to make God's name holy or to desecrate it.

What does chillul HaShem mean? How could a Jew desecrate God's holy name?

A Jew who commits one of a number of grave transgressions listed in the Torah is said to desecrate God's name. Nachmanides, the great 13th-century rabbi, argues that the Torah labels some crimes as chillul HaShem simply as a way of emphasizing their seriousness (commentary to Leviticus 18:21).

Yet, there does seem to be a pattern that explains most of the cases that are labeled desecrations. The Torah says that swearing falsely by God's name is a chillul HaShem (Leviticus 19:12). When God's name is attached to a false oath, surely we understand that that constitutes desecration. A similar principle applies to cases where Jews are expected to do something in a holy manner – like worshipping God – and then fall terribly short of the mark. That is why it is a chillul HaShem when a Jew performs the temple service in some unbecoming manner (Leviticus 22:2), or when a parent offers a child sacrifice (Leviticus 18:21).

But the Bible suggests that a situation can entail chillul HaShem even when no sin is committed. The prophet Ezekiel interprets the fact that the Jews have been exiled from their land as chillul HaShem. Even though it is God who was the cause of the exile, still it is God's name that ends up being desecrated. "But when they came to the nations, they caused My Holy Name to be profaned, in that it was said of them, "These are the people of the Lord, yet they had to leave His land" (Ezekiel 36:20).

Whenever God's reputation is damaged, whenever people are brought to think badly of God, Judaism claims that a chillul HaShem has occurred. Amos (2:7) calls it a chillul HaShem when a Jewish man and his son frequent the same prostitute. Some classical rabbis argue that whenever any Jew commits any sin in public, that constitutes a chillul HaShem, for "others might see and conclude that that action is permitted" (Rashi to Sanhedrin 82a).

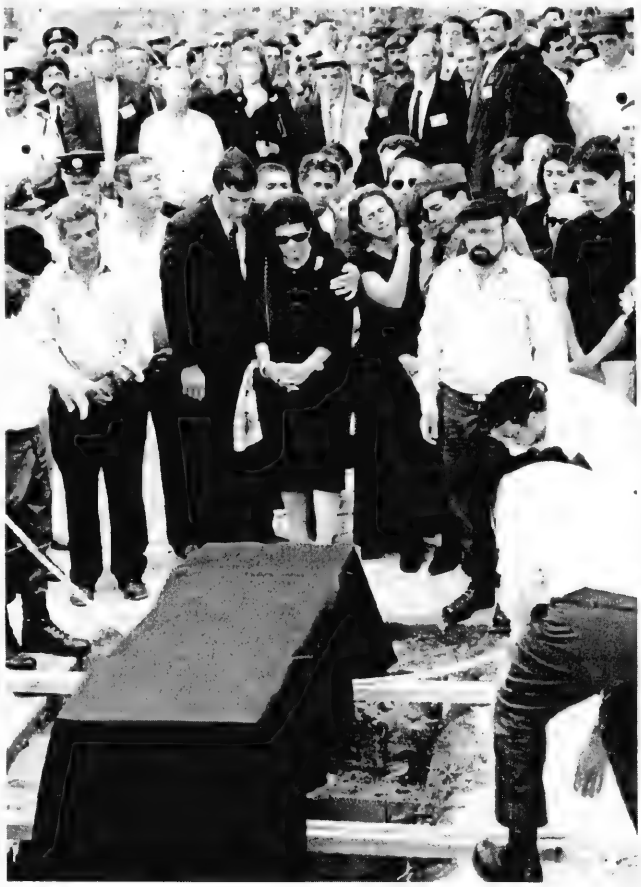
Some of the most interesting laws involve ways that a Torah scholar, a talmid chacham, is considered to be guilty of chillul HaShem. Maimonides teaches us that it is not only through sinning that a scholar might desecrate God's name. Even when he does something permissible, but something that is liable to raise eyebrows and lead to disgrace, a scholar is desecrating God's name. For example, when a scholar buys an item on credit when there is no need, Maimonides sees this as chillul HaShem (Yesode ha-torah 5:11).

A person, or at least a scholar, who wishes to refrain from desecrating God's name must go beyond the requirements of the law. Many classical Jewish texts assert that the opinions of the non-Jewish world are crucial when determining what constitutes chillul HaShem.

The biblical book of Joshua (chapter 9) tells the story of the Gibeonites, who under false pretences, tricked the Israelites into making a peace treaty with them. The classical rabbis explain that even though Jewish law would render such an agreement null and void, based as it was on deception, the Jews were required to honor their commitment, so as not to lead to chillul HaShem (Maimonides, Melakhim 6:5).

When non-Jews laugh at the way that Jews chat during synagogue services, that too is chillul HaShem. (Maimonides, responsa 256 and 258). One of the minor talmudic tractates (Kutim, chapter 1) teaches that if there is ever a situation where Jews consider a particular food kosher, while gentile society does not, it would be forbidden for Jews to purchase such food from non-Jews. It would be a chillul HaShem if people thought that Jews ate foods that gentile society considers disgusting.

In 1931, Rabbi Yehiel Yaakov Weinberg (Seride Esh 2:124) instructed the head of the Jewish burial society in Berlin that it would be a chillul HaShem if the Jews were to adopt a more lenient attitude towards cremation than that of the Christian German society.



Perhaps the greatest instance of Chillul HaShem in modern times was the assassination in 1995 of Israel's Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin by Yigal Amir.

In a passionate responsum (Choshen Mishpat 2:29), Rabbi Moshe Feinstein discusses the issue of accepting government funding for Jewish educational institutions. First he lashes out against people who "cook the books" to get more money from the government than the institution deserves by law.

But he goes even farther: even if one finds a government bureaucrat who might be sympathetic to the institution and might be willing to implement a regulation in a manner that would be advantageous to the institution but would be against the legislated law of the land, it would be chillul HaShem to ask the bureaucrat to do so, even if that furthered the cause of Jewish education.

Thus, some crimes in Judaism are considered even more serious because they entail chillul HaShem.

Other actions that might not be crimes at all, constitute chillul HaShem under certain circumstances. Jews who care about desecrating God's name must consider not only what Jewish law says, but also, how gentile society may relate to our behavior.

Even if the principles are clear, it may be difficult to apply the principles to a particular contemporary action. A famous example from history can be found in the uncompromising stance of Maimonides, who wrote that "anyone who decides to study Torah, to pursue no occupation, and to earn his living from charity, has desecrated God's name and scorned the Torah" (Talmud Torah 3:10).

While Maimonides and many other Sephardi authorities felt that way – that Torah scholars must pursue another way of making a living – other opinions also existed, including the opinion that sees a person "who decides to study Torah and pursue no occupation" as a pious man whose dedication to Torah in some sense saves Jews and Judaism.

Israeli yeshivot are filled with tens of thousands of students who subscribe to the latter approach; Israeli streets are filled with tens of thousands of people who see these perpetual students who pursue no livelihood as a terrible chillul HaShem.

There are some cases today that everyone knows constitute chillul HaShem: If a rabbi or cantor is accused of molestation; if an Israeli Knesset member, especially one who is also a rabbi, is found guilty of theft; or if an American rabbi is guilty of embezzlement or money laundering. Cases like that are obvious examples of chillul HaShem.

But let us consider a contemporary case that is harder to assess.

In a recent edition of the *Jerusalem Post* (April 16, 1999) an article by a well known "centrist" Orthodox rabbi analyzed recent developments in Israeli secular society and in the Reform and Conservative movements.

The author was particularly enraged by a recently published Reform educational kit for use in seventh grade classes, which described Abraham's actions in Genesis 22 ("the Binding of Isaac") as an act of abuse. Based on this and other evidence, the author of the article drew some startling (and to my mind offensive) conclusions about Israeli secularists and about Reform and Conservative Jews, arguing that they are all modern-day Hellenists.

These groups, he argued, are all attracted to each other because for all of them it is "the fashion du jour of the world around them" and not Jewish values that determines their thinking.

I am convinced that almost any knowledgeable Jew who reads that article would see a chillul HaShem in it. The problem is that different Jews will see different aspects of the article as chillul HaShem. Some would probably see a chillul HaShem in the Reform movement allowing the publication of a teachers' guide that maligns Abraham, our forefather. Others might conclude that it is a chillul HaShem that a rabbi (ironically a "centrist" Orthodox one, who does not eschew modernity or institutions such as universities) would write an article in the *Jerusalem Post* labeling Reform Jews and Conservative Jews and secular Israeli Jews as Hellenistic and assimilatory. And perhaps there are (in fact, I hope there are) some Jews who would see chillul HaShem on both grounds.

What can we learn from the idea of chillul HaShem?

Jews ought to act based on what they see as Jewishly right, but ought also to refrain from doing something that they consider proper if it might cause shame to Judaism. But there are reasons to be concerned that chillul HaShem will become more and more of a problem.

Charles Liebman of Bar Ilan University recently described (in *Secularism, Sprituality and the Future of American Jewry*) a change in the way that Jews think of themselves. What he calls an "ethnic" type of identification with Judaism "has given way to a form of privatized religion...[which] speaks in softer terms of individual meaning, journeys of discovery, spirituality and the search for fulfilment."

Jews who see their Judaism in these terms are rarely concerned about how their behavior will affect the way that the rest of the group is seen. They value authenticity over group reputation.

Let us hope that Jews continue to remember the idea of our group reputation, and of God's reputation. Let us hope that Jews use the idea of chillul HaShem, not as a way of pummeling competing Jewish ideologies but as a way of leading more introspective Jewish lives.

Martin Lockshin is the associate director of the Centre for Jewish Studies at York University.

Opinions

Isolated and ostracized

Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

The more I read about the tragedy in Littleton, Colo., the more I am reminded of a period in my life. There was a time during my days in high school when I dreaded the moment I had to face my classmates and teachers. There were years when I was isolated, made fun of and otherwise abused mentally, though not physically.

This happened during the 1920s, the days of the Weimer Republic. The locus was a school in the working class district of North Berlin, where I and 34 other students were subjected to the teacning methods of the German school system.

I was, by far, the youngest student, and when my schoolmates – overwhelmingly gentile with a small sprinkling of Jewish boys – reached the age of puberty, I was still living in the land of childish innocence.

It was an all-male school, which was the custom in Berlin. I think the majority of the boys during this crucial time were between 13 and 15 years of age, but I was still an 11-year-old trying to cope with life's vagaries. The other boys shared their sexual fantasies, and from time to time, one of the teachers chimed in with clever double entendres, which, apparently, everyone except me understood and greeted with raucous laughter. During those jolly moments, I felt that all eyes were directed at me, and I was deeply embarrassed by my incomprehension. The teacher was no help – quite the contrary.

It got worse from day to day. I knew it had to do with the physical structure and propensities of men and women, and I sought refuge in books. Alas, they disclosed nothing of value to me in this respect, and I remained an innocent abroad looking for answers I could not get. It did not occur to me to ask my parents, and if I had asked them I am quite sure I would have been turned aside.

I began to hate going to school. Several times I feigned illness, but that ceased to work after a while. Though I continued to be a good student, I hated every moment I spent in an environment that isolated and ostracized me. The fact that I was Jewish did not help either.

A big, burly boy whose first name was Fritz, became my worst tormentor, and one day in the late 1920s, when the Nazi party was beginning its spectacular ascendancy, he sported a swastika in his lapel.

Then one day he taunted me with some anti-Semitic blabber, and in so doing, drove me to reckless action. I hit my giant neighbor in the face, and that one blow happened to knock him out. He fell to the floor with a loud thud, banging his head and prolonging the period during which he was unconscious, raising in me a sudden fear of having killed a human being, however hateful he might be. But he came to, and never taunted me again, and neither did anyone else.

I learned that bullets persecute the weak, and that persecution, ostracism and isolation can cause terrible pain.

The above does not try to explain what happened in Littleton, but it did light up a dark corner in my youthful life. Fortunately, I was not left with any permanent damage, and as for my neighbor Fritz, I have no idea what happened to him and don't particularly want to know either.

What is a Jewish journalist?

Jennifer Fox in Thornhill

I recently attended the first annual Canadian Jewish student journalism conference, which was held in Toronto. The mission of the event, which was hosted by *Afterword: Canada's Jewish Student Newspaper*, was to bring the future Jewish journalists of Canada together to meet and network with Jewish journalists who have managed to find their niche in the business.

Over the course of the three days, 30 students sat like sponges, and absorbed all the wisdom these professionals were willing to share.

Do not panic, you will find a job, said one member of the *National Post's* under-30 set.

Sell yourself, sell yourself, sell yourself. If you want that full-time, part-time or internship position, you have to let the editors and producers know you exist.

Think of it as stalking, but in a good way. Instead of getting slapped with a restraining order, you'll get slapped on the back for a job well done.

Of course, if you are too persistent, you might end up with that restraining order after all.

Then, there is the great debate about whether to attend a journalism program (j-school) or opt for the well-rounded path of the liberal arts degree.

Often, editors proclaim they won't hire anyone from a j-school, scaring students senseless. I however, think there is a happy medium. The key to success is to actually pay attention during all the electives you have to take.

This explains why King's College makes the foundation year program (a combination of various courses from the liberal arts) mandatory for its first-year j-students.

The advice at the conference was good and did not go unheard. I listened to what all the more than 20 speakers had to say, and came away with an understanding of the industry and a mind-numbing fear for my future.

Be assertive? Have four more story ideas in reserve in case the first one's a flop? Don't bother with a journalism program? This did not sound like me. While many of my peers nodded their heads in agreement, I had serious doubts about a career in news media.

After the doubts, came another terrifying thought. Welcome to the rest of your life as someone else. If I wanted to be a reporter as planned, I would have to give up being me.

While I was mentally hyperventilating, another theme appeared at the conference. What is the difference between a Jewish journalist and a journalist who is Jewish?

One speaker said we would have to decide between the two. Another sat down in the small conference room in the B'nai Brith building and said it wasn't an issue: A journalist is a journalist is a journalist. Then you're a Jew.

His point wasn't that religion should be shoved aside to advance one's career, but that a journalist finds the story and tells the story regardless of religion, race or gender.

Impartiality doesn't really exist. Everyone has opinions and bias; the goal is to not let them dictate what you write.

I've always assumed that as a Jew, I would be unable to report on the events in the Middle East. I would be too biased. Israel would always be right and everyone else would always be wrong.

Jerusalem, it was pointed out at the conference, is the world capital with the most journalists after Washington, D.C. and London, England. At least a handful of them have to be Jews.

And if I can be a Jewish journalist (or a journalist who is Jewish, depending on your preference) who reports on Israel, then why can't I be both an employed reporter and remain myself?

Why should my job change who I am? It is the rest of my life – byline or not.

Why aren't people like their pets

Erica Horn in Montreal

Our dog's name is Truman. Twice a day, he goes to the dog run, where he has a lot of friends. Roxy and Buster are part of the morning crowd, while Kaya, Hogan and Princess play with him in the late afternoon.

Everywhere I go and there are dogs, there is an owner who knows of Truman. Having a dog has exposed me to a whole new world comprised of friendly people possessing a wealth of knowledge concerning a dog's life and the doggie world. Did you know there were such things as dog sushi and doggie ice cream? Pet spas and day cares are a booming industry, and grooming costs more than the average human haircut.

Some people treat their dogs like people, or simply wish their dogs had human-like characteristics. For example, I spend an extraordinary amount of time talking to Truman in the hope that he'll understand me. My youngest brother dreams of the day when Truman will speak English to him, and my mother – she spoils him as though he were her fourth child (actually we all kind of do).

Needless to say, we do not take criticism of Truman very well, nor do we tolerate dogs that try to bully Truman and act all macho in the dog run. Moreover, we tried to find him kosher dog food so that he would truly feel a part of the family. Other people slightly more obsessed and definitely more loony may even set a place for their dog at the dinner table or feed them filet mignon every night for supper.

The saying that a dog is a man's best friend holds much truth. What is interesting, however, is that people are preoccupied with training their dogs to be model citizens and teaching them proper dog etiquette (i.e. biting visitors won't result in a liver treat; nor will chewing up old photo albums). However, people never seem to step back and evaluate what it is they can learn from their dog.

Truman has a lot of friends, both humans and dogs. The people who meet him think he's handsome, and he thanks them for the compliment with a little lick. The dogs that meet him tend to enjoy playing with him. Together they run and fetch balls. Admittedly, sometimes he has difficulty sharing. Day after day, when one of us takes out the leash to take him for a walk, he gets excited, because he knows he is going to see his friends. Why aren't people like that?

Always around this time of year, as I pack my duffel bags for camp, I start to appreciate my friends more. During the year, we are all busy with different activities and the odd outing all together becomes less and less frequent. I find my friends making up excuses for the reasons they are unable to attend birthday celebrations, and when we do see each other, half of us are late to arrive (running on Jewish time) and the other half need to leave early because of work the next morning. It is only in June, when we know we must part ways, when I head south of the border and most of them head further north, that we start to make an increased effort to see each other and truly enjoy each other's company.

If there is one thing I have learned over the past four years, through CEGEP and university, is that without friends to trust, to share with, to laugh with and to cry with, life would be very lonely and boring. It seems as though Truman has discovered the true value of friends ahead of many of us. When he is with his friends, he seems to cherish every moment, for there is not one instant where he is roaming by himself, sulking, pouting or running away from them.

We should stop being so self-absorbed and start to look at other people and creatures as role models for some of our own behaviors.

The Kirshner File

War in Yugoslavia mercifully ends

I heaved a sigh of relief when the news came through that the war in Yugoslavia had finally ended. All wars are nasty and brutish, but this one was particularly nauseating, having been spawned by chauvinism and racism, reactionary forces which have all too often demeaned and decimated minorities, including Jews, in this bloody century.

Sheldon Kirshner in Toronto

The latest conflagration in the Balkans – a notoriously unstable region which sparked two Balkan wars and World War I – really began in 1989 when Yugoslavia was still a united federal republic. Pandering to Serbian nationalism to amass yet more power, Yugoslavian strongman Slobodan Milosevic revoked the autonomous status of Kosovo, a province predominantly populated by ethnic Albanian Muslims.

The result could have been foretold. Yugoslavia, a multinational land which had been held together tenuously by Tito, was irretrievably destabilized by Milosevic's malicious manoeuvre. The subsequent wars of secession in Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia and Macedonia destroyed the old Yugoslavia and ushered in a horrific era of ethnic cleansing practised with brutal efficiency by all sides.

Kosovo, abutting Albania, was initially spared the calamities which engulfed Yugoslavia as it broke apart at the seams from 1991 onward. But given Milosevic's brutality toward the Kosovars, it was only a matter of time before Kosovo was sucked into the deadly maelstrom. How, reasonably, could he expect the Kosovars to turn the other cheek in the face of repression? How could he go on mistreating them without an appropriate Western reaction?

At the Rambouillet peace talks last winter, NATO tried without success to resolve the gnawing problem diplomatically. Milosevic was uncompromising, refusing to grant the Kosovars the autonomy he had unjustifiably yanked away from them.

NATO issued ultimatums, but to no avail. Milosevic was unyielding, knowing full well that his rump Yugoslavian state would be bombed if he persisted in his stubbornness.

On March 24, NATO unleashed a bombing campaign aimed at military targets, electrical power plants, oil refineries, bridges, roads and, ultimately, Yugoslavia's major cities – Belgrade, Novi Sad and Nis.

When NATO suspended its aerial attacks, in response to Milosevic's belated acceptance of its terms to end the war, 1,200 innocent civilians had been killed by errant "collateral" fire and Yugoslavia had been left in ruins. It will take hundreds of billions of dollars and years to repair the damage.

The Serb leadership in Belgrade is responsible for this cataclysm. In the waning months of the millennium, the Serbs callously set out to depopulate Kosovo of its Muslim inhabitants. They did so in a concerted campaign of terror, rape, looting, burning and killing. Milosevic and company, who already have been indicted for war crimes by the United Nations tribunal in The Hague, succeeded in systematically expelling 850,000 Kosovars from their homes and in displacing a further 500,000 inside Kosovo.

And it has not gone unnoticed that the Serbs stripped the fleeing Kosovar refugees of their identity cards to ensure that they would never return. By all accounts, the Serbian army, police and paramilitary burned 500 of their villages.

The Serbs disingenuously claim that NATO bombing runs prompted the mass exodus. But this seems to be at odds with reality. It appears that the plan to expel the Kosovars was drawn up before March 24. The Serbs intended to change the ethnic composition of Kosovo, an insidious policy which violates all norms of civilized behavior. In terms of intent and ferocity, Kosovo can thus be compared with Rwanda.

Some Western leaders, such as British Prime Minister Tony Blair, claim that the atrocities in Kosovo are comparable to those perpetrated during the Holocaust. Drawing "powerful parallels" between Milosevic's ethnic cleansing and Nazi Germany's crimes against humanity, Blair said that the world was witnessing "the most evil form of racial genocide since Hitler." Milosevic, he argued, wanted "to wipe a people from the face of his country."

Milosevic, certainly, is a vicious brute whose stock-in-trade is ethnic cleansing. But to compare him to Hitler, as Blair does, is to misinterpret history and diminish the Holocaust.

Milosevic's henchmen killed several thousand Kosovars, burying them in mass graves. But it was never his intention to exterminate the Kosovars in the manner Hitler sought the wholesale destruction of Jews. Depopulation, not extermination, was Milosevic's grand objective. We should be absolutely clear about this, lest invidious comparisons be made about the Holocaust, a unique event in history.

If the Serbian government is guilty of war crimes, is NATO criminally liable for wreaking widespread death and desolation on Yugoslavia? NATO couched the bombardment in moral terms. Its spokesmen claimed that it was a crusade to restore and defend the rights of the Kosovars. If so, in light of the mass murders of the past century which culminated with the massacre of the Armenians and the slaughter of the Jews, this was a principle well worth defending.

NATO, too, could not be faulted for seeking to staunch the spread of chaos beyond Yugoslavia's borders. Europe, with two wars behind it since 1914, is understandably weary and wary of armed conflicts which remorselessly devour lives and property.

But, as Canada's former ambassador to Yugoslavia observed in a trenchant commentary recently, NATO's bombardment was "a blatant violation of every precept of international law." NATO, wrote James Bissett, violated the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, signed in Helsinki in 1975.

This solemn document reaffirmed respect for the inviolability of frontiers, the peaceful settlement of disputes, non-intervention in internal affairs, and the avoidance of the threat or use of force. And NATO, he correctly noted, violated its own charter, which calls for settling "any international dispute... by peaceful means..."

Clearly, the use of force to settle a crisis is fraught with grave uncertainties and pitfalls. Who knows where the bombs will fall next?

I recognize that Milosevic's ethnic cleansing was intolerable and could not be allowed to stand. And I realize that Milosevic pushed NATO over the edge. But what a dangerous precedent the western alliance has established by bombing Yugoslavia to its knees.

Slobodan Milosevic

One last point.

Drawing on still-fresh memories of the Holocaust, numerous Jewish organizations expressed support for the bombing. But history is fickle. During World War II, as University of Toronto historian Michael Marrus reminded me, the Serbians courageously resisted the Nazis and their local collaborators, and roughly 17 percent of the Serbs lost their lives.

Yet Yugoslavian Jews found no solace in the wartime Serbian government of Gen. Milan Nedic, who was backed up by a pro-Nazi militia and who, at best, turned a blind eye to their suffering.

This murky picture is further muddied by the fact that some Yugoslavian Muslims participated in barbaric anti-Jewish violence and joined the German army in droves (while others helped Jews).

In the Balkans, the canvas is smeared in shades of gray. And so was the Yugoslavian war which has just mercifully wound down.

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The Jews of Iran

By AVI BENLOLO

The recent arrest of 13 Jews in Iran has reverberated throughout international Jewish communities, Israel and world political circles. Although suspicions began brewing as early as April, Iranian radio has now confirmed the arrests.

Iran claims that the 13 Jews charged are Zionist spies on behalf of Israel and the United States. Both countries have released official statements attesting that this assertion is false and without merit.

This situation is clearly embedded in the history of the Jews of Iran and Iran's relationship with Israel and the United States. The historical roots of Jews in Iran, or Persia as it was formerly called, date back to the sixth century BCE, the time of the First Temple.

The invasion of the Muslims in 642 CE ended Jewish independence in Persia and installed Islam as the state religion. This inevitably had an impact on the sociopolitical atmosphere of the country, thereby changing Jewish life dramatically.

Following centuries of intermittent persecution, relief for the Jews came in 1925 under the Pahlevi Dynasty. When Riza Khan Pahlevi became shah, he secularized the country, orienting it towards the west and permitting Jews to fully participate in the country's economic and cultural life.

Ayatollah Khomeni's 1979 Islamic Revolution, however, introduced an era of Islamic fundamentalism, thereby creating an insecure environment for the country's 80,000 Jews. Thousands fled in the wake of the upheaval, leaving behind vast amounts of wealth and property, and hundreds of years of history.

There is no consensus as to how many Jews remain in Iran today. Estimates range from 12,500 to 30,000 Jews living predominantly in Tehran and Shiraz. They live, however, in a paradoxical state: On one hand, they are free to be Jewish and practise religion. On the other hand, they are not permitted any demonstration of Zionism or support for the State of Israel.

Apparently, the Jewish community does enjoy a measure of religious freedom, but it is faced with constant suspicion. Iranian Jews are unable to emigrate to or visit Israel directly. If at all permitted, they must do so via a third country. They further run the risk of being placed under immediate surveillance if they apply for a passport to travel abroad.

Their restrictive environment would seem to be contradicted by the fact that the Iranian government reserves a seat in parliament for a Jew who represents his community. The current representative, Manouchehr Eliasi, did recently call for true justice following the arrest of the 13 suspects.

Still, there are three synagogues in Tehran that function on a regular basis. There are also approximately the same number of schools where Jewish pupils constitute the majority. However, the curriculum is Islamic, and while the Bible is taught, it is taught in Persian, not Hebrew.

Iran's vehement opposition to the existence of the State of Israel began following the 1979 revolution. Iran has since backed terrorist groups like Hezbollah and Islamic Jihad. It has further been suspected by Argentinian authorities of having played a role in the 1994 bombing of the Argentine Jewish Mutual Aid Association.

The recent election of President Mohammed Khatami, a self-professed moderate, has led many to believe that Iran may be entering a new era. Unfortunately, the baseless arrest of 13 Iranian Jews demonstrates that Iran must yet reach a state of political and social normalization in which human rights and freedoms are valued and respected.

The power of e-mail lists

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

One of the most powerful areas of the Internet doesn't use fancy multi-media presentations, stunning graphics, real-time audio or even pictures.

Just words.

Through e-mail lists, you can find people anywhere who share an interest in your occupation (or preoccupation), no matter how specialized or idiosyncratic. And if you can't manage to find a list that suits your needs, you can always create one.

Here are just a few examples of lists available: Do you want to give your kids a quality Jewish education at home? Talk to others who are doing the same **[http://www.geocities.com/Athens/Agora/7633/JewishHomeSchoolers.html]**.

Are you a descendant of Spanish and Portuguese Jews who were forced to convert under duress? You're not alone **[http://members.tripod.com/~anak/anusim.htm]**. Or would you like a synopsis of the Torah reading mailed to you weekly? No problem **[http://www.ohr.org.il/web/sub.htm]**.

Actually, your letter is a piece of e-mail, and it isn't addressed to anyone in particular but to a "list." A list is simply a record of people from around the world who share a common interest. When a message is posted to a list, everyone who has joined automatically gets a copy of that letter.

Unlike conventional letters you get in the mail, this electronic exchange of correspondence is immediate and free. When you join an e-mail list, you have an opportunity to build a true sense of community, even if that community stretches around the world and is made up of members who will probably never meet in person.

There are several different kinds of lists you can join. Some are "moderated." That means that one person acts as a kind of gatekeeper to ensure that all messages sent in are appropriate before they are mailed out to the subscribers.

Other lists are "unmoderated." As soon as you send in a message, it is immediately sent out to everyone on the list. Unmoderated lists can be quite wild, because there is no quality control.

When lists are "restricted," a manager must approve your membership: for example, on a list that deals with delicate issues like abuse.

Finally, there are some lists that don't solicit public input. These lists can be compared to a column in a newspaper or newsletter to which people subscribe in order to receive essays from a respected writer.

Many sites are making it very easy to "subscribe" and "unsubscribe" to lists. However, there are several other commands you can use to customize your mail. For example, some lists will allow you to receive one daily "digest" of mail rather than dozens of individual messages. And another command will even let you find out who else is subscribing to the list.

You'll find a detailed discussion of those commands at **[http://www.webcom.com/impulse/list.html]** and a simplified one at **[http://www.virtual.co.il/city_services/lists/what.htm]**.

Now that you know the e-mail basics, where should you start? With a little Torah, of course. Lists are a wonderful way to learn about Judaism on a regular basis. And Eric Simon has done an incredible job of gathering information about dozens of Jewish lists onto one page **[http://shamash.org/reform/uahc/torahnet/]**. Some examples: Project Genesis' Halashon looks at the ethics of speech. The Jewish Theological Seminary of America offers e-mail classes on Women in Rabbinic Literature. And there's Rav Zelig Pliskin's Daily Lift. If you subscribe to Rabbi Pliskin's list on spiritual and emotional growth, you can "start your day the Pliskin way. It has twice the impact of coffee – and no caffeine."

Next week, a look at what Virtual Jerusalem, Shamash and Project Genesis have to offer. And I'll tell you how you can participate in e-mail lists, even if you don't have your own Internet account.

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a Toronto-based television producer who writes, lectures and teaches about the Jewish Internet. He can be contacted at [mdm@inforamp.net].

Roots & Remembrance

Together again for the first time

By ZE'EV GLICENSTEIN

Toronto legal secretary Debbie Klavir-Donda and her aunt Shelagh Klavir, a travel agent, are preparing to welcome about 100 relatives to a family reunion next month at a resort in Huntsville, Ont.

With the exception of their own small family circle in Toronto, all of the various Klavir relatives are flying in for the reunion – a word that Debbie admits she is using very loosely, since these family members have never been united before, and she has never met any of them.

They are coming from Argentina, Brazil, Hawaii, Israel, Ireland, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, and all across the United States.

One of their relatives from Holland and his fiancée from Australia plan to be married at the reunion. The couple, whom Shelagh describes as "baal tshuvah Lubavitchers," are bringing their rabbi to Huntsville to conduct the ceremony.

Less than two years ago, Shelagh and Debbie knew of only a handful of cousins. Then, in October 1997, an Israeli genealogist named Meyer Denn contacted them seeking Klavers – alternately spelled Klawir and Klavier, among other variants. The name has even been anglicized as Glover.

Did their family come from Lublin, Denn asked? Debbie and Shelagh responded that the family had come from Warsaw, and had immigrated to Ireland.

"Ireland was evidently the magic word that allowed Meyer Denn to make an instant connection," Shelagh recalls. "He had traced the family back to about 1750, to a couple named Moishe and Itty Klaver in Lublin. They had 14 children, three of whom immigrated to Ireland with their families."

The name Klaver, incidentally, came from the piano-like instrument because some ancestors manufactured pianos in the 18th century. Debbie, intrigued by the stories she was learning about her roots, established a family newsletter, named Klaver Notes with the musical motif in mind.

She also volunteered to organize the first Klaver family reunion.

"I'm the sole organizer of this thing," she says. "The logistics of it all were overwhelming at first. We're expecting about 100 people and I've never met one of them. I have written to, corresponded with, and spoken to all of them over the past year."

It was only about five weeks ago that her Dutch cousin announced that he and his fiancée would like to be married at the reunion. One doesn't have to be a genealogist to understand how irresistible such an idea could be. What better occasion to wed than at a large family gathering honoring a lineage going back 250 years?

Now Debbie is gladly helping to organize the wedding as a central event within the four-day reunion. "It's a glatt kosher wedding," she says. "I've had to find someone to provide glatt kosher sushi for 90 people."

Meyer Denn, the Israeli genealogist, is one of several family researchers who is hoping to make new discoveries at the reunion.

Debbie, however, intends to concentrate on the logistics of welcoming 100 relatives from all around the world. She plans to leave the genealogical research to the aficionados, who have uncovered an ancestral link to a family named Fernand, which may have been Sephardi.

A bus is scheduled to carry participants from Toronto to the Grandview Resort in Huntsville early in the afternoon of Friday, July 23.

Despite the many demanding organizational challenges, Debbie seems as upbeat and excited as Shelagh is about the upcoming reunion. "This has brought such richness into our lives," says Shelagh. "I can't tell you what it's done for us."

Soon they will put faces to the names, and give ear and voice, alternately, to the family stories that have been waiting for just such an occasion to emerge. For most participants a reunion like this, involving long-separated branches of a family tree, can only be an intensely interesting and dramatic event, with many unseen, and perhaps even mystical overtones and consequences.

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Gender stereotypes

***Fighting to Become Americans: Jews, Gender and the Anxiety of Assimilation*, by Riv-Ellen Prell (Oxford Press, $45.95).**

Books
Bernard Baskin

This provocative study is concerned with how American society over the past century created vicious stereotypes of Jewish women – immigrant "ghetto girl," demanding mother and Jewish American Princess (JAP). The author maintains that as Jews were portrayed as marginal, materialistic, uncivil and poor citizens, many Jewish middle class men projected those very accusations onto Jewish women.

The hardworking "ghetto girl," the child of immigrants, was depicted in the Jewish press as cheap in her choice of dress and jewelry, shrill of voice and shallow and vain in her behavior.

But for the author, "the real contorted exaggeration was in the work of those who circulated the representation.The frantic, panicked rendering of young Jewish womanhood was created by Jews who felt threatened by non-Jews."

The stereotype of the Jewish mother/wife, drawn largely from Jewish comedy and popular literature of the 1950s and '60s, depicted her as suffocating her family with food and nurturance, as highly manipulative, as demanding impossible total loyalty, and as naive or hopelessly out of touch with the world of her children.

"An army of Jewish comics – Myron Cohen, Milton Berle, Shecky Green, Henny Youngman, and Alan King – joked about their wives' demands for the houses, appliances, trips, and clothes that were impoverishing their husbands."

The author, once again, insists that these comic portrayals appeared in tandem with widespread anxiety that beset upwardly mobile suburban Jews. Even after they had achieved middle class status, the problem of true integration with non-Jewish society was not achieved. "Gender stereotype re-emphasized the fact that Jews continued to be one another's mirrors for the pain of their difference from the nation."

Who is the Jewish American Princess? Supposedly, she is a young Jewish girl or woman who is spoiled, self-serving, materialistic, aggressive, sexually repressed, whining, castrating, parasitic, manipulative, demanding, venal and lazy. She is a "golddigger" who preys first on her father's fortune and then on her husband's. In some people's minds, she does nothing more all day than kvetch, file her nails, and go shopping for bargains.

The notion of the Jewish American Princess was popularized by movies like *Marjorie Morningstar, The Heartbreak Kid, Goodbye Columbus*, and *Private Benjamin*. The central characters of these movies are young, pampered, materialistic and romantically involved Jewish women. Comics like Joan Rivers, Mel Brooks and Rodney Dangerfield exploited the JAP stereotype for their comedy routines.

When JAP jokes are picked up by those who are bigoted, vicious anti-Jewish behavior can result. JAP jokes are the seeds for classic prejudice.

There is another problem with JAP jokes. Jewish men are turned off romantically from marrying Jewish women. In *The Heartbreak Kid*, Jeanne Berlin plays a spoiled, whining, Jewish bride on her honeymoon. Her Jewish husband soon finds her totally repulsive, as she chews with her mouth open. She drives him into the arms of a gorgeous blonde Aryan from Minnesota.

It is the author's reiterated thesis that whenever Jews looked into the harsh images held up by the dominant culture, they reacted in frightened and ambiguous terms and tended to blame their women.

Riv-Ellen Prell is a University Professor and *Fighting to Become Americans* is scholarly in style and presentation.

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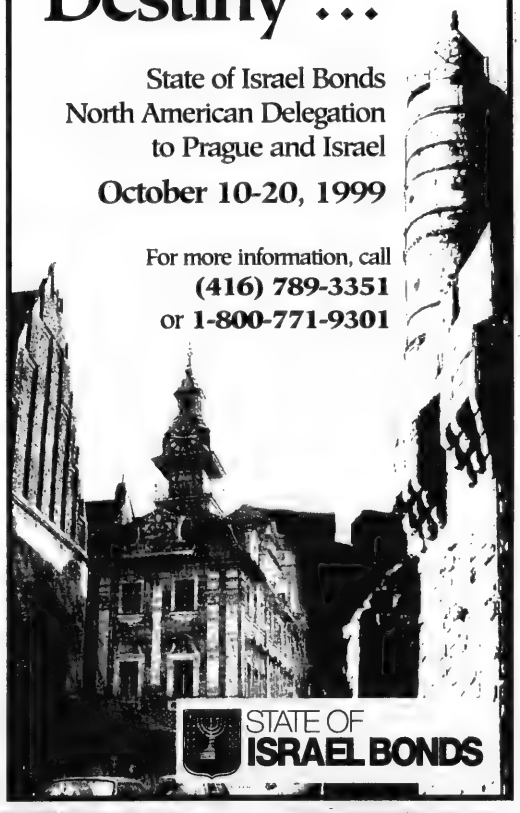

STATE OF ISRAEL BONDS

Star Wars' Jewish references

By DAVE GORDON

The film, *Star Wars*, has received a great deal of attention. It has been studied and dissected by many film buffs, but few have noted the similarities between Judaism and *Star Wars*. Yet I believe there is evidence to prove that the film, in many cases, alludes to Judaism.

Guest Voices

A long, long time ago, in a galaxy far, far away... In the first few minutes of the original *Star Wars* (1977), C-3PO and R2D2 are wandering aimlessly through the desert of Tatooine. C-3PO laments, with seemingly Jewish guilt, "We seem to be made to suffer. That's our lot in life."

They are soon caught by little brown-cloaked creatures called Jawas. Could this be George Lucas' subtle attempt at attributing God-like characteristics to the creatures, giving them a name that resembles the Tetragrammaton. You can't see their faces, and they drive a large, monolithic vehicle that contains parts of robots to be put together to create new robots.

Upon meeting these Jawas, C-3PO exclaims to R2D2, "Thank the maker!" Little did he know that they would capture him and sell him into slavery – a reverse irony.

Luke Skywalker buys the droids, and via R2D2, he intercepts a holographic message from Princess Leia that was intended for Ben Kenobi.

Kenobi, the prophet-like character in *Star Wars*, meets with Luke to receive the message. In the process, Kenobi explains to Luke meaning of The Force: "The Force is an energy field created by all living things. It surrounds us, it binds the galaxy together, it penetrates us."

Does this sound a little like you-know-Who? Here is the concept of universal balance, the similarity between The Force and the Jewish God, both the communal consciousness and the mastermind physical force that links and binds all of nature together, the order within the would-be chaos of the universe.

Additionally, who else would God be speaking through, other than a prophet-like character? How else could one explain a prophet who has supernatural powers? Note that the Hebrew word *k'navi*, which means prophet-like, sounds similar to the name Kenobi.

But this is not the only Hebrew reference in Star Wars. The name Jedi is close to the Hebrew *yad-die*, meaning "a hand is enough," and refers to how the weapon of the Jedi, a lightsabre, is used. It might also refer to *The Empire Strikes Back*, in which Luke loses his right hand.

Another understanding of the word can come from the self-defence art form, karate. In Japanese, *kara-te* means "empty-handed," referring to those who are forced to defend themselves without a weapon in their hands. To a Jedi, perhaps a hand is sufficient.

Many of the other names in *Star Wars* also echo Hebrew words. Yoda, the "all-knowing" character, reflects the Hebrew *yodaya*, which means knowing.

Vader is a bit trickier. The Hebrew word *va-taer* means to give up. We know that Darth Vader "gave up" the good to join the Dark Side.

The name Chewbacca resembles *ts'va-chah*, meaning to scream or growl.

In the new movie, we meet Shmi Skywalker, Anakin's (Darth Vader before he was Darth Vader) mother. *Shmi* in Hebrew means "My name is..." I'm not yet sure of the significance of this connection.

Not only are there Hebrew connections in *Star Wars*, but faith and religion are discussed a number of times. For example, the commander of the Death Star taunts Darth Vader after they have lost some vital information: "Your sad devotion to that ancient religion has not helped you conjure up the stolen data tape."

"I find your lack of faith disturbing," Vader responds.

Even Han Solo complains: "I've never seen anything to make me believe there's one all-powerful force controlling everything."

Part of this summer's fun will be to decipher the Jewish allusions George Lucas has placed in *Star Wars Part I: The Phantom Menace.*

Dave Gordon is the co-editor of Afterword.

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Agudath Israel of Toronto (O)	129 McGillivray Ave. (416) 789-5514	7:00 PM	8:45 AM	7:00, 7:30 8:00, 8:30	Mon. Thurs. 6:25, 6:50, 7:15 Tues. Wed. Fri. 6:30, 6:55	8:50 PM
Baycrest Centre (O)	3560 Bathurst St. (416) 789-5131	4:30 PM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	----------
Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am (C)	55 Yeomans Rd. (416) 633-5500	6:00 PM	9:00 AM	8:30 AM	7:00 & 8:00 AM	6:00 PM
Beth Lida (O)	22 Gilgorm Rd. (416)489-2550	7:00 PM	9:00 AM	----------	----------	----------
Chevra Shas (O)	3545 Bathurst St. (416) 781-7126	7:00 PM	9:15 AM	7:00 & 8:00 AM	6:30 & 7:30 AM	8:50 PM
Minyan Avreichim (The Boat Shul) (O)	2919 Bathurst St. (416) 789-4731	7:00 PM	8:30 AM	7:30, 8:00, 8:30 & 9:00	7:00, 7:30, 8:00 8:30 & 9:00 AM	8:50 PM
Pride of Israel (C)	59 Lissom Cres. (416) 226-0111	7:00 PM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	7:30 & 8:30 AM	7:00 PM
Temple Emanu-El (R)	120 Old Colony Rd. (416) 449-3880	7:30 PM	10:30 AM	8:30 AM	7:30 AM	----------
Temple Kol Ami (R)	36 Atkinson Ave. (905) 709-2620	7:30 PM	10:30 AM	----------	----------	----------

This is not a comprehensive listing of the synagogues in the Greater Toronto area. The information is provided by the Vaad Harabonim of Toronto and the Toronto Board of Rabbis. The Vaad and the Board will periodically revise the listings. For statutory holidays, please call the Synagogue for any changes in times.

Greater Toronto Area

BBC clothing boxes used as fundraising venture

Continued from page 3

He did not consider moving the box, as requested by JF&CS.

Instead, he suggested that Just A Second be a beneficiary of the B'nai Brith box, an offer that was refused.

"The clothes we would get," said Wolfe, "would be, in many cases, not suitable for resale and not of any significant amount."

Dimant, in a separate interview, maintained the B'nai Brith clothes would be pre-sorted for quality, and his organization would do "only what is very helpful to" JF&CS.

"Truthfully, had [JF&CS] had a box out there, then probably – not probably, a hundred percent – we would not have put a site [at Bathurst and York Downs]," said Dimant.

Would B'nai Brith reconsider its Bathurst/York Downs site now that JF&CS has its own boxes?

"Are they willing to remove all their other boxes so that they're not in direct competition? Sure. We'd consider it. [But] why is there a question of removal?" Dimant asked. "We want to work jointly with them."

Both B'nai Brith fundraising and JF&CS' provision of clothing to needy people are "legitimate and worthwhile [goals], but they're different," said Wolfe.

Dimant doesn't dispute Wolfe's statement that BBC's major reason for collecting clothes is as a fundraising venture.

"It's certainly a very important component, yes, considering we don't get UJA dollars," Dimant told *The CJN*.

He maintains it is "common practice" at UJA agencies such as JF&CS and Le Mercaz, the Montreal counterpart of Just A Second, to sell clothing for profit.

Donations to Just A Second that are "not of sufficient quality," or that haven't sold and are occupying space needed for new stock, are sold by the bag to a local used clothing store, confirmed Barbara Barak, JF&CS' co-ordinator of volunteer services.

"Otherwise, we would have no way of removing the items from the store," she said. The money is used for store operating expenses, she noted, and any money left over is used to send needy children to camp.

Barak said she doesn't know how much money is made from the sale of surplus merchandise. "The money goes into the till and becomes part of the overall sales for the store. There isn't a great deal."

Similarly, Le Mercaz sells its surplus – outdated or threadbare items – to Somodif, according to Hinda Bilenco, its co-ordinator of operations. The money – over $10,000 a year – is used to benefit clients of Jewish Family Services.

The proportion of clothing that B'nai Brith sells, compared to what it donates, varies, said Dimant. "If, like for Hurricane Mitch, there's a need for a trailer-load of clothing, we would give whatever clothing we have available."

Surplus sold

By the end of 1998, the B'nai Brith Foundation had netted $20,000 from the boxes. B'nai Brith receives "prime rate – plus" for the clothing it sells, said Dimant.

There is nothing explicit on the B'nai Brith boxes, nor in their earlier ads, to indicate what is done with the clothes, some of which are recycled or sold in countries around the world.

The clothing box initiative was suggested to Dimant by Kupfert, whose company supplies the boxes and serves as intermediary for the clothing.

"We said fine, as long as we could maintain control and give all the clothes we want to community volunteer programs," Dimant said.

In the June/July bulletin of Beth Tikvah Synagogue, there is a notice specifying that clothes from the BBC box at the synagogue are distributed to the homeless or sold in bulk to acquire revenue to support B'nai Brith programs.

But the notice also asks Beth Tikvah members who want to ensure that their clothes benefit needy people in the Jewish community, to donate them to Just A Second.

Anna VanDelman, Beth Tikvah's social action committee co-chair, placed the notice after a synagogue member, who is affiliated with JF&CS, mentioned to her that donations to Just A Second had decreased because of the B'nai Brith boxes.

Although VanDelman donates her own used clothes to Just A Second, because the store can use plus-size items, she was "absolutely thrilled" when the BBC box was put up.

At the time, the committee had 19 bags of clothes that had been donated to the Out of the Cold program, but nobody wanted them, according to VanDelman.

"I don't care what B'nai Brith does with the clothes," she said. "If they're selling the clothes and taking kids to a baseball game, that's okay with me. Anything that helps anybody is okay with our committee."

"We seem to be getting a lot of gratitude for the convenience of our boxes," said Lou Ronson, chair of the B'nai Brith Foundation. "There are a lot of closets full of stuff that people want to get rid of."

According to research done by Goodwill – a registered charity that sells donated goods in its stores to fund training and employment services – convenience is the number 1 motivation for people to donate, said Jill Kehoe, director of communications for Goodwill Toronto.

"The other important factor is what's happening to their goods," she said.

"The value of used goods has escalated over the past few years, and we now have for-profit enterprises coming into the marketplace. We want to make sure the donor is comfortable.

"We encourage people to ask questions before they donate," she said.

The selling of donated clothes by charitable organizations to private companies is "a fairly new phenomenon that's been imported from the United States," said Patrick Johnston, president and CEO of the Canadian Centre for Philanthropy.

"There's nothing wrong with that, as long as the donor understands it's almost in lieu of a cash donation."

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Greater Toronto Area

Dr. Ruth wants women to enjoy their pregnancies

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Dr. Ruth Westheimer is too busy to live in the past, but the world-famous sex therapist – a mother of two and grandmother of three – has fond memories of her pregnancies.

"I walked around like the happiest person in the world, with my hands on my belly all the time," she recalled last week, sipping a cup of cinnamon stick tea at the Crowne Plaza Hotel. At 4 feet 7 inches tall, she was as wide as she was high, she noted.

Speaking more seriously, she recalled feeling tremendous satisfaction and a sense of triumph over Hitler. The only survivor of her family, she was sent at age 10 from her Orthodox home in Frankfurt to a Swiss orphanage to escape Nazi Germany.

These days Dr. Ruth – the name by which she is instantly recognized – is hoping her new book will help other women enjoy their pregnancies.

Westheimer, 71, was in town last week for the Canadian Booksellers Association trade show – and to visit her son, daughter-in-law and their 1-year-old daughter, who are living here temporarily.

The book, *Dr. Ruth's Pregnancy Guide for Couples* (Routledge, $22.00), is Westheimer's 17th. Her co-author, Amos Grünebaum, is an Israeli-born professor of clinical obstetrics and gynecology at Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons.

"It was a very difficult birth, this book," said Westheimer. "[Almost] every time we were sitting together, his beeper went off, and he was called to deliver another baby."

While there are many books on pregnancy, Westheimer says there is a dearth of information on sex during pregnancy.

Her book is aimed at filling that gap, right down to an illustration of the "Dr. Ruth and Dr. Amos position" dreamed up by the authors for expectant couples.

But the book is much more comprehensive, as its surtitle (*Love, Sex and Medical Facts*) indicates. Medical and emotional aspects of a couple's life from before conception to after birth are discussed thoroughly but readably.

"There are many women and men who are very worried about engaging in sexual activity during [pregnancy]," said Westheimer.

Dr. Ruth Westheimer [Frances Kraft photo]

Women worry about inducing premature labor; men believe they're being selfish and worry about hurting the baby, she said.

Once women get the go-ahead from their doctors for sexual activity during pregnancy, Westheimer feels the book can help them enjoy the time. "Make sure that you make the best of it," she admonishes.

She is very happy that the book has been published in paperback, making it accessible to more people. "It's not an expensive book. I want people to have it, to read it, and to have good sex."

A 13th century quotation by Rabbi Isaac ben Joseph of Corbeil at the beginning of the book – reading in part "...even when his wife is pregnant it is a mitzvah to bring her joy in this manner if he feels she is desirous" – pleases Westheimer no end, she said.

She attributes her ease in discussing sexual matters to her traditional Jewish background. "For us Jews, sex was never a sin. Sex is a mitzvah, an obligation."

All her books – among them *Sex for Dummies, Grandparenthood* and *Heavenly Sex*, a book about sex in the Jewish tradition – include quotes from Jewish sources.

Why? "Because I'm very Jewish," she said simply. "I believe we have such a wealth of wisdom from the sages."

Although she hasn't read the widely publicized book *Kosher Sex*, by Rabbi Shmuley Boteach, she said if it helps anyone have a better relationship, then by all means they should use it.

Among Westheimer's Jewish involvements is her longtime presidency of the YMHA of Washington Heights near her Manhattan home.

"I've never missed a board meeting," she said.

She has lectured extensively in Israel, where she once served in the Haganah. During the Gulf War, she travelled there to show her support.

She still goes annually, and recently taped an Israeli version of *Hollywood Squares*.

Her daily attire includes a necklace fashioned by Jerusalem goldsmith Michael Ende to resemble the Kotel, and bearing a Hebrew inscription on the back wishing her 121 years of life.

Westheimer savors life. She exudes energy and cheerfulness, with her brisk way of speaking, ready smile and girlish giggle.

An avid downhill skier, she still lectures occasionally at New York University, maintains her sexual therapy practice, and has three more books in the works.

She confessed to not being computer literate yet, although her new book lists Web sites as resources, and Westheimer herself – who got her media start 19 years ago on radio – answers questions on the Internet.

She speaks dotingly of her grandchildren – her daughter's children Ari and Leora, as well as baby Michal – whom she sees regularly.

It's very important for her to be busy, especially being a widow for the past two years, she said.

Recently, Westheimer began dating. "Other people who are alone should know they have to take that step into making new relationships. I certainly believe people need companionship and friendship."

Unlike some celebrities, she loves being recognized. "It's nice to be Dr. Ruth," she said.

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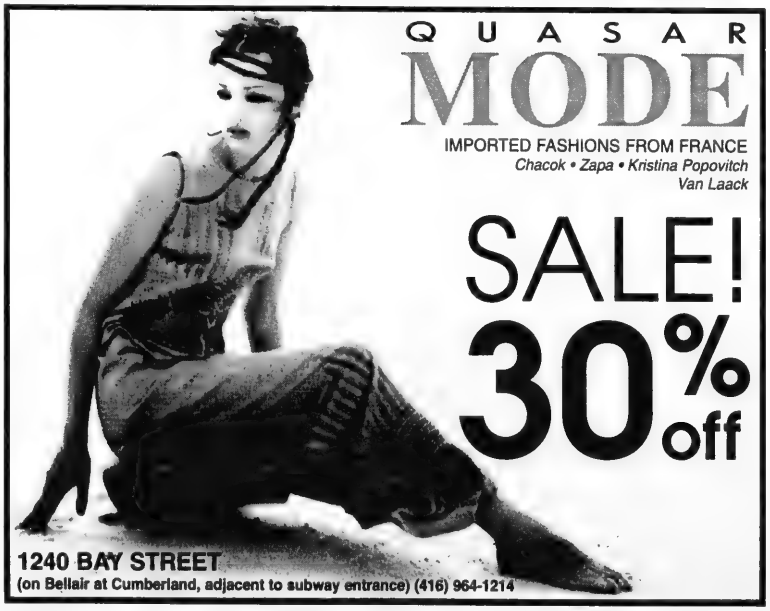

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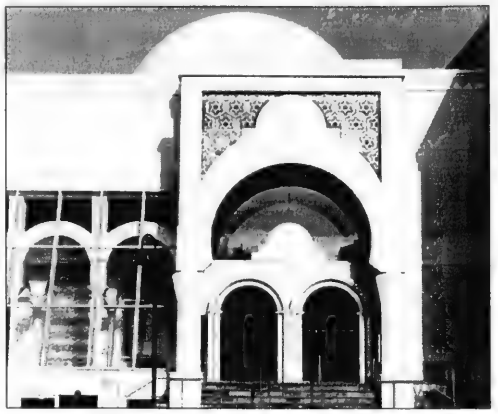

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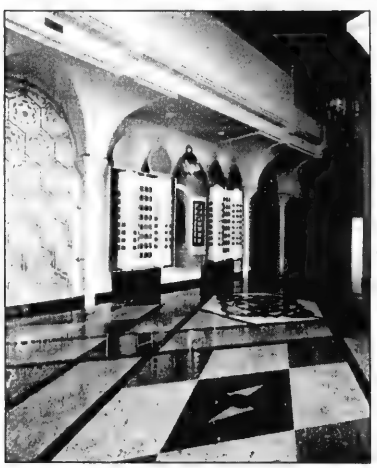

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Greater Toronto Area

JF&CS Diamond Centre marks 25th anniversary

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — What began as a mobile outreach program in a trailer in Yorkville during the hippie heyday became a unique adolescent treatment centre.

This project, which was spearheaded by Jewish Family & Child Service (JF&CS), is now known as the Jerome D. Diamond Adolescent Centre. Three decades later, it stands as Canada's only facility for troubled Jewish youth.

The centre took its modern form 25 years ago – a fact that was highlighted at JF&CS's recent annual meeting.

Tributes to the Diamond Centre and to JF&CS came from several speakers, including Jerome Diamond himself. The former executive director of JF&CS lauded the agency for coming a long way since the early days, when Torontonians, as he recalled, "were careful not to offend each other."

In 1968, the Diamond Centre began as a mobile treatment unit providing outreach in Yorkville to Jewish street kids.

A few years later, it moved to two buildings on Keewatin Avenue in north Toronto, and became a residential placement centre for troubled youth.

In 1974, the two locations became Centre Shelanu, a residential and day treatment centre for Jewish adolescents. It was renamed after Diamond in 1980.

Over the years, as many as 600 troubled Jewish youth passed through the facility, both in its day program, which offers classes and skills training, and in its kosher residence, which was staffed 24 hours a day.

Budget cuts forced the residence to close in 1995.

Among the centre's former residents was Jeremy Gold, who came to the facility in 1988 as an angry and confused 14-year-old. Now a poised, articulate young man, he praised the Diamond Centre for turning him around, as he told the annual meeting, "like an old, beat-up classic car that has been restored."

Last year was a busy one for JF&CS. The agency handled 3,760 calls, provided counselling services to over 7,000 people, distributed $1.4 million in assistance to over 2,500 children and adults, and investigated over 400 allegations of child abuse.

It ended its fiscal year with a balanced bottom line.

Last winter, JF&CS responded to Jewish homelessness. It hired a consultant, Lillian Freedman, to find homeless Jews and recommend a course of action.

The agency says it "assisted over 100 transitional homeless persons" with financial and housing assistance.

Its intake and after-hours emergency staff were made more aware of homelessness, and JF&CS established accounts with inexpensive hotels for emergency placements, it says.

Richard Cummings, who has served as president of JF&CS for the past two years, passed the leadership to Susan Maldoff.

Completing their terms on the board of directors were Al Dickstein, Robert Furman, Janice Langer and Leonard Wechsler.

Welcomed as new board members were Steve Benmor, Marvin Gans, Karine Krieger, Richard Orzy and Lori Shekter-Wolfson.

JF&CS's new president, Susan Maldoff, takes the gavel from outgoing president Richard Cummings at the agency's recent annual meeting.

Tribute was also paid to staff on completion of 25 years of service, and to Florence Weinberger, who managed the agency's communications department for 11 years. Weinberger heads to York University, where she will be development officer for women's and Jewish studies.

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Greater Toronto Area

Or Haemet Sephardic School gets new president

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — How does someone with an eastern European surname end up as president of Or Haemet Sephardic School?

"That's one of the beautiful things about Toronto. There's such a wonderful mix of ethnic backgrounds," says Marvin Igelman, 36, who took over the position from Jacques Benquesus early last month.

Igelman's own background is more heavily Sephardi than his name would indicate. His mother Gladys (née Cohen) traces her family history in Morocco at least half a dozen generations back.

Marvin's father David was born and raised in Tangiers. David's parents – Marvin's paternal grandparents – left Poland in the late 1920s for Spain. They settled in Morocco, where the political situation was more stable and there was an established Jewish community.

"You'd be hard pressed to say he wasn't [Moroccan] many generations back," Marvin said of his father in a recent interview. Marvin's paternal grandmother has "a wonderful Yiddish-Spanish accent," he noted.

Marvin Igelman

Marvin's parents immigrated to Canada separately in the late 1950s and were married here.

Marvin, whose wife Luna was born in Morocco and raised here, practised law for eight years before launching his own internet software company, Warp 10 Technologies Inc., in 1995.

Three of their four children attend Or Haemet (the youngest is a preschooler). Marvin has been a member of the board since 1994 and also serves on the executive of the Sephardic Kehila Centre, the Thornhill synagogue that houses the school.

He was also involved in the founding of Medrash Torah Vehayim and served on the board of Petah Tikva Anshe Castilla Congregation.

In the general community, he has been involved in fundraising for the likes of UJA Federation and Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care.

He feels it's important to "help establish a very strong presence of the Sephardi community in the general community."

In his capacity at the day school, Igelman oversees the board of directors and is responsible for a number of administrative functions.

He touts the school's small classes and quality of education, but what he says is "really incredible" about Or Haemet is its family atmosphere.

"People who know the Sephardic community know that it's very family-oriented. The school is almost an extension of the family," he said.

His goals include continuing to strengthen the relationship between the Sephardi community and the larger Jewish community.

School has about 220 students

"I don't think people can consider themselves well-rounded Jews without understanding that their heritage includes both a Sephardic and an Ashkenazic component."

Or Haemet has about 220 students from junior kindergarten through Grade 8, including a small number of Ashkenazi background.

Igelman himself is not an alumnus, as the two decade-old school was not around when he was a child.

A graduate of Eitz Chaim Day School, he attended the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto for two years before switching to Sir Sandford Fleming Secondary School (now Sir Sandford Fleming Academy).

His generation is very fortunate, he believes. "We're not isolated [Jewishly]. We're truly part of the larger Jewish community. This goes back almost to the days of the tribes, where we all carried our own flags but we were all part of the same nation and larger camp."

CORRECTION

In the article on UIA Federations Canada's Galilee Fellowships (On Campus, Nov. 17), there was an error in the fourth paragraph. The sentence should have read: "Scholars will have a chance to interact with their colleagues." *The CJN* regrets the error.

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Greater Toronto Area

Jewish artist creates glass cross for the Pope

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

MARKHAM — Judd Shemesh smiles and shrugs when it's pointed out that he – a Jewish, Iraqi-born, British-educated, Israeli-raised artist – has created a stunning glass cross to be presented to Pope John Paul when the leader of the world's Roman Catholics visits the Palestinian Authority later this year.

"To me, art is for everyone," says the Thornhill-based glass sculptor. "It's for all people, of all religions."

Shemesh, 58, may be blasé about the multicultural significance of his latest creation, but he's excited that it will be presented to the pontiff on John Paul's historic visit to Bethlehem this December to mark Christian millennial celebrations.

The 18-inch high, 5-pound glass cross was commissioned by the Roman Catholic archdiocese of Miami, where Shemesh's work is well known. The archbishop of Miami plans to present it to the Pope at a huge New Year's Eve mass in Bethlehem.

How does a Jewish artist who specializes in glass chanukiyot, menorahs, Shabbat candelabras and mezuzah covers come to design and build a cross for the Pope?

Four years ago, a customer walked into his studio in Florida, where Shemesh winters. The customer, a Catholic, was intrigued that Shemesh was experimenting with a cross. He put the artist in touch with the Archbishop of Miami, who bought the cross.

The archbishop's office then asked Shemesh to design and make a gift for the Pope to mark the millennium.

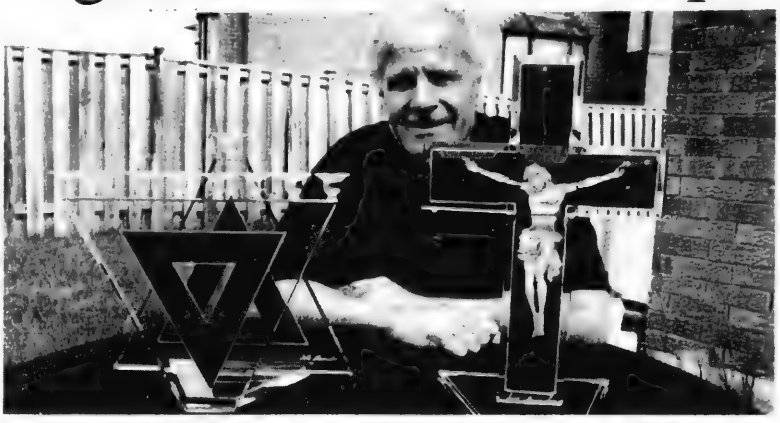
Shemesh began doodling and then made a cardboard model. It took nine months to finish the work, made of six separate, beveled glass pieces that were fused with a special glue that reacts to ultra-violet light to form a seamless bond.

The image of a crucified Jesus appears to be floating inside the free-standing cross, but is actually etched on the reverse and painted gold.

Shemesh is unperturbed that a Jew raised in Israel has built a cross for the Pope.

"Religions are very close to one another," he told *The CJN* from his combination home/studio/showroom. "I strongly believe in God, but I'm not religious. I see myself as a spiritual person."

The Baghdad-born artist was taken to Israel at age seven, and studied business in England. He came to Canada in 1972 and began modeling for Simpson's and Eaton's catalogues.



Glass Judaica artist Judd Shemesh with a Star of David chanukiah and the specially commissioned cross that will be presented to Pope John Paul II as a gift. [Ron Csillag photo]

Shemesh, who has been an artist for only five years, has had other major accomplishments.

His work was recognized when the head of the American Jewish Congress visited the White House in 1997 and presented U.S. President Bill Clinton with a Shemesh-made chanukiah – two glass triangles positioned to form a Star of David.

With no formal training, Shemesh hit the library to learn all he could about glass art. His mother and brother are clothes designers, and his sister sculpts and paints. "So I guess it's in my genes," he muses.

Now, he has pieces in New York's Museum of Modern Art and the National Glass Museum in Waterloo.

His mainstays are candle holders with straight, clean lines. He uses commercial glass, and then sandblasts, carves, polishes and paints to create the unique products. He markets his work under the name Glassique, available in fine giftware and Judaica shops.

"I was always fascinated by glass," he says. "It's the only creation of God that time cannot affect. If you come back in 1,000 years, it will be the same."

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Greater Toronto Area

Rabbi explores nature of wealth and religion

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — There is evidence in Jewish liturgy and tradition that money is needed in today's world, but a belief in God will help direct the use of wealth and ensure a good night's sleep.

This was the message of Rabbi Dr. Eugene Borowitz, a philosopher who spoke recently at Temple Sinai. The lecture was sponsored by the Dennis Waldman Foundation.

"The Holocaust destroyed any connection between poverty and religiosity," said Rabbi Borowitz, a professor at Hebrew Union College Jewish Institute of Religion, which is located in New York City.

"The Talmud decries the negative effects of poverty. In short, making money is a valid mitzvah. There is no other way for Jews to survive."

Rabbi Michael Dolgin described Rabbi Borowitz "as the foremost theologian of our (Reform) movement." The professor, who has written 322 books, has just co-authored *The Jewish Moral Virtues,* his latest published book.

An excerpt from this book from the chapter on wealth was distributed to those in attendance before the lecture. In it, he quotes from a writer who said, "wealth is a greater test of character than poverty," and another writer who said that anyone whose outhouse wasn't far from his table was a wealthy man.

Rabbi Borowitz said he was concerned over the "silence" about personal ethics. "The problem of the evil urge in each of us will remain real."

Give Tzedakah

He said he was attracted to a 14th century Jewish Italian philosopher who wrote a book on 24 Jewish virtues. "He was realistic enough to combine high idealism with practical convictions and he had the courage to include a chapter on wealth.

"He said having money can be a religiously significant virtue, but at the time he wrote it, he believed all Jews believed in God."

Mainstream Judaism does not define poverty as a virtue, Rabbi Borowitz said. "Throughout our history most Jews have lived in grinding poverty. Neediness does not increase religiosity. Our sages teach that the risk of wealth is less destructive to Jews than the risk of poverty."

Pointing to the need to give tzedakah wisely, he added: "Studies have confirmed that the truly affluent usually give modestly. They want their net worth to remain stable."

Before his lecture, Rabbi Borowitz paid tribute to Rabbi Jordan Pearlson, senior rabbi at Temple Sinai.

BIALIK STUDENTS RAISE CASH FOR SOLDIERS

Students at Bialik Hebrew Day School recently took part in their "Shai Lachayim" project to benefit the Association for the Soldiers of Israel. Pictured are Danielle Schwartz (left) and Maya Adler presenting a cheque for $2,975 to Col. Charlie Ben Simon of the Israel Defence Force.

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Greater Toronto Area

Israeli astronaut has feet planted on earth

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Col. Ilan Ramon has heard of the movie, *The Right Stuff*, but he hasn't gotten around to viewing it yet.

He's seen *Apollo 13* and one or two science fiction films about the final frontier, something about shuttle pilots destroying asteroids or some such thing but he can't quite remember their names.

For a man scheduled to take his own trip into outer space, Ramon still has his feet planted firmly on the ground. As Israel's first-ever astronaut, he's more concerned about engineering systems and science experiments than about the wild black yonder.

Ramon, 45, was in Toronto last week as a guest of State of Israel Bonds to speak to a select group of investors. He also addressed the Beth Tzedec Congregation during Shabbat services. Following his two-day visit, he returned to Houston where he continued his training in preparation for his role as payload specialist on board NASA's space shuttle.

Although he's still waiting to hear when he'll be blasting off, Ramon and his Israeli backup, Yitzhak Mayo, maintain a busy schedule of training exercises.

Astronauts lucky enough to fly on the shuttle fall into three categories, Ramon explained: pilots, mission specialists and payload specialists. Even though he's an accomplished fighter pilot, Ramon will serve as a payload specialist, running an Israeli-designed experiment that will study the dissipation of dust particles in the earth's atmosphere.

Not quite the sort of mission one would normally expect from someone with "the right stuff," nevertheless, riding on board the shuttle as it's propelled beyond the earth's gravity by giant rockets firing in a controlled explosion, is not exactly a walk in the park.

Still, danger is nothing new to Ramon. Although he won't give full details of his military career, this much he'll say. He was born in Tel Aviv, and raised in Ramat Gan and Beersheva. He joined the Israeli Air Force in 1972 and received his pilot's wings two years later. He's flown A-4 Skyhawks, the Mirage III, Phantom F-4s and, since 1980, the F-16 Falcon.

Ramon won't say what sort of missions he's flown, but he had enough Israeli Air Force (IAF) right stuff to be given command of an F-16 squadron. His last military post was as head of weapons system development and acquisition for the air force – a post he was planning to hold for 3½ years before retiring.

But towards the end of 1995, wheels were turning in diplomatic circles that were to change his plans.

Shuttle missions

Not long after Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin was assassinated, his successor, Shimon Peres, met with U.S. President Bill Clinton. Together, they agreed that Israel would participate in future NASA shuttle missions.

It took two years for tangible steps to result from that meeting. The IAF was asked to select candidates for the job, and they searched for someone with a technical education – Ramon had received a degree in electrical engineering from the University of Tel Aviv in 1987 – and who was good at working in a team.

Late one night when he was about to go home, Ramon received a telephone call from the Air Force's human resources department. "It was really like a joke," he recalled. They asked him to consider serving as Israel's first astronaut. He couldn't believe his ears.

Although the offer was vague and there was no set time frame, the phone call was certainly no joke.

But after talking it over with his wife, Rone, he agreed.

In April 1998, Ramon and Mayo, a navigator and weapons system operator in an F-16 test squadron, flew to Houston for physical and psychological checks. They – and the Israeli experiment – were subsequently approved by NASA, and last July they began their training.

Col. Ilan Ramon

Most payload specialists learn very little about the shuttle systems themselves, but Israel negotiated a unique arrangement that would permit Ramon and Mayo to train in all aspects of shuttle operations.

"We train and observe as much as we can, just to study and to learn," Ramon said. "We're interested in all [aspects of] the space program."

The shuttle is a rocket and a plane, so its system aerodynamics are similar to an aircraft, he said. On the other hand, it's such a complicated piece of machinery, it takes more than one year to learn the basic shuttle systems, compared to two or three weeks for a fighter aircraft, he said.

NASA pilots, who must all be U.S. citizens, are curious about his IAF experience, which he shares with them, minus the operational details, he said.

"They are very good people, very talented people. They are the right stuff," he said.

On the other hand, having trained with NASA's best, "the IAF has nothing to be ashamed of. The IAF people are at the same level as the astronauts," he said.

Israelis, like people in much the rest of the world, are intrigued by space and his selection to join NASA's team was front page news in the Jewish state.

Ramon expects it to become an even bigger deal after his flight. Like Jeffrey Hoffman, the U.S.-born Jewish astronaut who took a Chanukah sevivon (spinning top) on board, Ramon plans to add an element of Judaica to his flight, though he's not yet ready to announce what it will be.

"We're keeping it as a surprise," he said.

But one thing he will say. He and Mayo believe they're representing more than just the State of Israel.

"We'll try to transfer to space the unity of the Jewish people, from Israel and the rest of the world," he said. "We represent the entire Jewish people."

Polish-Jewish relations

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The Holocaust is a distorting prism through which to view Polish-Jewish relations, said Gershon Hundert, a professor in the McGill University department of history.

"It is a fundamental distortion of the experience of Jews in Poland to say that anti-Semitism in Poles came with their mother's milk," Hundert said.

His talk, titled Poland, Paradise for Jews?, the Louis Lenkinski Memorial Lecture, was given at the Workmen's Circle and sponsored by the Polish-Jewish Heritage Foundation of Canada.

Lenkinski was one of the founders and a former chair of the foundation's Toronto branch. Hundert is also a founding member of the Toronto branch.

His thesis, that the true nature of Polish-Jewish relations is shown in earlier times, was challenged by an audience member, a survivor, who said that Hundert failed to explain why there is so much antipathy to Jews in present day Poland.

"When we needed help, it didn't come," the survivor said. "I have revisited Poland three or four times, and on the last visit, I was told not to go to the provinces without a police escort."

Hundert said he did not deny the survivor's personal experience, but contended that it was a combination of nationalism, anti-Semitic views of the Catholic church and economic rivalries that led to the breakdown of Polish-Jewish relations.

He said he is anxious to correct "an imbalanced picture"of Polish anti-Semitism.

"The use of the word minority [to describe] Jews is a distortion and misleading, as half of the urban Polish population was Jewish, while 90 percent of the total population was in the countryside."

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Greater Toronto Area

UCC student wins stock market contest

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A little instinct and a lot of homework paid off for Jay Mintz, 17, who won $500 in this year's Wilfrid Laurier University National Secondary School Stock Market competition.

The Grade 11 student at Upper Canada College (UCC) parlayed a theoretical $100,000 investment on the Toronto Stock Exchange (TSE) into $126,380 over 12 weeks. He won the contest's Huntly McKay award, recognizing the highest return with the most diverse portfolio.

Jay Mintz

The contest was part of Mintz' Computer Business Applications course, but he's been following the market since receiving five stocks as a Chanukah present in 1996.

During the contest, he spent up to an hour a night studying the TSE Web site and the *Toronto Star* business section, for which his mother, Judy Nyman, used to be a columnist. She now runs her own business, Nyman Ink, an information design firm.

Among Mintz' best picks was the Loewen Group Inc., which operates funeral homes and cemeteries. "It had gone way down, then way up again, and way down," said Mintz. He guessed – correctly – that the trend would continue.

"Sometimes I was a little surprised how fast some of the stocks would go up or down," he said.

Mintz selected Gentra Inc. on the basis of a news release he spotted on the TSE Web site. The development company had just signed a major real estate deal.

His personal portfolio hasn't done nearly as well as his virtual one, Mintz said ruefully.

"I learned quite a bit. Most importantly, we learned not only how to read the tables, but about the different types of trading. We learned a lot about how the market works and what to look for."

Although he hasn't made a final decision, Mintz would like to pursue a career in business, perhaps as a stockbroker or – like his father Harley – an accountant.

"I've always been better at math and economics than English and history," he said.

For market novices, he would advise, "Make sure you have a lot of research on the company. Don't jump into anything."

Aside from investing, Mintz enjoys movies, television, hanging around with friends and playing soccer on the UCC team – an activity for which he has also won an award.

"Soccer and the stock market are both fast-paced," he noted. "You have to always be aware of what's going on. Anything can happen."

Canadian Jews reach out

Continued from page 1

sorship by the community should they decide to remain in Canada.

"We've made known our intention to help Jews stay," says Briks. "We're confident that as people identify themselves as Jewish, we'll be notified."

Overseas, meantime, four Jewish families who fled the bombing have expressed interest in coming to Canada. Two of the families are currently in Budapest, one is in Macedonia and the other in the Yugoslav capital, Belgrade, Briks said. They have made their intentions known either through the Red Cross, the United Nations or Canadian consular officials.

Briks told *The CJN* that of the four families, two will likely come to Canada under family reunification provisions, one to Vancouver and the other to Tecumseh, Ont. The other two families will come as convention refugees. He said the fate of all four families should be known within the next week or two.

Briks said several Canadian synagogues and federations have called JIAS for "procedural advice" on how to sponsor Jews from Kosovo.

Ethnic Albanians who fled the war in Yugoslavia may apply for refugee status in Canada, arguing they have a well-founded fear of persecution should they return home. Ottawa has hinted it would expedite those claims.

Briks said there are two main ways to help Kosovar Jews come to Canada. One is sponsorship through organizations like JIAS.

The other is to set up a "sponsoring group" comprised of five individuals whose credibility must be established first. The mechanism is called constituent group joint sponsorship.

Briks said the federal government has agreed to a joint program, under which it would provide two years of funding refugees' financial needs if the sponsoring group assists in the refugees' integration.

Briks and other JIAS representatives held meetings recently with federal immigration officials. Among the items discussed was the welfare of Jews in the Balkans.

In the meantime, JIAS has made available a list of individuals to call regarding constituent group joint sponsorship.

In Alberta and British Columbia, call Fikre Tsehai at 604-435-9750 (fax, 604-435-9923).

In Manitoba and Saskatchewan, call Ed Wiebe at 204-261-6381 (fax, 204-269-9875).

And in Ontario and Quebec, call Anne Woolger at 416-620-1169 (fax, 416-622-2308).

As well, JIAS notes that families with members who have fled to Albania or Macedonia should call the federal government's citizenship and immigration department's Kosovo hotline at 1-800-410-0009 (fax, 1-877-800-8834).

The global arm of JIAS, Hebrew Immigrant Aid Services (HIAS), and the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, are also in the Balkans doing whatever they can to aid Jewish refugees.

THE DINING GUIDE

ADVERTISING FEATURE

BUMPKIN'S

Bumpkin's, under the same owner since 1971, is situated in a Victorian house with an inviting atmosphere and warm fireplace. The huge menu includes duck a l'orange, quails and breast of chicken; for seafood, try the best-selling Shrimps Bumpkin's, fresh Atlantic salmon, stuffed rainbow trout, or fresh catch of the day. The choice of tender, juicy meat items includes roast beef, sirloin, filet mignon and sirloin butt steak; there are also fine vegetarian dishes, like pasta primavera. Daily specials include tiger shrimp, pasta aux fruits de mer, and surf 'n turf. Appetizers are from $2.95, entrees from $8.95; lunches include soup or salad. Best escargots & mussels in town! Newly renovated with wall to wall famous paintings.

21 Gloucester Street
Phone 416-922-8655

Hours: Lunch Mon.-Fri. 12:00-2:30 p.m., Dinner Mon.-Sat. 5:00-11:00 p.m. Reservations requested for 5 or more

GARLIC PEPPER, SZECHUAN CUISINE

In a casual, family atmosphere, Garlic Pepper offers you spicy Szechuan cuisine with plenty of garlic, good for body and soul all year round. The one-price All You Can Enjoy special, with over 60 soup, appetizer and entree selections, is served a la carte, so you can relax over your meal; Mon.-Fri. $12.99, Sat., Sun. and holidays $13.99. Try General Tsao's chicken, or chicken chunks in honey garlic sauce; and there's dim sum all day long. There's home pickup and delivery, and a private dining room for up to 80. Fully licensed; smoking area.

Thornhill
7335 Yonge Street, (at Glen Cameron)
Phone 905-882-7836
Midtown
3330 Yonge Street, (at Fairlawn)
Phone 416-481-6363

Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 11:30 a.m.-10:30 p.m. Fri. 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Sat. 10 a.m.-11 p.m. Sun. 10 a.m.-10:30 p.m.
Wheelchair access • Reservations welcome

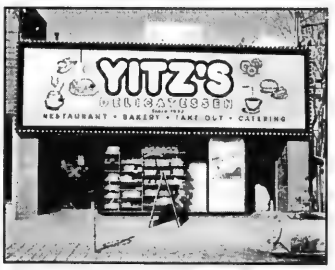
LICK'S

Licks is excited to be in Thornhill, preparing gourmet burgers with fresh ingredients that put "food", i.e. nutrition and taste, back into "fast food". Try the six-ounce ground steak Homeburger; the Chick'n Lick'n; the ground turkey Gobbler; or the vegetarian Nature Burger with its special spice blend. There are kids' meals, a Value Menu with combos, many ice cream flavors, and desserts like hot fudge or fresh fruit sundae. This upbeat restaurant, with music recalling the '50s and '60s and staff that chant your order, also hosts kids' birthdays. Want to cook for yourself? Order Licks' barbecue six-pack.

8187 Yonge Street, Thornhill
Phone 905-764-7052

Open 11a.m.– 11p.m. every day
Wheelchair access
Reservations for large parties only

YITZ'S DELICATESSEN



A Jewish Deli serving hearty foods prepared fresh daily with many favourites like homemade soups, corned beef, knishes, big salads and bagels. Voted #1 for Chicken Matzoh Ball Soup, Baby Beef, Lemon Meringue Pie and Chunky Chocolate Cookies. Boasts a 'lighten up' low fat menu. Baking on premises all day long. Unique Feature: A well stocked Humidor with the finest Cuban cigars at the city's best prices.

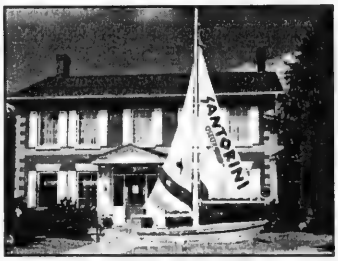
346 Eglinton Avenue West
Phone 416-487-4506

Sat.&Sun. Hours: Brunch until 2:30 p.m. 10:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m.
Take Out: 9:30 a.m.-9:00 p.m. 7 days a week
Wheelchair access & washroom on main floor

THE DINING GUIDE

ADVERTISING FEATURE

Santorini Grill



Santorini is a Mediterranean restaurant with a Greek flavor, featuring grilled steaks, souvlaki, mezes, pasta, seafood and fresh fish. Enjoy a fresh salmon, swordfish or sea bass fillet, or a whole red snapper or sea bass. Every dinner includes taramosalata, pickles and salad appetizers, and a homemade loaf you slice to your taste; birthday or anniversary parties of more than four receive a free cake. In this fine house built in 1855, the private rooms with their inviting decor and electric fireplaces can seat 15 or 45 dinner guests; why not celebrate your special occasion here?

Open Mon.–Sat. 11:30–3:00 for lunch, after 3 for dinner. Sun. 12–5 for private parties, after 5 for dinner. Reservations recomended, required Fri. & Sat. Parking Thornhill Sq. in front of restaurant

288 John St., Markham
Phone 905-731-4400

Furama House

Looking for ambience, fine dining and a varied selection of Cantonese and Szechuan cuisine? Look no further than Bobby Peng's **Furama House**, which boasts all of the above plus the city's most spectacular Dim Sum, available from 10 to 4 seven days a week for your dining pleasure.

Ongoing specials include Live Lobster (buy 1 get 1 free), and Live Lobster & Whole King Crab. Monday to Friday except holidays, enjoy 20% off the Dim Sum if paying cash, and 15% off the dinner menu, not including specials.

Hours: 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m., 7 days a week. Dim Sum 10-4 daily. Eat-in or take out. Fully licensed. Wheelchair Access. Reservations recommended.

100 Steeles Avenue West
Phone 905-731-3288

Octavia Dining Lounge

There's only one thing better than great Memories — namely, great experiences today! In the world of fine cuisine, that means **Octavia** – Tom Konis' new and totally unique dining lounge on the Danforth. From 5 to 10 p.m. you'll enjoy fresh seafood, pasta, lamb, and BBQ back ribs as only Tom can make them, along with his new, vibrant Mediterranean menu featuring the best dips this side of Greece! After 10 p.m., you can relax with a cigar and a martini, and soak up the atmosphere while enjoying the most comfortable, intimate seating arrangements you can imagine.

With his partners, son John Konis and close friend Tom Athanasopoulos, Tom Konis offers affordable fine dining in a truly friendly, down-to-earth, comfortable environment. Heartily recommended.

Hours: Lunch 12:30 p.m. — 3:30 p.m.; Dinner 5 p.m. — 10:30 p.m.; Lounge 10:30 p.m. — closing. Fully licensed.

414 Danforth Avenue
Phone 461-3562

Bradley's

A shish kebab is a shish kebab is a shish kebab. Right? Wrong! At **Bradley's**, the fine Middle-Eastern fare has a refined difference instantly discernible to the connoisseur. Bountiful offerings of hoummos and tabouleh salad, falafel, and grilled lamb chops are complemented by a variety of vegetarian dishes. Try the Fattouche and the Vegetarian Grape Leaves — they're melt-in-your-mouth delicious!

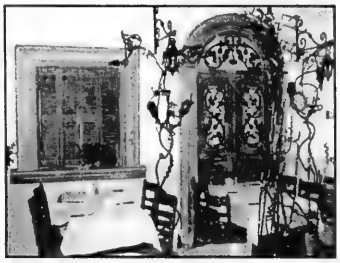
Originally from Montreal, Bradley brings to your table a wealth of experience in fine dining and the gourmet's irrepressible attention to detail.

A final word: a sense of humour is highly recommended at **Bradley's**. You never know who you'll run into.

Hours: Tuesday – Thursday 11:30 – 10 Friday 11:30 – 11 • Saturday 5 – 11 Sunday 5–10 • Closed Monday Fully licensed. Wheelchair access.

1120 Eglinton West (near Bathurst)
Phone 416-785-1363

Mezes Greek Restaurant



An obsession for freshness and quality have made **Mezes** one of the busiest restaurants not only on the Danforth, but in all of Toronto. Mezes makes all dishes to order from the highest quality ingredients, starting with the finest cold-pressed extra-virgin olive oil from Greece. You can really taste the difference — in the lamb chops, in the fresh red snapper, in the delectable variety of vegetarian dishes, even in the appetizers.

By adhering to this simple formula (freshness and quality) with unwavering consistency, owner Sue Zindros and her sister Christine, the head chef, have established a standard which clearly resonates with their ever-growing clientele. A must visit for Greek food lovers.

Hours: Open 7 days, Noon to Midnight Friday and Saturday to 3 a.m. Fully licensed. Wheelchair access.

456 Danforth Avenue
Phone 778-5150

Shorasheem Nightclub & Banquet Hall

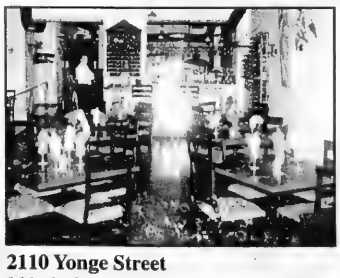
Question: Where can you enjoy a delicious multi-course meal, dancing, and spectacular live entertainment in a vibrant Jewish atmosphere for only $30? Answer: **Shorasheem!** With its compelling combination of exquisite Continental and Middle Eastern cuisine, and live bands featuring four international singers, Shorasheem has become a favourite destination not only of diners but also of simcha-goers.

Bar and Bat Mitzvah parties are a natural at Shorasheem, and the decorations are supplied free of charge. Complete simcha packages start at only $30 per person, allowing you to celebrate important occasions in a truly Jewish environment at a fraction of the cost you'd expect to pay.

Hours: Thursday & Saturday, 8 p.m. to closing, except when reserved for functions. Fully licensed. Wheelchair access.

398 Steeles Avenue West
Phone 905-707-0330

The Wineyard



"For people who appreciate good value, generous portions and friendly service.
Sara Waxman/Toronto Sun

"In these hard times, running a restaurant is an act of lovable folly. One with a large choice of honestly cooked and interesting foods for under $70 a couple deserves our patronage. The Wineyard is that place."
Joanne Kates/The Globe and Mail

"Tuscany at-harvest mural and swelling wine list give credence to the tag. Lengthy menu on East & West harmonious results."
Toronto Life

Private function rooms for special occasions.

Hours: Mon.-Fri. 11:30 am-midnight Sat.-Sun. 5:00 pm-midnight Wheelchair access

2110 Yonge Street
2 blocks South of Eglinton
Phone 416-489-4929

Le Chinoix Glatt Kosher Restaurant (COR)

In the two short months since **Le Chinoix** opened its doors, it's fair to say that it has not only lived up to expectations, but far exceeded them. As one satisfied patron exclaimed, "Here, even the water tastes good!"

Authentic Szechuan and Cantonese cuisine and delectable Continental offerings are prepared by two renowned Executive Chefs. Your superb dining experience is enhanced by an intimate environment featuring cozy mirrored bar, tapestry drapes and smoked glass. The entire menu is available for take-out.

Founder and President Raphy Amar has done full justice to his enviable reputation as ongoing exclusive Kosher Caterer to Le Parc.

Hours: Sunday to Thurs., Noon to Midnight Fri., Noon to 1 hour before Shabbat Sat., 1 hour after Shabbat to 2 a.m. Fully licensed. Wheelchair access.

7117 Bathurst St. (just N. of Steeles)
Phone 905-709-8211

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

CANADIAN SOCIETY FOR YAD VASHEM
News Flash
ISRAEL MISSION
October 7 - 21
Watch for details
Please call (416) 785-1333

DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Monday, June 28, is deadline for July 8 issue and Monday, July 5, is deadline for July 15.

Please note: As there will be no issue published July 22, all items that would ordinarily appear July 22 must be included in the July 15 column.

I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Saturday, June 26

FATHER'S DAY SHABBAT

Adath Sholom Brotherhood Father's Day Shabbat with **Dr. Michael Sossin**, author of *Love Life, Live Long, Life Begins at 80* 9 a.m.

Sunday, June 27

YIDDISHLAND CAFÉ

Workmen's Circle Yiddishland Café evening, Endless Love: Love Songs in Yiddish and Black, with singers **Denise Williams** and **Ben Stein** and accordionist **Sasha Luminsky**, 7:30 p.m., 471 Lawrence Ave. W. $12 in advance, $15 at door. 787-2081.

END OF SCHOOL BASH

End of School, Start of Summer Bash at the Discovery Children's Museum at Bathurst Jewish Centre, featuring puppetry of **Vladimir** and **Svetlana Gorzhaltsan** in *Op-la-la* (In the Forest), art making, dress-up costumes, face painting, toys and games, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. $2. Puppet show at 1 p.m. 636-1880, ext. 456.

MILLENNIAL FEVER

Congregation Habonim Jewish Wisdom seminar, Millennial Fever: A Jewish Perspective with **Rabbi Michael Skobac**, director of Jews for Judaism, 2 p.m., 5 Glen Park Ave.

DYNAMIC SINGLES

Dynamic Singles of Adath Israel present **Rachael Turkienicz** speaking on The Levirate Marriage: Judah and Tamar, at brunch for singles 35 or better, 11:30 a.m. Dress code, elegant casual. $10 if prepaid by 3 p.m., Friday, June 25, or $15 at door. Shul office 635-5340.

ANNUAL TEA

Wierzbniker Ladies Auxiliary annual tea 1-5 p.m. at the home of **Betty** and **Martin Baranek**, 18 Coreydale Crt., North York. Men welcome. Proceeds to charity.

GARAGE SALE

Giant garage sale sponsored by Golda Meir chapter, Jewish Women International, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., 113 Citation Dr., North York.

MUTUAL BENEFIT SOCIETY

Grand Order of Israel Mutual Benefit Society general meeting, 9 a.m., Ramada Inn, Wilson Avenue.

WINGATE BRANCH

General Wingate Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion general meeting, 788 Marlee Ave. Nosh at 9:15 a.m., meeting at 9:45.

BARGAINS GALORE

Nagillah chapter, Jewish Women International, garage sale 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., 114 Haddington Ave. (Wilson and Avenue Road.)

Monday, June 28

LA LECHE LEAGUE

La Leche League – North Bathurst (Thornhill) presents There's a New Baby in Your Life 7:30 p.m., 112 Judith, Thornhill. **Joyce** 905-881-8779 or **Nancy** 905-889-7445.

Tuesday, June 29

ATTENTION SINGLES

B'yachad (ages 55-65), a group with a difference, fun and intellectual stimulation, meeting featuring Laughter Unlimited, The Comedy Guys, 7 p.m., Beth Tzedec Congregation. $8. **Bernice** 905-882-0866.

Wednesday, June 30

AISH HATORAH

Dear God: What Have You Done For Me Lately?, Judith Dan Memorial Lecture with author/lecturer **Lisa Aiken**, 8 p.m., 949 Clark Ave. W., Thornhill. 905-764-1818.

And What Else Is New

CONCERT-IN-THE-ROUND

Temple Sinai Our Musical Legacy annual summer Oneg Shabbat music program Friday, July 2, features **Nora Shulman**, principal flutist of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra. Services at 8:15 p.m.

HIDDEN CHILD/SURVIVOR

The Czech Hidden Child Group is hosting an international Hidden Child/Child Survivor Conference in Prague Sept. 2-5. For registration call **Hanna** 635-2883, ext. 153. For

Continued on page 27

Ask Sam about Two Neptune Drive

"I'm 78. People tell me that I'm still young. I feel young. If you're like me, maintaining your independence is important, so you want to stay as healthy as you can. Living at Two Neptune Drive can help you maintain your health. So you can really do what we're saying. You can live a little!"

Sam Ruth
Former CEO, Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care

Choose from an incredible selection of one bedroom, one bedroom & den, two bedroom and two bedroom & den suite designs and all the benefits of living at Two Neptune Drive are yours! An elegant building with party & games rooms. Library. Garden. Rooftop terrace. 24 hour concierge. Baycrest recreation director. Membership in the nearby Wagman Centre. The support of an array of Baycrest services. And, of course, your suite has been carefully designed to maximize your living space and comfort. So what are you waiting for?

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Sam Ruth

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Prices and specifications subject to change without notice E & OE

What's New

Continued from page 26

travel arrangements **Lily Feder-Rosta** 231-7333, Deadline for hotel and registration June 30.

ARTISANS, CRAFTSPEOPLE

Artisans/craftspeople needed for synagogue showcase windows. Judaica items preferred. **Rhonda** 905-731-9441.

CLOSET SALES

Closet sales of new and previously loved clothing and housewares every Tuesday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. until Aug. 31, at National Council Of Jewish Women Council House, 4700 Bathurst St.

OUTDOORS CLUB

If you love nature and want to indulge in a wide range of outdoor activities, including cycling, hiking and camping, contact the Mosaic Jewish Outdoor Club of Southern Ontario. 280-6407.

FOR SENIORS

Association of Jewish Seniors general meeting, Thursday, June 24, 9:30 a.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. **Goldie** 635-2860.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Casino Rama June 30, July 14 and 28; community garage sale and flea market July 4; Catskills vacation at Paramount Hotel July 11-18; Sunday dance June 27. 395-7881.

LZA Seniors Club in the Borochov Cultural Centre, 272 Codsell Ave., is open for socializing Monday to Friday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Ladies Folkdancing classes Thursdays 1:30 p.m. Cultural Discussion Group Tuesdays 10 a.m. Register now to see Famous People Players sensational lunch and performance *Leave the Torch Light On* Wednesday, Sept. 29. Office 630-9444 or **Libby** 782-2059.

Shaarei Shomavim Friendship Club: July 27, trip to Kingston, cruise, entertainment; Aug. 25, morning cruise then matinee *Move Over Mrs. Markham* at Gryphon Theatre; Oct. 12, *West Side Story* at Stratford. **Lena** 785-5773. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). June 24 **Prof. Sara Ginaite** speaks on her experience in the Resistance in Lithuania; July 1 closed for Canada Day; July 8, lecture by **Rosalyn Kurz** on the Holocaust; July 15, **Frank Dimant,** executive vice-president, B'nai Brith Canada. All activities in Hebrew, English and Yiddish. **Jerry Bengall**, president, 905-707-7334.

New Image 50 Plus seniors dance, Saturday, June 26, Earl Bales Community Centre. Ballroom music tapes by **Murray Jacobs**. Members $3, non-members $5. **Helen** 633-9397.

Young at Heart Seniors Catskills trip to kosher Raleigh Hotel (under United States KOU), 10 days, two weekends July 23-Aug. 1. Double occupancy $1,399 Canadian, single $1,675 including tips and gratuities. German restitution accepted. **Helen** 635-6343.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Osteoporosis Support Group meeting, Prescription for Safety and Fall Prevention with **Derrick Ho**, occupational therapist, Humber River Regional Hospital, Tuesday, June 28, 1:15-2:15 p.m. **Joan**.

Canada Day celebration Wednesday, June 30, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Guest speaker, barbecue, Canada's birthday cake, clowns, children's games, entertainment, lunch ($3).

Israeli Club Etrog: Do you speak Hebrew? Join club members every Tuesday at 7 p.m. for movies, lectures, dances, sing-alongs, bingo, picnics. June 29 is sing-along. Programs in Hebrew. **Anna** ext. 110.

Movie, *101 Dalmations*, Sunday, June 27, 2:30 p.m.

ABOUT PEOPLE

UPPER CANADA LODGE

Upper Canada Lodge, B'nai Brith, officers for 1999-2000: **Bill Pape**, president; **Myer Gordon**, first vice-president; **Judy Gordon**, second vice-president; **Nat Brovdy**, third vice-president; **Ben Sand**, treasurer; **Lil Melamed**, secretary; **Len Lopatin**, guardian; **Frank Fleisher**, warden; **Moe Greenspoon**, chaplain.

The installation took place recently at Beth Tzedec Synagogue, with master of ceremonies **Murray Rumack**, menorah lighting by **Moe Greenspoon**, and district greetings by **Dr. Lawrence Hart.**

VOLUNTEER AWARD

Rose Wolfe receives her Outstanding Volunteer Award at the National Society for Fundraising Executives Philanthropy Awards luncheon held at Metro Toronto Convention Centre June 1 [Amir Gavriely photo]

USDS EXECUTIVE

United Synagogue Day School executive committee for 1999-2000. **Michael Flatt**, president; **Jeffrey Glatt**, executive vice-president; **Brian Goldberg**, vice-president; **Wendy Viner**, vice-president; **Allen Gates**, secretary; **Shelley Levine**, treasurer; **Elie Newman**, immediate past president.

COUPLE HONORED

Richmond Hill-Beit Rayim Synagogue recently honored **Bob** and **Helen Smolkin** for their over 20 years of service to the Jewish community of York Region. A special presentation was made to the couple during Shabbat services, and the Bob and Helen Fund has been established in their honor. Founding members of the Richmond Hill Jewish Community, Bob was its first president in 1979, and Helen was one of the founders of the community's Hebrew school.

Also a founding member of Beit Rayim, Bob served on the synagogue's board and executive for many years. Helen remains active on the Beit Rayim Hebrew School board. In addition, they both volunteer in various capacities in the Jewish community at large

Bob and Helen Smolkin

DUDU FISHER CONCERT

Pictured at the recent Dudu Fisher Concert for Aid to Disabled Veterans of Israel, Beit Halochem Canada, held at the Ford Centre for Performing Arts, are, from left, Toby Feldberg, president, Aid to Disabled Veterans of Israel/Beit Halochem Canada; Dudu Fisher; Saul Feldberg, Belle Weinstein and Berny Weinstein, founders Beit Halochem Canada.

SPRING CONFERENCE

Canadian Seaway branch of Womens League for Conservative Judaism (WLCJ) spring conference was held at Adath Israel Synagogue. Seen above, from left, are Jessica Waxman, national consultant WLCJ; Laraine Hurwitz, president, Canadian Seaway branch; guest speaker Dr. Mel Borins (Super-Doc), who provided a light touch with his Laughter is the Best Medicine/ presentation; and Rivy Blass and Bertha Gold, conference co-chairs. [Mollie Rothman photo]

Singles Events can be found on page 23

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Coast to Coast

Canadians join delegation to Kosovar refugee camp

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Jack Hasen and Marc Gold returned from a recent visit to a Kosovar refugee camp in Albania, marked by the suffering and despair they witnessed.

Gold, 49, and Hasen, 42, who are both active in FEDERATION CJA and the Combined Jewish Appeal, were the only Montreal Jewish community lay officials – the other Canadian was Leo Goldfarb of Toronto – invited to join a fact-finding delegation of 26 from North America, organized by the U.S.-based United Jewish Communities (UJC), and led by Charles Bronfman.

During a rapid-paced week, the delegation travelled to New York, Israel, Albania, Budapest, and back to Israel again before returning home.

"We arrived at the refugee camp to a scene that was shocking," recalled Gold, a businessman and former law professor.

They saw thousands of people struggling to maintain a modicum of dignity in an area no larger than Hampstead Park, Gold said.

"It was a situation turned completely upside down. Resignation and despair [were] even more striking than the physical privations."

Hasen, also a businessman, was struck by the dearth of men. Only 15 percent or so of the refugees, he estimated, were men, a sign of their possible dire fate.

Gold and Hasen accompanied a relief plane from Israel – actually, Israel's 10th – which had brought upwards of 120 tons of relief and medical volunteers and supplies to the war-torn region.

Hundreds of non-Jewish Kosovar refugees arrived in Israel as part of efforts by the Jewish Agency and the Joint Distribution Committee (JDC). The Israelis set up a field hospital in Macedonia, where Kosovars also fled.

Meanwhile, because of NATO's incessant bombing, hundreds of Jews living in Belgrade found refuge in Budapest, leaving homes and professional careers behind. A significant number flew on to Israel, as part of pre-aliyah trips. Non-Jewish Kosovars in Israel were given the option of remaining.

Gold noted that in Budapest and in Israel, there was an "overwhelming feeling of stress" experienced by the Belgrade Jews, who in contrast to the Kosovars, were against NATO's actions. As was the case in the south of Yugoslavia, however, Jewish women and children leaving Belgrade greatly outnumbered the men.

"Males aged 14 to 60 could not leave," Hasen said.

Gold said the work of the Jewish Agency might not have been possible without the preliminary efforts of an Israeli volunteer group of young people called La-tet (to give). The group had arrived at the refugee camps, and was "establishing connections and effectively serving as the liaison with the Jewish Agency.

"These were young heroes," Gold said.

A photograph of Kosovar ethnic Albanians at the refugee camp in Priscina, Albania.

Shul without walls run by volunteers

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The Orthodox Maon Noam Congregation, headed by Rabbi Hirsh Rabiski, operates in an un-orthodox fashion.

Here's a synagogue with no walls, no membership, no dues and no paid staff. Now in its fifth year, the volunteer-run congregation attracts Russian and other Jews from the former Soviet Union (FSU).

There's a core of about 60 people who turn up for Shabbat services at the Dan Family Residence at 15 Torresdale Ave., where a mechitzah divides chairs between men and women and an antique Aron Kodesh houses three sifrei Torah.

Classes offered

But the synagogue is just one aspect of the Maon Noam Jewish Cultural and Educational Network, which offers a myriad of classes in Talmud, Jewish mysticism and the teachings of the Lubavitcher Rebbe, Menachem Mendel Schneerson.

It was the Rebbe himself who directed Rabbi Rabiski to come to Toronto in 1990 to help lead the city's burgeoning Russian-Jewish community.

"He said the community here will one day become like seventh heaven," Rabbi Rabiski recalls.

That was after the Rebbe dispatched him to Ladispoli, the Italian transit city through which roughly 120,000 Soviet Jews passed during the 1970s and '80s en route to the west.

There, he spent a decade teaching, counselling and propping up spiritually, nervous new emigres who could not afford to pay him.

"The Rebbe always said not to take anything from people who need it," he says.

That in turn gave Rabbi Rabiski the impetus to start up a free synagogue in Toronto to reach out to his fellow Russian Jews, after having spent two years as education director at the Russian-Jewish Community Centre.

Everything Maon Noam offers, even a day care and an afternoon cheder for 15 children, is free of charge, and all its programs, holiday events and services are run by a cadre of about 50 devoted volunteers.

The congregation and its rabbi, the father of 12 children, aged three months to 19 years, depend on private donations.

Rabbi Rabiski says many people he met in Ladispoli have settled among Toronto's 35,000-strong community of Jews from the FSU.

The congregation isn't limited to its location on Torresdale. There's a Thornhill minyan at B'nai Shalom North Congregation and a Downsview minyan at the B'nai Brith residence on Bathurst Street. Some programs and classes are also held in private homes and apartments.

Over 300 people attended Passover seders hosted by the congregation at its Torresdale address. Services for major holidays take place at Congregation B'nai Torah.

The portable chupah is often taken outdoors for weddings under the stars, and members have bar mitzvahs for their sons.

The Riga-born Rabbi Rabiski, now 42, knows what it's like to have been a Jew under the Soviet boot. He and his family spent five years in refusal in Moscow, from 1966 to 1971, before immigrating to Israel.

The congregation's palindromic name literally means "residence of comfort," but it has a deeper, kabbalistic significance, Rabbi Rabiski explains. He invites anyone who wants to find out, to take one of his courses.

For details, call 398-7050.

Rabbi Hirsh Rabiski of Congregation Maon Noam. **[Ron Csillag photo]**

We have the merit to greet the Great
Rebbetzin "Lala Simy", wife of the great **Tzaddik,**
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Dr. Harry Rakowski
on his new appointment as
President of the American Society of Echocardiography
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George A. Cohon, Chairman of the Board

Coast to Coast

Scene in Ottawa

By G.K. SIMCOE

As we wind down towards the summer recess, let's reflect on some parliamentary moments of this most recent session.

Funniest Scene: Reform MP Mike Scott, was fully into a three-hour filibuster in the House talking about the Land Claims Act. Randy White, the Reform party House leader replaced Scott's glass of water with a spiked liquid. Now we know why they do not refer to the House as the "Chamber of Sober Thought"!

True Grit Award: No contest. Albina Guarnieri bucked the justice committee, the cabinet and the entire Department of Justice for three years to ensure passage of her private member's bill on consecutive sentencing for serial killers. The question puzzling political wordsmiths is if "Grit" is a nickname for Liberals, how come tiny Albina seems so lonely?

Greatest Irony: Herb Gray, the only Jewish minister in cabinet is responsible for the government's Millennium Fund – a billion-dollar program marking a decidedly un-Jewish milestone.

Luddite of the Year: While launching a new government Web site, Jean Chrétien looked blankly at the PC without a clue about how to operate the mouse until a student took his hand and helped him. Would that it were always so easy!

Lousiest Honeymoon: Consider poor Andy Scott whose wedding coincided with the airplane eavesdropping fiasco that ultimately cost him his job as solicitor general.

Saddest Moment: Shaughnessy Cohen's collapse in the House and subsequent death. Her husband, Gerry, lost a loving wife; the Jewish community lost a good friend; Parliament lost a spirited and devoted member.

Greatest Inspiration: The aforementioned Herb Gray. Despite the health challenges he faced over the last couple of years (over which we hope he has triumphed), the deputy prime minister maintains a full and vigorous schedule that is unmatched in the House. "Good for you, Herb!"

CORRECTION

In the photo entitled "Presentation to Mazon Canada" (What's New, June 17), the name of Jacqueline Kott-Wolle, executive director of Mazon Canada, was spelled incorrectly. *The CJN* regrets the error.

Quebec hospital fights to retain status

By JANICE ARNOLD
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — The Quebec government has applied to the Supreme Court of Canada to appeal a decision that allows Mount Sinai Hospital to continue as an institution with both short- and long-term beds.

The Quebec Court of Appeal recently upheld the hospital's right to retain its mixed specialization, in a case that has dragged through the courts for years.

Hospital president Elliot Bier said the decision means Mount Sinai will not have its funding reduced and it will not be obliged to merge its administration with that of Maimonides Hospital Geriatric Centre.

Mount Sinai is a 107-bed, 90-year-old institution that moved to Côte St. Luc almost a decade ago from Préfontaine in the Laurentians, where it had been founded as a tuberculosis sanitorium.

It has 57 long-term beds for the chronically ill, and 50 short-term beds – 35 for those with chest diseases and 15 for palliative care.

Bier said the government wants Mount Sinai to have only long-term beds. He believes the dispute is about money and the government's desire to cut health care funding wherever it can, and not about how best to serve the public.

Long-term beds are funded at a lower rate, he said, and Mount Sinai stood to lose between $1.3 and $1.5 million annually if it was forced to switch.

Maintaining 50 short-term beds also exempts Mount Sinai from having to share a single board of directors, executive director and other top managers with Maimonides, he said. Bill 120, the law overhauling the health care system, stipulates that only institutions with fewer than 50 short-term beds are required to unify their administrations with a similar, nearby institution.

This is what occurred with the Jewish Nursing Home and the Jewish Hospital of Hope, a move they fought unsuccessfully in court for years.

Bier is not overly concerned by Quebec's decision to go to the Supreme Court. First of all, it is by no means certain the high court will give leave to hear the case, and if it does, Bier said, it is not likely to be heard for three to five years.

He expects the Supreme Court to make known what it will do either later this month or in the fall.

The tussle with the government began not long after Mount Sinai's move to Côte St. Luc in the early '90s.The Quebec government had gone to the province's highest court after losing in Quebec Superior Court.

Bier said maintaining the hospital's original vocation of treating those with chest diseases, at least in part, was a condition of accepting the relocation. That deal included exchanging the Préfontaine hospital for the former Extendicare building in Côte St. Luc, and an interest-free loan for its expansion, which Mount Sinai is still paying off. In Montreal, Mount Sinai felt it could better serve the Jewish community, where the demand for long-term beds was great.

Bier concedes that there continues to be a shortage of such beds in the Jewish community, and that Mount Sinai has received pressure from the Jewish General Hospital (JGH) to increase its long-term beds. For years, the JGH has had to devote a high proportion of its beds to chronically ill patients waiting for placement.

The JGH has suggested that Mount Sinai's chest beds be moved to the JGH, but Mount Sinai has resisted, Bier said, because of its belief an institution that is specialized can ensure continuity of care better than a large, general hospital which has many demands on its facilities.

"For example, we have three beds now in a sleep apnea clinic. Would a general hospital do that? Hospitals tend to do what is trendy and what they can raise money for," he said.

Bier said Mount Sinai has the support of the Jewish Public Establishments Coordinating Committee, which groups all the health institutions in the community, in its dispute with the government.

Bier noted that Mount Sinai also has a responsibility to the public at large. Chest diseases continue to be among the top killers in North America, and Mount Sinai is one of very few institutions in Montreal that specializes in treating respiratory illness once it has passed the acute stage and the patient is expected to recover.

Chest patients have an average stay of 22 days, and many others are seen at Mount Sinai's outpatient clinic where a range of therapies and ancillary services are provided, he said. The hospital also has community outreach programs to raise awareness of respiratory disease and of ways to stop smoking, for example.

The palliative care unit is the second largest in Montreal, after that at the Royal Victoria Hospital, he said, adding that the JGH has only five beds dedicated to this sort of care of the terminally ill.

Although unifying administrations can be a cost saving, Bier argues that in the case of Mount Sinai and the much larger Maimonides, the cost could also be a loss of focus on short-term specialty care. Maimonides has about 450 beds, all devoted to long-term care. A single board might mean fewer people willing to speak up for Mount Sinai's particular health care mission, he said.

There's also no question that maintaining a separate administration and a specialization in chest care is important to Mount Sinai's donors and volunteers, who take pride in the institution they have built and do not want to relinquish control, he said.

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mourn the passing of

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Principal and Teacher

Our condolences to
Rabbi Joseph Kelman and the entire family.

May you be comforted together with all mourners in Zion.

המקום ינחם אתכם בתוך שאר אבלי ציון וירושלים.

Just Between Us

Rally to support Iranian Jews

TORONTO — Jewish community organizations are planning a weekend rally on behalf of 13 Jews imprisoned by the Iranian government on espionage charges.

The rally will take place on Sunday, June 27 at 7:30 pm. at the Leah Posluns Theatre, 4588 Bathurst Street.

Representatives from government, churches and human rights organizations are expected to participate. The rally is being co-ordinated by Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region, the UJA Federation and the Leah Posluns Theatre.

"The purpose is to keep the attention of the public focused on the plight of the 13 imprisoned Iranian Jews and to let the Canadian public know what's going on," said Keith Landy, chair of Congress' Ontario region.

The Families, Board & Staff of the
UNITED CONGREGATIONAL SCHOOLS
of GREATER TORONTO
wish to express their sincerest condolences
to the family of the late
RUTH KELMAN ז"ל
beloved wife of our Principal, Rabbi Joseph Kelman.
May the Kelman Family be spared further sorrow.
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extends its deepest condolences to Rabbi Joseph Kelman
upon the loss of his אשת חיל **Ruth Kelman** ז"ל
and to Tova & Allan Gutenberg, Rabbi Jay and Ilana Kelman,
Rabbi Moshe Kelman upon the loss of their mother,
to Yetta Friedman upon the loss of her daughter,
to Sheila Train and Avraham Friedman upon the loss of their sister,
and to our sister congregation Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda
upon the loss of an outstanding Rebbetzin, leader and role-model.
Philip S. Scheim, Rabbi • Howard Zweig, President

The Toronto Board of Rabbis
mourns the passing of Rabbanit
Ruth Kelman ע"ה
and offers condolences to our Past President and
esteemed colleague Rabbi Joseph Kelman,
to Tova & Alan Gutenberg, Rabbi Jay and Ilana Kelman,
Rabbi Moshe Kelman, Mrs. Yetta Friedman, Sheila Train and
Avraham Friedman, and to the grandchildren and all family members.
רבות בנות עשו חיל ואת עלית על כלנה
Rabbi Philip S. Scheim, President
Rabbi Michael Stroh, Immediate Past President

שישאר בינינו

גידי קורן וחברים

נוסטינג היל - הסרט בשבילכם:

אם גם ראשכם שח ועצב סובב אתכם - יענו, אם אתם זקוקים לקצת עידוד, צחוק טוב, סוף אופטימי - קחו את אהבת חייכם\או מה שהכי קרוב לזה שבנמצא, ולכו לסרט Notting Hill, עם יו גראנט וג'וליה רוברטס.

זהו סרט אנגלי, מבית היוצר של "ארבע חתונות והלוויה אחת" שהצחיק את כולנו לפני מספר שנים. הרעיון פשוט - מה קורה כשהשחקנית ההוליוודית הידועה והנחשקת ביותר מתאהבת בבחור לונדוני פשוט. הדיאלוגים כתובים חכם, ואתה מאמין לכל רגע שעובר על המסך. יו גרנט (הבחור הלונדוני) מוקף בחבורת ידידי נפש, ממש כמו ב"ארבע חתונות" - כל אחד יותר מצחיק ואמיתי מהשני. הוא עצמו גר בדירת רווקים עם בחור סקוטי תמהוני שאחראי ללא פחות משלושת רבעי הצחוקים שבסרט. הינה צחוק קטן על החשבון: הסקוטי פותח את המקרר בדירה המבולגנת שלהם ומתחיל לאכול מגביע של פלסטיק ואומר: ליוגורט הזה יש טעם קצת מוזר, איפה קנית אותו? אומר לו גרנט: זה לא יוגורט. אם תשתכל טוב תראה שזה מיונז. העולם יראה לכם אופטימי ומחייך בסוף הסרט. אה - וכמעט שכחתי - לאורך הסרט פזורים פזמונים מה-זה מדליקים, שהלכתי וקניתי את הקלטת לשמוע בנסיעה בג'יפ. תשע בסולם קורן.

מה זה זמריר?

לפני מספר שבועות חדתי לכם חידה - מה זה "זמריר". קיבלתי תשובה ממונטריאול - מה זה נָפָה. משהוא.

"זמריר- תשדיר פרסומת בכלי השידור המלווה זמר: בלועזית: Jingle . הסבר לשוני: יש כאן שתי אפשרויות שעמדו בפני הועדה באקדמיה ללשון העברית ואלה הן לעניות דעתי:

א. זמר+יר. הבסיס "זמר" אליו "הלחימו" יסוד נוסף בעל קונוטציה דו משמעית.
1. זמר+תשדיר>זמריר
2. זמר+דעיר>זמריר

ב. על דרך שיצרו סמליל (Logo-type), כלומר בסיס סמל+יל-, חזרה על העצור המסיים. בשני המקרים יש כאן צמצום המשמעות של הבסיס הסמנטי.

בברכה, קוראת קבועה רחל, רוזנברג מונטריאול."

בחירות: ישראל ואונטריו:

היו בחירות בישראל והיו בחירות באונטריו. בשתיהן - המועמד שהוביל בהתחלה (נתניהו בישראל, מגינטי הליברל באונטריו) החליטו לנקוט בתעמולה שלילית שבעיקר תקפה את המתחרה ולא הביאה תוכנית חיובית איך הם יעשו דברים טוב יותר. וראה זה פלא - שניהם הפסידו. כל המחקרים מראים שהציבור שונא תעמולה שלילית- ולמרות זאת הפיתוי כל כך גדול-וכמוהו ההפסד. אבל שישאר בינינו.

משהו רפואי:

בדיחה רפואית שקראתי בביטאון לרופאים שאני מקבל.
-"יש לך דלקת ריאות- אומר הרופא- אני רושם לך אנטיביוטיקה."
-"זוקטור,אומר החולה, שמעתי על מקרים שהרופא טיפל בחולה הדלקת ריאות ובסוף החולה מת מטיפוס."
מסתכל עליו הרופא ואומר:
"אין לך מה לדאוג, מיסטר ליבוביץ, כשאני מטפל בך בדלקת ריאות-אתה מת מדלקת ריאות!"

SHMOOZIN

Happiness is being milchig when an unexpected opportunity to eat ice cream arises.

On Campus

Jewish teacher program gets short-listed for grant

TORONTO — York University's Jewish Teacher Education Program in partnership with the Western Canadian Coalition of Jewish Educators has been short-listed in this year's competition to receive a Covenant Foundation Grant.

One of North America's most prestigious charitable foundations in the field of Jewish education, the Covenant Foundation was founded in 1990 by the Crown Family Foundation in partnership with the Jewish Education Service of North America.

This year, the foundation received over 240 applications for innovative programs seeking funding of up to $250,000 (US) over five years. York and the Western Canadian Coalition have made it to the semifinal stage along with 24 other applicants.

The Western Coalition is made up of Jewish day schools in Calgary, Edmonton, Vancouver and Winnipeg. Its mission is to work collectively to further the development of Jewish education in Western Canada.

Over the last year, the coalition has worked with York University's Jewish Teacher Education Program to develop a proposal to address the schools' most significant challenge: the recruitment and training of new teachers.

The plan is to recruit, every two years, a group from Western Canada that will pursue a teacher preparation program based at York, but specifically designed to ready participants for teaching positions in western Canadian communities.

Students will pursue an undergraduate degree and certification through York's Jewish Teacher Education Program. They will acquire field study and practice teaching experiences in Toronto and western Canadian schools.

In return for scholarship support during their student years, teacher candidates will commit themselves to working for a period in western Canadian day schools.

York's faculty of education and Centre for Jewish Studies expect that this initiative will serve as a model for other communities in Canada seeking to attract qualified teachers.

JCS, ICRF to hold Shabbat program

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — On June 25, Jewish Campus Services of Greater Toronto (JCS) and the Israel Cancer Research Fund (ICRF) will hold a combined Shabbat dinner for graduate students and young professionals in their 20s.

"There's more to university students than beer and partying. They are looking for meaning and fulfilment in their lives," says Stephanie Wener, program director of the Jewish Students' Federation at York University, and Talia Meister, director of programming at ICRF.

The dinner will be the fifth of its kind for ICRF, and the first one to be held jointly with JCS. It will be held in the north part of the city and can accommodate 120 people. Cost is $25, or $18 for students.

The event is an alternative to the "big bash" parties of ICRF's Young Associates, which are held twice yearly and attract up to 1,000 people per party.

Two Young Associate committee members came up with the Shabbat dinner idea in 1997 after attending a similar event on New York's Upper West Side.

"For people who want to meet other people, it's a great forum," said Meister. "It just took off right away."

Speakers at the kosher dinners – complete with Kiddush and Hamotzi – have included Susan Jackson of UJA Federation and Evan Solomon, founder of *Shift* magazine.

The speaker for this week's dinner will be Avrum Rosensweig of Ve'ahavta, the Canadian Jewish Humanitarian and Relief Committee.

Money raised from the dinners is used for cancer research. For further information call the ICRF at 487-5246.

TICKLING THE FUNNY BONE

Canadian Friends of Ezrath Nashim – Herzog Hospital recently sponsored As Funny As It Gets, an evening of comedy at the Leah Posluns Theatre. Over 300 enjoyed an evening of laughter thanks to (from left) Les Aaron, Steve Levine, Dan Cole, Simon Rakoff and Adam Growe. Proceeds will go toward Alzheimer research at Herzog Hospital.

CJN Rosh Hashanah Photo Contest

The CJN announces its fifth annual Rosh Hashanah photo contest. We are asking readers to submit their own original photographs either of Israel or on any Jewish theme in their community.

Anyone can enter except *CJN* employees or members of their families.

A maximum of three photos per entrant may be submitted. Please write your name, address and phone number on the back of each photo. We can only return the photos if you provide a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

You may mail or deliver your photos to: *The CJN* Rosh Hashanah Contest, The Canadian Jewish News, 1500 Don Mills Road, Suite 205, Toronto, Ont., M3B 3K4.

The contest closes at 5 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 16, 1999.

The judges will choose three photographs which, in their opinion, are the most expressive and evocative. These three photos will be published in *The CJN* Rosh Hashanah issue, Sept. 9, 1999. Each of the "winning" photographers will receive a cheque for $100.

We will undoubtedly receive many worthy submissions. But only three will be selected as the "winners." The decisions of the judges will be final. The odds of winning depend upon the number and the quality of submissions received.

Winning entrants will be notified by telephone before Shabbat on Aug. 27, 1999.

Any litigation respecting the conduct and awarding of a prize in this contest may be submitted to the Régie des Loteries et courses du Québec.

The Members & Staff
of the
Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue
mourn the passing of

Rebbetzen Ruth Kelman ז"ל

Mentor, Friend, Community Leader

and extend condolences to
her beloved husband Rabbi Joseph Kelman
her children Tova & Allan Gutenberg,
Rabbi Jay & Ilana Kelman, Rabbi Moshe Kelman
her grandchildren Pnina, Daniel, Joshua,
Zahava, Ariel, Elisha & Atara
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sister Sheila Train and brother Avraham Friedman

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The Canadian Jewish news

Iran's president seeks to open dialogue with Israel

BY SHARON SADEH
Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

JERUSALEM — Iranian President Mohammed Khatami is interested in opening a secret dialogue with Israel, and has asked senior British government figures to approach Jerusalem with the request.

Khatami suggested a series of confidence building steps between the two countries to try to break the current circle of distrust and suspicion, senior British officials told *Ha'aretz*.

The British sources said the information has been relayed to Jerusalem, with a recommendation that the Iranians be considered seriously.

Israeli sources said that they were unfamiliar with the Iranian proposals, which were new and needed careful study.

Khatami, in his talks with the British representatives, suggested the signing of arms control treaties between the two countries as a first step. His suggestions included:

• A regional agreement among all Middle Eastern countries possessing ground-to-ground missiles, not to launch a pre-emptive missile attack on another country that is a party to the agreement.

• A bilateral agreement regarding the disarmament of long-range ballistic missiles with non-conventional warheads, to be followed by a treaty in which both sides would undertake not to develop long-range missiles for military purposes, but solely for the launching of satellites into space.

The British sources said they believed the Iranians were acting in good faith, and urged Jerusalem to adopt a similar attitude.

They said that the Iranians told them that their arms buildup is not directed against Israel, but against other countries perceived as regional threats, primarily Iraq, Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Iran regards the latter two, not only as military threats, but as moral ones, due to their role in the international narcotics trade, the sources said.

Recently, Iran has agreed to cooperate with the European Union (EU) in combating the flow of narcotics from its central Asian neighbors to the west, and as a result has earned diplomatic credit and improved relations with the EU. Relations between Tehran and London have warmed up recently, and full diplomatic relations were restored last month.

Israeli sources said the Iranian proposals must be examined carefully, and cannot automatically benefit from an assumption of good faith.

"Khatami is less than totally informed when it comes to security affairs. The country's defence and security establishments are controlled by bodies not totally under his command, and his ability to have the final word on these matters is questionable at best," they said.

The Israeli sources also pointed out that the Iranians are sophisticated enough to change the tune of their rhetoric in accordance to which audience is being played to at any given time.

It is naive to assume that weapons being developed by Iran cannot pose a threat to Israel, the Israelis said, adding that whatever the Iranians are, they are most certainly not naive.

The British, however, feel that Iran commands trust regarding arms control, since it is a signatory to several important international arms proliferation treaties which Israel has traditionally refused to join.

Iran recently reaffirmed its commitment to an international treaty outlawing the use and development of chemical weapons, and is a signatory to the nuclear non-proliferation treaty. Iran is also active in promoting a treaty outlawing the use of biological weapons.

The Iranians are sincere in their desire to regulate and even outlaw non-conventional weapons, especially chemical and biological weapons which they fear, having been one of the very few countries to have been on the receiving end of them during the long war between the Iran and Iraq that spanned most of the '80s, the British sources said.

The British also believe that Iran is truly interested in normalizing its relations with the West, and allowing their potentially rich country to reap the economic benefits that come with being an accepted player on the international scene.

They praise the Iranian record regarding the keeping of treaties, and have more than hinted that Israel's unwillingness to join the international community's major arms proliferation treaties make it somewhat suspect in this regard.

They also criticized Israel's traditional policy of regarding its security as entirely its own affair, and its record of taking unilateral action whenever it deemed it necessary, regardless of any international considerations.

This approach is outdated, they said, and is actually counterproductive since it fuels mistrust and suspicion, increasing strategic dangers rather then minimizing them.

The British said that they do not see Iran ever launching a pre-emptive non-conventional missile attack against Israel.

However, they do admit that Iran is in the throes of a major power struggle between moderate and militant conservative elements, and it is too soon to say who will come out on top.

They said that Israel should reconsider its policies regarding weapons proliferation irrespective of the outcome, since its current policies are considered unreasonable, promoting mistrust and Arab grievances against the West regarding the adoption of a double standard in these affairs, one for Israel and one for the rest of the world.

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Israel & the Jewish World

Syria wants to renew talks

By ALUF BENN
Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

JERUSALEM — Something has stirred in Israel's frozen relations with Syria.

Benjamin Netanyahu's secret efforts to reach out to the Syrians were revealed, and various mediators showed up in Damascus, including Hafez al-Assad's biographer Patrick Seale and former U.S. secretary of state James Baker, who met with Assad.

Everyone here is concerned with what Assad wants, and what Prime Minister-elect Ehud Barak's priorities should be: Peace with Syria and withdrawal from Lebanon first, or settlement with the Palestinians first and Syria later.

The news from Damascus, in the meantime, is not exciting. The Syrians want to resume talks with Israel after more than three years, but there is no sign of any new Syrian flexibility. First, Israel must commit to fully withdrawing from the Golan Heights, and then it can haggle over the details.

Barak responded happily to Assad's partial openness. Seale was invited for a series of meetings with senior officials of the new government, and Barak told him he intended to attain "peace of the brave" with the Syrians and that he was ready to make the painful decisions necessary to do so.

Maj.- Gen. Uri Saguy, champion of the "Syrian option" and a candidate for running the talks, took Seale to the Golan Heights to meet with settlers who used to be under his command in the Golani Brigade.

Seale was moved by Saguy's determination in the face of the harsh words spoken by his brothers-in-arms. He left, feeling like there had never before been so much willingness here for withdrawal from the Golan in return for peace.

In an interview with *Ha'aretz* last week, Barak dictated the Syrian army's inventory to explain why peace was essential. His other motive for reaching peace is to honor the promise of his election campaign: IDF's withdrawal from Lebanon within a year.

Assad holds the key. Barak believes he will be able to overcome Syrian opposition with international pressure and by offering the Syrian president an enticing package, including a promise that the pull-out from Lebanon is only an appetizer for an agreement on the Golan.

Barak's main inheritance from the talks with Syria in the days of Rabin, Peres and Netanyahu is that the public has internalized the price of peace: full withdrawal from the Golan.

Chief of IDF Intelligence Major General Amos Malka estimates that Assad will want to achieve peace in his lifetime, rather than leave the job for a new and inexperienced leader.

Barak says he won't discuss withdrawal before he hears what Israel will receive in the normalization of relations, security arrangements and water rights. The agreement is likely to include the following:

- Israel will withdraw from the entire Golan Heights. The border will be set in such a way that the Syrians will be able to say they are going back to the borders of June 4, 1967, and Israel will keep its essential interests. The possible solution: Hamat Gader will go to the Syrians, who in return, will move back from Lake Kinneret.
- The Golan and part of the Galilee will be disarmed and a force of foreign observers will be stationed there.
- Water rights have not yet been discussed.
- There will be an exchange of ambassadors in Damascus and Tel Aviv, but Syria will try to limit other normalization factors, such as tourism and trade.

Kuwara Jews to arrive in Israel

By YAIR SHELEG
Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

JERUSALEM — The first wave of Ethiopian immigrants from the Kuwara region was expected to arrive this week at Ben-Gurion International Airport.

Eighty-eight Kuwara Jews were scheduled to land on a regularly-scheduled Ethiopian Airlines flight, in an operation expected to take some eight months.

For the present, the immigration will continue at a maximum rate of 100 Jews per week.

The Annual General Meeting of JIAS Canada
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Jonathan Ragnauth joined the Toronto office of SLF in 1990 and has been active in audit and accounting. His industry experience includes manufacturing and distribution. He has provided business advisory services as well as business plans and projections to small and medium-sized owner-managed businesses. He has advised public companies in initial public offerings and related work.

Rosaria Abreu joined the Montreal office of SLF in 1988 and has been active in audit and accounting. Her industry experience includes manufacturing, software, engineering, retail, distribution and wholesale. She has advised clients in the areas of personal and corporate tax planning as well as cash management, budgeting, projections and corporate financing.

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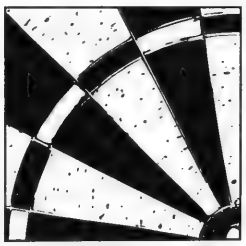

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Israel provides an oasis for kids

Continued from page 1

family. But, as he pointed out, he is "away from car, away from my house. All I have is my tent..."

Some 300,000 ethnic Albanian refugees have flooded into this poor country of two million people since the beginning of the Kosovo crisis. Most are put in quickly organized camps such as Stankovic; others find a temporary home with distant relatives or friends. Macedonia has nine refugee camps on its territory, its Prime Minister Ljubco Georgica said.

Georgica, who met with the Israeli delegation upon its arrival, said that Macedonia has done all it could do, and hopes to first help the refugees return home and then rebuild its economy. The prime minister made a desperate plea to the Israeli and Diaspora mission members to help him and his people by investing in Macedonia.

Countries throughout the world are busy figuring out what they can do to help, and many are sending in humanitarian missions.

More than 90 percent of all ethnic Albanians have been expelled from their home in Kosovo by Serb forces, the U.S. State Department has said.

The Stankovic refugee camp, while in no way a sought after place to be, does offer something unique: its day activity centre.

The Council of Youth Movements in Israel (CYMI) runs activities for young people in an open field area in the Stankovic camp. Groups of 15 representatives of the 12 youth organizations included in the council operate programs for the young people in the camp. Each set of volunteers stays for 10 days.

A huge billboard with "CYMI – Israel loves children" and an Israel flag loom over the area.

"I feel very good being here," said Lilach Marom, one of the Israeli volunteers, who is a youth leader in Israel.

Asked how the refugees feel about Israel's presence in the camp, Marom said: "The word 'Israel' is like saying the Mashiach. They say Israel more than NATO."

The Israeli compound functions like an oasis for these kids. It is a getaway.

On top of the day activity centre, in which the kids sing Hebrew songs, play organized sports, facepaint and draw, every day from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Israel is also known worldwide for its help with the refugees.

"When you say the name Israel, people kiss you and embrace you and say thank you," explained Avi Pazner, world chair of Keren Hayesod. "Before NATO troops entered, they felt we were with them. What we did is an example that can be followed."

Keren Hayesod and the Jewish Agency sent the first medical team to Stankovic. Israel's field hospital was the first to treat the thousands of refugees who had fled their homes for a place unknown.

The two agencies have sent more than 150,000 tons of medical aid and supplies like baby food, diapers, blankets and tents to the refugees.

"Our organization usually doesn't deal with matters such as these," said Pazner. "But we cannot stand by. People like ours just cannot remain indifferent."

Julia Koschitzky, past chair of Keren Hayesod, said, "Considering our own tragic history, we're not going to stand by and watch this tragedy happen. We have to draw lessons from the past. Our efforts have shown the world who the Jews are." She was one of a handful of Canadian representatives on the Jewish Agency and Keren Hayesod aid mission to Stankovic on June 14.

After an hour's visit at the camp, the Jewish mission and its press entourage boarded the buses to go and meet Macedonia's prime minister at a hotel in Skopje.

Kids and adults came to the buses to say goodbye.

For Abdely, standing by a basketball net as he watched the buses leave the camp grounds, such a ride back to Pristina would be a dream come true.

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The Week in Israel

June 14

• The Dalai Lama met with Israel's Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi, Yisrael Meir Lau, at the Western Wall in Jerusalem. The exiled Tibetan Buddhist leader also met with the head of the Greek Orthodox church, but did not meet with any Muslim leaders. The Dalai Lama, in Israel on a private three-day visit, said nonviolence could help bring about peace in the Middle East.

June 15

• The leader of Shas resigned all his responsibilities as party leader, in a move that could clear the way for the Orthodox party to join Prime-Minister-elect Ehud Barak's governing coalition. Aryeh Deri made his announcement before a meeting of Shas Knesset members.

• Palestinian Authority President Yasser Arafat called for international intervention if necessary in the Middle East, similar to the action that led to the Yugoslav withdrawal from Kosovo.

June 16

• Israeli jets launched strikes at suspected Hezbollah targets in northeast Lebanon near Syria. The attack was the furthest north Israel has struck in Lebanon this year. All planes returned safely, a military spokesperson said.

• An Israeli border police officer was indicted on charges of abusing Palestinians in his custody. According to prosecutors, Eran Nakash assaulted Palestinian teenagers he was transferring between prisons last month.

June 17

• The secular Meretz party balked at joining a coalition with the Shas party, even after Deri's resignation. Meretz leader Yossi Sarid called for a "cooling off period" to see whether Deri, who was convicted in March on bribery charges, will indeed withdraw from public life.

June 18

• Barak said he plans to build a raised highway to ease travel for the Palestinians between the Gaza Strip and the West bank. He also pledged to seek a comprehensive peace with the Palestinians, Syria and Lebanon.

With files from JTA and Ha'aretz

Israel & the Jewish World

Skopje community retains its Jewish identity

By VIVA PRESS
CJN Israel Bureau

SKOPJE, Macedonia — The Skopje Jewish cemetery's stone Menorah monument serves, not only as a memorial to the Holocaust victims of Macedonia, but as a silent witness of the centuries of Jewish history in this small republic.

Once known for its thriving Jewish community of thousands, Macedonia now has a few hundred Jews, with the bulk of them living in Skopje, a city of 400,000.

Before WWII, there was a thriving community in Bitola, a city bordering Greece, and in the capital city, Skopje. The Jews and the Macedonians had good relations. Anti-Semitism was never a problem.

Then on March 11, 1943, 7,200 Jewish Macedonians were deported, and sent to the death camps of Treblinka and Auschwitz. Almost everyone perished in the Holocaust. Those who survived did so with the partisans or in hiding.

"One hundred and fifty Jews in all of Macedonia escaped deportation," said Zdravko Sami, co-ordinator of Skopje's Jewish community. "Whoever was deported, died."

According to Macedonian and Jewish community officials, there is no anti-Semitism in Macedonia, nor was there any during the Jews and the republic's inhabitants' history together.

The Holocaust years are the exception to this seemingly utopian society. In April 1941, Macedonia, together with Thrace, in Greece, was conquered by the Germans. Hitler gave these two regions over to Bulgarian rule, for he and King Boris III of Bulgaria were personal friends, and Boris wanted to expand his territory, said Dr. Nissim Yosha, a recognized authority on Macedonian Jewish history.

In February 1943, Bulgaria committed to deliver 20,000 Jews to the Nazis: 12,000 from Macedonia and Thrace; 8,000 from old Bulgaria. In March 1943, the Jews from Macedonia and Thrace were deported to the death camps.

Ironically, when it came time to deport the Bulgarian Jews, Bulgarian parliamentarians refused to let the Jews of Bulgaria go.

The declaration that Macedonians have never been anti-Semitic is therefore not paradoxical, said Yosha, despite the horrible fate the Jews met during the Holocaust.

"The Macedonians were under Bulgarian rule. No one could resist unless they wanted to die," said Yosha, who guest lectures at Jerusalem's Hebrew University.

"Throughout Macedonian history, there has been no acts of anti-Semitism," Prime Minister Ljubco Georgica told a group of Jewish Agency and Keren Hayesod delegates at a lunch in his honor at the Hotel Continental in Skopje.

Today's Skopje Jewish community is now made up of just 186 people. There are no active synagogues, and there is no rabbi.

Two members of the Israeli delegation light candles at the menorah memorial in the Jewish Israeli cemetery in Skopje. [Viva Press photo]

Still, the community is culturally very involved with its Jewish identity.

Viktor Mizrahi, speaking to the mission of agency and Keren Hayesod members who visited Skopje on June 14, said it is "with great honor and respect that we maintain our history."

Jewish events, commemorations, and holiday gatherings are held in the community centre, a square two-storey building on the corner of two side streets located in the city's central area.

Mizrahi said aside from a frequently published Jewish newsletter by the youth of the community, the younger generation get together weekly for Israeli folk dancing, and go on an annual trip to Israel.

And while culturally, the mainly middle class Jewish community is still thriving, religiously it is suffering.

There are eight 12- and 13- year old kids in the Skopje Jewish community today. None of them will have a bat or bar mitzvah. But that's not unusual either, said Zdravko Sami who has lived in Skopje all of his life.

"We don't do that here," said Sami about bar and bat mitzvahs. "You have to go to Belgrade [where there is a rabbi], but travelling in the area is not easy." Infrequently, a rabbi comes to visit the Skopje community.

Next year, Mizrahi, the community leader, is hoping to open Macedonia's first shul since 1963, when an earthquake destroyed the last synagogues in Macedonia. He is optimistic that with the building of a synagogue – Macedonia had 10 before the Holocaust – a rabbi will follow.

They are aiming for the new shul, which is to be housed in the Jewish community centre, to be ready for next March.

Asked what the synagogues looked like before they were destroyed, Sami, 45, said: "They disappeared before my time. On the very few pictures I've seen, they looked very beautiful."

In the meantime, the Jews gather in a small room in the community centre for holiday services in which community members take turns davening. The pre-war Torah, once read before thousands, is now used quite irregularly.

As the small community slowly rebuilds itself, its community leaders still promote aliyah.

Returning with the delegates to Israel on June 14, were seven girls and one boy, ages 16 to 19. The group came to Israel for a three-month ulpan program, where they joined 60 Belgrade teens at the Hadassah Ne'urim Youth Village. The aim of the program, in which they will study Hebrew, learn about Israel, and tour the country, is to enable the teens to explore aliyah options.

"When they come back, they will be a major asset to the community," said Sami. Or, if they choose to stay in Israel after the conclusion of the program, Sami said "our community does not consider this an abandonment.

"It's probably better for their own future, and the community will gain one more reference point in Israel."

This feeling of encouragement, that she is not abandoning her small community, made it easier for Lela Sadikario,18, to say goodbye. Sadikario has already decided that she will stay in Israel beyond the three months.

"Since I was 5 years old, my dream has been to go to Israel. I'm very Zionistic," she said.

Seventeen-year-old Rachella Mizrahi also plans to make aliyah, but will wait until after she finishes her final year of high school next year.

Mizrahi is one of four remaining survivors of her family's long history in Macedonia. Her family, which she said can be traced back more than 1,000 years, lost 52 members in the Holocaust.

While saddened that his daughter plans to leave home next year, Rachella's father Viktor is also excited that his daughter is moving to Israel. "My family is going to Israel to keep our family name [alive]," he said smiling.

"I'm very elated by the fact that I insisted on bringing back the teens," said Avi Pazner, world chair of Keren Hayesod.

Dismissing any notion that in bringing the teens to Israel, he is breaking up an already small community, Pazner said: "Every Jew that we can bring to Israel we should. They will rebuild their community in Israel. I don't know how long they can live in their country."

Viktor Mizrahi, although likely to see both of his children move to Israel in the near future, agreed with Pazner that the teens are not abandoning their community. "Even if not one Jew is left," he said. "The Jewish history and culture stays in Macedonia."

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Health

Clinical trials to cancer gene therapy set to begin

By JANICE ARNOLD
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL— Clinical trials of gene therapy for ovarian and colon cancer, which scientists hope may someday revolutionize the treatment of these diseases, will begin for the first time in Quebec at the Jewish General Hospital (JGH).

Gene therapy is still in its early stages of research and its use in humans is experimental, but studies in animals have been shown it may be effective in reducing tumors, said Dr. Gerald Batist, director of the McGill Centre for Translational Reseach in Cancer, which is based at the JGH.

"The goals of the trials are to confirm the safety and determine the efficacy of this particular therapy," he said. In both trials, patients will receive standard chemotherapy, as well.

The trials are being conducted in collaboration with other research centres in the United States and elsewhere, and the Centre hospitalier de l'Université de Montréal-Hôpital Notre Dame.

Until now, patients have had to go to the United States to receive this kind of "cutting edge" treatment, Batist said. However, he admitted at this point, scientists do not know if gene therapy will combat cancer any better than chemotherapy or radiation. "This is simply a step," he said.

Dr. Victor Sandor, another JGH oncologist, added that these trials offer "the treatment of tomorrow, today.

"This therapy can potentially benefit those in the trials themselves, and definitely benefit others in the future," he said.

Even if these trials prove positive, the doctors don't foresee gene therapy becoming part of mainstream medicine for at least three to five years.

Candidates that will be considered must meet strict criteria. In the first case, only patients with colon or rectal cancer that has spread to the liver will be accepted. They may have had prior chemotherapy, but not more than two different programs of treatment.

In the ovarian cancer trial, candidates must be recently diagnosed, and have residual tumors of less than 2 centimetres but more than 0.5 cm in size, requiring chemotherapy.

In both cases, patients must be in otherwise generally good health.

Those selected for the trials will have healthy P53 genes inserted into their cancerous cells, in the hope that these genes will affect the activity of the abnormal cells. P53, known as the "guardian" gene, normally controls cell growth and is the most commonly defective gene in many cancers. (Candidates will be tested to determine if they have an abnormal P53 gene.)

The genes inserted will be synthesized in a laboratory.

The researchers say one of the biggest challenges of this kind of therapy is delivering the genetic material to the appropriate cells in a way that is specific, efficient and safe. The procedures used in these trials involve the latest technology.

In the case of the colon cancer patients, a pump is implanted into their abdomen just under the skin, which will infuse the P53 gene via a catheter, into a blood vessel in the liver.

The agent that delivers the gene into the cancer cell is a version of the adenovirus, the virus that causes common respiratory and eye infections. It will be modified to eliminate its disease-causing properties, but retain its ability to encapsulate genes and penetrate cells.

Patients will also receive chemotherapy through this pump. The medicine is periodically injected through the skin into the device. Chemotherapy received this way should not make the patient feel as ill as that taken intravenously or orally, because cells are killed only in the affected area and not throughout the body.

The ovarian patients will have a catheter implanted under the skin leading into the abdominal cavity, through which the P53 gene is injected. They will get chemotherapy intravenously.

Both implant procedures require the patient to undergo surgery by general anesthetic. In both trials, about half the patients will be randomly selected to receive P53 and the others will be in a control group.

The researchers believe any side effects, such as infection or allergic reaction, are not very likely or will be tolerated.

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About Nutrition

By LISA WEINBERG

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Q. My infant is ready to start eating pureed meats. I would like to make this food myself. How do I go about it?

A. I have actually made pureed meat myself. Bake chicken, or broil beef, veal or lamb. It is important to make sure all are well cooked.

In a food processor, puree meat with either water, plain stock (homemade with no added salt, sugar, pepper or onion), or a combination of fruit or vegetables with water (I have used chicken with applesauce or sweet potatoes and a little water, for example), to achieve a thin consistency like that of infant cereal.

Lisa Weinberg is a registered dietitian/nutritionist, specializing in pediatric and adult nutrition in Toronto. If you have any nutrition questions, send them to The CJN.

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Author's reading transports audience to Russian shtetl

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Lilian Nattel, author of *The River Midnight*, received the prestigious Martin and Beatrice Fischer Prize for Fiction at the 11th annual Jewish Book Awards, on June 9 in the Leah Posluns Theatre.

The first-time novelist read a passage of her book to a clearly delighted audience that was temporarily transported back to a fictitious 19th-century Russian-Polish shtetl of Blaszka, where the story takes place.

In the foyer after the ceremony, Nattel was surrounded by readers, each clutching a book for her to autograph.

Published here by Knopf Canada, *The River Midnight* has won favorable reviews in the *New York Times*, the *London Times*, *Time* Magazine and other major international publications.

Earlier this year, the sale of the manuscript to the American publisher, Scribner, made headlines when it produced an exceptionally high advance, reportedly in the six-figure range.

"This award is very special for me, because it's a way for me to publicly acknowledge the fact that it's my Jewish heritage that has brought me success, and made a writing life possible for me," Nattel, the 41-year-old daughter of Polish-Jewish immigrants, told *The CJN*.

"That's really amazing when you consider what my parents have gone through and what the Jews have gone through. To find success and accolades in the very heart of my Jewish identity, here in Canada in 1999 – I can't tell you how amazing that is for me."

The Fischer Prize was the first of 10 awards, some accompanied by cheques of up to $1,000, given out in 10 categories. There were two other fiction awards: the Louis L. Lockshin Memorial Prize went to Nora Gold for *Marrow and Other Stories* (Warwick), and the Isaac Frischwasser Memorial Award for Young Adult Fiction went to Irene N. Watts for *Goodbye Marianne* (Tundra).

Holocaust themes did not dominate the evening as in previous years, but that inescapable subject was still well represented. The Betty and Morris Aaron Prize for Holocaust Memoir went to Elizabeth M. Raab for *And Peace Never Came* (Wilfred Laurier University Press), while The Canadian Society for Yad Vashem Award in Holocaust History went to Allan Levine for *Fugitives of the Forest* (Stoddart).

In other categories, the Joseph and Faye Tanenbaum Award for Canadian Jewish History went to Gerald Tulchinsky for *Branching Out: the Transformation of the Canadian Jewish Community* (Stoddart), while the Morris Winemaker Prize in Literary Criticism went to Kenneth Sherman for *Void and Voice: Essays on Literary and Historical Currents* (Mosaic).

Noah N. Shneidman won the Sam Bojman Memorial Prize in Jewish History for *Jerusalem of Lithuania: The Rise and Fall of Jewish Vilnius* (Mosaic), while Robin McGrath won the Henry Fuerstenberg Award for Poetry for *Escaped Domestics* (Killick).

Finally, the Dorothy Schoichet President's Award for Biblical and Rabbinic Scholarship went to Rabbi Elyse Goldstein for *ReVisions: Seeing Torah Through a Feminist Lens* (Key Porter).

Signing books in the foyer afterwards, Rabbi Goldstein told *The CJN* that she was very grateful to the committee for honoring her book.

"In choosing a book on feminism as the winner of the Biblical Scholarship award, it's an acknowledgement that feminist scholarship is scholarship," she said. "It's not marginalized, it's about the Bible from a woman's perspective, and that is very meaningful for me."

Award-winner Kenneth Sherman expressed a similar appreciation for the awards ceremony, which he said "is helping to create a community of readers. I think Adam (Fuerstenberg, chair of the Jewish Book Awards committee) and the committee are fantastic for doing this every year. It's a very important event for the Jewish community."

Casting an eye over the several hundred people at the post-awards catered reception, Fuerstenberg seemed to be thinking of ways to improve the event for next year. "We're still not getting enough people from south of Eglinton," he mused. "Next year we've got to find the funds to put an ad into the *Globe and Mail* to attract the mainstream literary community...

"Jewish writers are mainstream writers," he continued. "Good writing sells itself."

The MC for the evening was Frances Mandell.

Multifaith production debuts

By BARABARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — At the Leah Posluns Theatre, which was filled to capacity on this June night, all eyes were riveted on Ayelen Liberona, the solo dancer performing *The Shulamite's Wedding Dance* to music traditionally played at Arab wedding celebrations.

The Traditional Arab Music Ensemble, led by ethno-musicologist George Sawa, provided the music. Plucking the psaltery, a harp-like instrument, Sawa accompanied a female vocalist singing in Arabic, as Liberona twirled around the stage.

When the wedding dance ended, the audience's attention shifted to the Lachan Choir, standing on stage just behind Sawa and his ensemble. Lachan, led by Cantor Benjamin Maissner, performed a Hebrew song, *Ts'ena Ur'ena* from *Shir Hashirim* (Song of Songs), composed in 1922.

The juxtaposition of Hebrew and Arabic music reflected the multicultural flavor of the recent multi-faith production of *Song of Songs*, which offered Jewish, Christian, and secular interpretations of the biblical love poem ascribed to King Solomon.

Local artists brought the ancient text to life in a multi-faceted production encompassing drama, choral music and dance, which was presented by the Bloor Jewish Community Centre (JCC), the Bathurst Jewish Centre (BJC) and Trinity St. Paul's United Church.

Performed three times – twice at Trinity St. Paul's and once at the Leah Posluns Theatre – each show featured one of three choirs: the Toronto Chamber Choir, the Trinity St. Paul's Choir, and the Lachan Choir, who all performed the same songs. Spanning 400 years, the choral repertoire was totally inspired by Songs of Songs.

The *Song of Songs* production culminated in the world premier of a new dance work choreographed by Shula Saltzman of the Me'irim Dance Company. The Me'irim group danced to *Shir Hashirim*, a cantata composed by Milton Barnes, who was on hand to conduct.

The musicians performing his cantata included Chamberworks, a chamber ensemble; a female chorus; and soloists Renee Bouthot, a soprano and Maissner, a tenor.

Sawa, a musical historian, who had been involved with the *Song of Songs* for two years, told *The CJN* he enjoyed working on the production. "The text of the Song of Songs is a very juicy love song," he said.

"We speak like this way back at home in the Middle East . The language is very flowery and multi-syllabic...The classical songs in Arabic sound very much like the Song of Songs."

Conductor Barnes called the performance "splendid. It was a pleasure it finally happened. It was a relief it finally happened. It was brewing for so long."

Bouthot, a soprano, said she was thrilled with the performance. "I felt that we just sailed away. You get that feeling when a performance goes really well."

Bill Emery, executive director of the Bloor JCC praised the performers. "I thought it was fantastic. I thought the multi-cultural aspect was unique. It was the interfaith part and the multicultural part that attracted us.

"And that's what attracted Trinity St. Paul's to working with the Jewish,Community Centre. They were looking to work with the [Jewish] community. We became their logical choice. *The Song of Songs* presented the perfect vehicle for working together."

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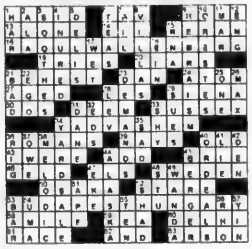

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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

U.S. WRITER DON DELILLO WINS JERUSALEM PRIZE

This week, American novelist **Don DeLillo** received the annual Jerusalem Prize, awarded during the Jerusalem International Book Fair to a writer whose work expresses the theme of the freedom of the individual in society.

DeLillo, author of such highly acclaimed novels as *White Noise* and *Underworld*, is the first American writer to be given this honor.

The prize was awarded by the Mayor of Jerusalem, Ehud Olmert, on June 23.

The Jerusalem Prize has been awarded every other year since 1963. Previous recipients include **Milan Kundera**, **Mario Vargas Llosa** and **V.S. Naipaul**.

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Reform Folk CD: Peter Yarrow of the group **Peter, Paul and Mary** and folksinger **Debbie Friedman** are among the performers to sing on the CD *Sing Out for Justice*, recorded to raise funds for the Reform movement's Religious Action Centre.

The album also features the musical talents of **Linda Hirschhorn**, **Doug Mishkin**, the duo **Kol B'Seder** and **Theodore Bikel**. Songs include *River of Jordan*, *Olim*, *Save a Life*, *Am Yisroel Chai* and *Blowin' in the Wind*.

"The songs will help re-energize and recommit us to the task of working towards the objectives of the Religious Action Centre: social justice, community, and peace in the world," said Yarrow.

For more details, visit the Web site http://www.rj.org/rac.

***

Artisans Wanted: Temple Isaiah in Los Angeles invites artists to submit works of Judaica in all media for its 19th annual Festival of Jewish Artisans in November. Mail slides before July 19 to 10345 West Pico Blvd., Los Angeles CA 90064. 310-277-2772.

***

Audition Call: Just Off Centre Productions is holding auditions on June 23 and 24 for a planned October production of the musical *The Wizard of Oz*. The company is looking for people of all ages. 410-4174.

***

Jackie Mason Coming: Legendary American-Jewish comic **Jackie Mason** is appearing in a new show for two weeks, Oct. 16 to 30, at the Toronto comedy club Comedywood, prior to a renewed Broadway engagement. Tickets 905-761-0543 or 416-870-8000.

***

Seniors Show: The 11th annual Royal Bank Seniors Jubilee returns to Roy Thomson Hall Aug. 16 to 20, featuring more than 1,300 talented senior performers (55+) in a variety show extravaganza. $26-$14. 872-4255.

***

Jewish Films: Four films by Russian-Jewish filmmaker **Ephraim Sevela** are being shown around town this week, with Sevela in attendance. *Lullaby* has been called "the most powerful film about the catastrophe of European Jews ever seen in the United States," while *Chopin's Nocturne* won the Audience Favorite award at a Russian film festival three years ago.

Lullaby (in English) and *The Parrot That Speaks Yiddish* (in Russian) are being screened at Fairview Library Theatre, 7 p.m., June 24. $10 for both films.

The same films are being shown June 27, 11 a.m. at the Royal Ontario Museum Theatre, also $10 for both.

Chopin's Nocturne (silent, with music) and *Charity Ball* (in Russian) are being screened June 27 at 2:30 p.m. at the Royal Ontario Museum Theatre. $10 for both. Tickets available on the day of the shows at the box offices. 398-9774.

***

In the Spotlight: As a child, **Theo Tobiasse** spent the war years locked up in hiding with his parents in a tiny Paris apartment, during which time his main solace was his art. When Tobiasse finally saw daylight again, he had amassed a large file of drawings.

A designer for the advertising world by day, Tobiasse painted by night, eventually gaining recognition as an important Jewish artist. Today he is best known for his lively and captivating figures, surrounded in vibrant colors. He has also painted various tributes to Israel.

In the Greater Toronto Area, Klim Art Publishers Ltd. is showing Fifty Springs of Israel, a collection of seven lithographs by Tobiasse. The gallery is situated at 1238 Centre St., Thornhill; 905-882-0884.

Show surveys race/ethnic relations

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

"Canada has a bit of an unpleasant past," observes a Toronto high school student delicately, voicing a monumental understatement. She appears early on in *Toward a Just Society*, Vision TV's bracing survey of race and ethnic relations in Canada since World War II.

The documentary, to be aired on Monday, June 28 at 9 p.m., is produced and directed by David Stein for the Canadian Council of Christians and Jews. It is by turns informative, shocking, inspiring and thought provoking.

Let's face it. Canada, a model of racial diversity and tolerance today, was once an inhospitable country if you were a Jew, a black, an Asian, a native Indian or a southern European with swarthy features. The powers-that-be, the British and French elite, wanted "to keep Canada for themselves," comments Italian-Canadian broadcaster Johnny Lombardi.

The social climate was such that anti-Semitism, be it blatant or subtle, was endemic. Canada, says York University history professor and former Canadian Jewish Congress president Irving Abella, was an "uncomfortable" place for the majority of Jews.

They could not aspire to many types of jobs, and were kept out of certain residential neighborhoods. In some ways, Jews were nothing but second class citizens.

Canada's restrictive immigration policy favored Anglo-Saxons and northern Europeans. Canada deigned to admit no more than a few thousand Jews fleeing fascist persecution. Jewish refugees from Germany and Austria were absurdly interned as "enemy aliens." In short, Canada's record as a humanitarian bastion was shameful.

There is more. Japanese Canadians in British Columbia were resettled in prisoner-of-war camps following the outbreak of World War II. Native peoples were segregated from mainstream society, and indeed, the federal government tried to eradicate their so-called "anachronistic and dysfunctional" culture. Blacks, of course, were the lowest on the totem pole.

Change came gradually. Due to a labor shortage after 1945, Canada took steps to liberalize its xenophobic immigration code, though former prime minister Mackenzie King was none too keen about its possible consequences. Human rights legislation was passed in the 1950s, and in 1960, a bill of rights was finally enacted.

Toward a Just Society credits former prime minister Pierre Trudeau for having promoted ideals which fostered multiculturalism, a concept which inspired a flowering of ethnic pride but which was at odds with French Canadian nationalism.

The Charter of Rights and Freedoms, Trudeau's baby, enshrined multiculturalism. Yet its success has spawned a backlash. "White pride" movements (the Western Guard and the Heritage Front) have arisen, racial violence against minorities has increased, and resistance to an open immigration policy has swelled.

Warren Kinsella, a writer who monitors these nefarious groups, claims that Canadian racists should not be underestimated. They are masterful communicators, they disseminate their noxious views on the Internet, and they have been effective in recruiting young, impressionable Canadians to their cause.

According to Abella, intolerance has become "the greatest growth industry" of the 1990s. It's a disconcerting development, and should be watched vigilantly. Yet, as *Toward a Just Society* rightfully argues, Canada has changed tremendously and come a long way in some 50 years.

Awards for Canada-Israel business

By DAVID SILVERBERG
Student Intern

TORONTO — Loblaws and Canadian Highways International were two of the winners at the Canada-Israel Business Excellence Awards, held recently at the Inn on the Park Hotel.

President's Choice International, a division of Loblaws Brands Ltd., was honored for its extensive exports to Israel. The company began exporting President's Choice and No Name products to Israel in 1996 and is now exporting around 450 different items to the country. Its annual sales exceed $5 million.

"We have an excellent relationship with Israel," said Ell Wilson, director of export operations and development for President's Choice.

The big sellers in Israel, he said, are cookies, ice cream and the No Name products.

Canadian Highways International received the award for outstanding achievement in Israel during the bi-annual ceremony. In 1998, the company was selected to finance, design, build and operate the $1.1 billion Cross Israel Highway. The 86 km electronic toll road will run north-south through the heart of Israel just east of Tel Aviv.

"[The award] came as a surprise...There was significant competition," said chief operating officer Margaret Kelch, noting that the Cross Israel Highway is an important tool for the country's economic development.

David Azrieli, founder and president of Canpro Investments Ltd., was honored with the award for direct investment in Israel. His real estate business currently owns 6,300,000 square feet of commercial property in North America.

Canpro opened the first shopping mall in Israel in 1985 and manages two other major malls in Beersheva and Jerusalem.

Tel Aviv underwent a dramatic change with the construction of the Azrieli Centre, the largest retail development in Israel. Often referred to as the "jewel in the crown", the magnificent Azrieli Centre is comprised of three huge officer towers connected by a fully rented shopping area. The centre provides start-of-the-art business facilities and includes an open-air amphitheater, a health spa and cinemas.

The evening was hosted by the Canada-Israel Chamber of Commerce, a non-profit organization that promotes trade and investment between Canada and Israel.

For imports to Israel, Revelle Home Fashions came out on top. In 1994, the company worked with Israeli mills and created fabrics for the North American market. Approximately 85 percent of cotton used in Revelle products is now being imported from Israel. Items range from cotton jacquard woven tablecloths to bed linen.

International Neural Machines (INM) won for Canada-Israel joint ventures in research and investment. The eight-year-old company deals with artificial intelligence software and provides solutions for automating Internet, and e-commerce data processing.

INM's partnership with Elscint and General Electric of Israel created ELGEMS, one of the world's largest manufacturers of nuclear medicine equipment.

"This is a time- and money-saving enterprise for physicians," said Gideon Vardi, executive vice-president and chief operating officer of INM.

"This venture will put another layer of accuracy to make the physician's life easier," he said.

INM's international customer base includes companies in Sweden, Denmark, Australia and the United States. Royal Bank, CIBC, and Bell Canada are among its Canadian customers.

Sports gear comes clean

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — It must be a guy thing.

It's a good bet that women wouldn't put up with it – at least that's been Aussi Hagshi's experience.

In the past six months, wives, mothers and girlfriends – and increasingly men – have said enough to stinking, putrid, unhygenic hockey equipment.

Hagshi knows it too. Six months ago, the 30-year-old entrepreneur opened PlayClean Sports, located next to Chesswood Arena near the Downsview airport. Hagshi promises to get the stink out of most sports equipment left with him.

PlayClean handles everything in a hockey bag except skates and helmet, Hagshi said. Using large, industrial strength machines, the equipment is cleaned according to manufacturers' specifications with mild, non-perfumed detergent and then hung to dry in a specially ventilated room.

"If you wash it regularly, you won't get the horrible smell associated with it," he said. Washing will remove the mold and mildew that combine with body salts to ruin the equipment over time. Hagshi recommends cleaning equipment several times a year, based on the frequency of use.

Since he opened the business, he's increased the company's profile and developed several larger accounts. In addition to the individuals who bring their equipment to him – including goalie pads and body armor – PlayClean has acquired 17 MTHL team accounts.

He projects revenues of $100,000 for his first year of business.

PlayClean's price list kicks in at $5.42 for boys' shoulder pads, $7.19 for men's. An express-service (one to two days) is sightly more expensive than the regular service (three days).

PlayClean offers a $26.60 package for regular service, which includes everything in the hockey bag – jocks, suspenders, neck guards, jerseys – including the bag itself.

Hagshi believes PlayClean meets a real consumer need and has plenty of room to grow. He hopes to expand through the GTA and customers have told him his business would go over bigtime in the U.S. northeast, where hockey is a yuppie sport. He's also branching out into other sports, like football and lacrosse.

An MBA graduate from York University's Schulich School of Business, Hagshi came upon the business almost by accident. A little over a year ago, he was sitting in a dressing room "and it was getting small because some guys had so much space to themselves."

He tried to find a place for them to clean their equipment but came up empty.

"It struck me as weird that no one has tried to do this in Canada," he said.

He opened PlayClean Sports with money borrowed from his parents, Pnina and Shane, and from lending institutions.

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Travel, Arts & Business

Nude model loves his work

By LORI FIREMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Morton Kazaz is not a shy man. Loud and confident, he is eager to tell one all about his life.

But it is perhaps what he shows that is the more intriguing, for Kazaz makes his living as a life model, grinning and baring it all daily for artists and photographers.

So what's a nice Jewish man doing in a job like this? "Well," he answers, smiling, "I was looking for something interesting, and I saw this episode of *The X-Files* which had a scene in an art class. I was fascinated by it, and I have always been a fan of nudes, in every form."

Indeed, his admiration ranges from classical art photos to the *Playboy* centrefolds that grace his impressive magazine collection.

So Kazaz, 33, called around to see if there was a need, and soon found himself "doing it and loving it," he says proudly.

With three years of modeling experience under his belt – so to speak – his career is still going strong. Having established an extensive and diverse portfolio, including being a recent Sunshine Boy, he says regular agencies are requesting his service.

His job definitely has its advantages. Unlike most models who must either starve themselves or bulk up to get work, life models come in a variety of shapes and sizes, so he doesn't have to knock himself out pumping iron at the local gym.

Still, Kazaz keeps his naturally trim form in shape by "eating right and staying active," particularly in the summer when he can take advantage of the warm weather and participate in team sports.

Certainly, in his free time, Kazaz tries to keep busy, because once he arrives at a session, he must be prepared to sit still for long periods of time.

Though he is used to art classes that allow the model reasonable breaks, he recalls an unfortunate assignment in which he was made to sit for 75 minutes without recess.

"The teacher said she didn't want her students to lose their momentum, but I sure lost mine," he says.

And what does he do to keep it going? "I just think about sports, my daily plan, my wife."

Yes, he's married, and no, she is neither a model nor does she love being married to one. Though she is outwardly supportive, Kazaz knows she can't be thrilled with him being photographed nude – alone or with other naked women.

Her approval is generous, however, compared to his family in Israel. They still can't understand his career choice.

Nonetheless, he retains the Jewish values they instilled in him, keeping kosher and refusing work on Friday or Saturday.

Family opinion notwithstanding, Kazaz is a man who loves his work, and who is still amazed with the happy and unencumbered path his life has taken.

He remembers himself as a cringing teenager "who wouldn't be caught dead in a tank top or shorts," and "never thought beyond the mainstream, as far as jobs."

Having worked as a retail buyer, in customer service, and even as an investment agent, he never dreamed he would find a job that made him so happy, "or so naked," he adds sheepishly.

He particularly likes the flexible hours and the freedom of spirit nude modeling brings.

What he doesn't like is competing with women for work. So in the spirit of – if you can't beat em, join em – Kazaz had the gumption to branch out as an agent.

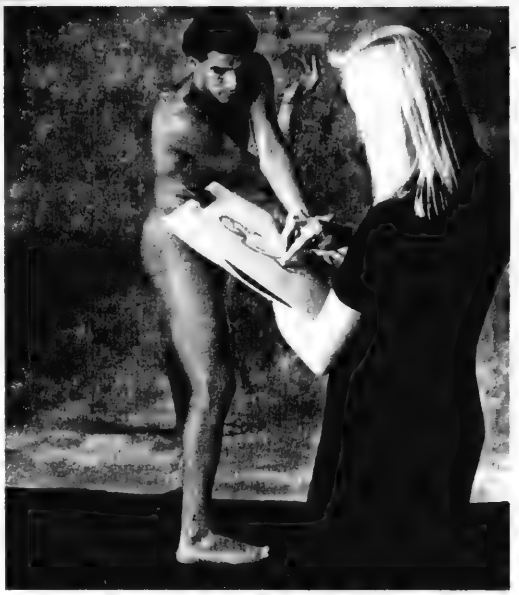
Always a go-getter, this longtime entrepreneur, who still enjoys a successful sports and movie memorabilia business, has become a scout, recruiting the very women who were stealing his assignments.

It's tough, but he is fair, he says, accepting all prospects, and working only on commission from the agencies that hire his models.

Though it started slowly, interest has begun to build and he now boasts a stable of desirable models and actresses in his employ.

As with his own modeling experience, it wasn't easy to establish himself in this new role, but he believes in being persistent.

All this goes to show that model Morton Kazaz is more than just a pretty face.



Morton Kazaz likes the freedom of spirit nude modelling brings.

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Attractive Jewish female, 38, 5'5", brown hair & eyes, down to earth, family oriented. Seeking an educated male, well groomed, intelligent, 37-44, sensitive, active, likes to have fun. AD#1846

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Divorced Jewish female, early 50's, affectionate, financially secure, independent, great sense of humour, enjoy dining out, long walks, music, sports. Seeking a male, over 55, with a great sense of humour. AD#2046

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Single Jewish female, 41, 5'8", brown hair, attractive, honest, educated, employed. Seeking a Jewish male, 45-48, independent, honest, good personality, with similar interests. AD#1414

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Divorced female, early 50's, fair hair, green eyes, attractive, slender, non smoker or drinker, kind, caring, great sense of humour, good family values, enjoy travelling, long walks, quiet times. Seeking a male, 45-60. AD#1545

ONE AND ONLY
Single Jewish female, youthful, 5'5", attractive, brown boulder length hair, brown eyes, non smoker, kind, sincere. Seeking a handsome Jewish male, kind, funny, warm, sensitive, established. AD#1357

LONG LASTING RELATIONSHIP
Single female, European, attractive, enjoy outdoors, the beach, movies, fishing, cooking, dancing, trailers. Seeking a well established male, late 50's. AD#1327

OPEN MINDED
Single female, over 40, charming, independent, intelligent, cultured, giving and forgiving. Seeking a male, Orthodox, open minded and understanding, who would like to learn. AD#1473

KNIGHT IN SHINING ARMOR
Single female, 36, 5'4", attractive, slim brunette, enjoy cottage life, theater, country. Seeking a professional male, 35-44, who is intelligent, interesting, attractive, inside and out. AD#1561

SERIOUS RELATIONSHIP
Single female, 40, 5'3", professional, attractive, medium build, enjoy movies, travelling, tennis, dining out. Seeking a sincere male, 36-50, attractive and successful. AD#1195

YOUNG AT HEART
Divorced female, 44, pretty, slender, Jewish, employed, dark brown hair and eyes, enjoy sports, art, theater, swimming. Seeking a Jewish male, 40-49, non smoker, healthy in body, soul and mind, independent, sensible. AD#1094

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Single Jewish female, 38, educated, loyal, thoughtful, pearl of a person, creative, active, enjoy laughter. Seeking a Jewish soulmate, 36-45, tender, honest, family oriented. AD#1254

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Single female, creative, sensitive, beautiful. Seeking a confident male, who is kind, modern , with strong principles. AD#1560

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Single female, attractive, professional, physically fit, outgoing, enjoy sports, dancing, travelling, outdoor activities. Seeking a male with similar interests. AD#1067

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NICE GUY WANTED
Single Jewish female, 38, 5'5", brown hair & eyes, attractive, honest, caring, down to earth, fit, enjoy movies, dining out, dancing. Seeking a Jewish male, 35-45, active, non smoker, honest, caring, down to earth. AD#2005

BEST FRIENDS
Single female, attractive, professional, late 50's, 5'4", university grad, good sense of humour. Seeking a male, university grad, 55+, 5'8"+, bright, funny and warm. AD#2042

FRESH AND MATURE
Single female, 36, young looking, beautiful on the inside & outside, financially secure, enjoy theater, love life. Seeking a nice, down to earth male, 33-38, 5'8"-5'11", contemporary thinker. AD#1550

CULTURE ADVERTS
Divorced Jewish female, 44, 5'5", 120lbs, attractive, slim, warm, romantic, outgoing, employed, enjoy sports, culture adverts, theater, travelling, working out, swimming. Seeking a mature, independent male, 40-50, healthy in body, mind and soul, non smoker. AD#1379

LASTING FRIENDSHIP
Young looking Jewish female, 56, blond hair, blue eyes, attractive, quiet, intelligent, love life. Seeking a nice Jewish male, honest. AD#1120

FAMILY ORIENTED
Single Professional female, enjoy tennis, golfing, boating, sailing, travelling, dining out, family oriented. Seeking a professional or business male, who lives in Toronto, enjoys sports, dining out, movies, family oriented, with similar interests. AD#1193

COMEDY CLUBS
Attractive Jewish female, 5'4", dark brown hair, hazel eyes, professional, enjoy movies, working out, theater, roller blading, bowling, camping, outdoors, dining out. Seeking an attractive male, 32-43, with similar interests and qualities. AD#1602

Men seeking Women

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THE RIGHT STUFF
Single male, 45, 5'8", Jewish, professional, sincere, intelligent, affectionate, down to earth, family oriented. Seeking a Jewish female, 38-46, with similar qualities, for a meaningful relationship. AD#1378

LADY OF HIS DREAM
Single male, 40, slim, 5'11", 165lbs, brwon hair, blue eyes, sincere, hopeless romantic, enjoy walking on the beach, bowling, tennis, swimming, sports, 60's music. Seeking a slim, attractive female, with a great sense of humour. AD#1610

WARM AND CARING
Single white male, 57, romantic, self employed, businessman, enjoy travelling, movies, quiet times, good conversation. Seeking a female with similar interests. AD#2044

SERIOUS RELATIONSHIP
Single male, 50's, young looking, 5'8", slim, professional, trim, world explorer, strong, well educated. Seeking a slender female, 25-45, intelligent, compassionate, attractive, very wise and adventurous. AD#2045

ONCE BITTEN, TWICE SHY
Single male, financially secure, from the Thornhill area, handsome, 50's. Seeking a female, good looking, good sense of humour, slim, age not important, picture a must after contact made, financially secure enough to escape winters is a definite plus. AD#1810

OPEN MIND
Single Jewish male, 48, 5'11", young looking, handsome, emotionally fit, dark brown hair, good shape, enjoy travelling, art, photography, writing. Seeking a female, 36-44, sensitive, intelligent, attractive, slim, good communicator, with an open, curious mind. AD#1648

SOULMATE
Israeli male, 6'1", 160lbs, compassionate, enjoy the country side, night shows, classical music, dancing, dining. Seeking a female with similar interests. AD#1012

LANE-WAY TO LOVE
Jewish male, 37, 5'9", attractive, compassionate, enjoy theater, conversation, fun. Seeking a female, 26-37, with similar interests. AD#1194

UNCONVENTIONAL
Single male, 36, 6', have a Master degree, professional, enjoy camping, cycling, travelling, film, dining out, cooking. Seeking a female, under 40, no children, down to earth, caring, chatty, mid size, unconventional. AD#1053

WITTY
Single Jewish male, 40, bright, witty, kind hearted, enjoy long walks, theater, hiking, travelling, table tennis and other games. Seeking a female with similar interests. AD#1086

EASY GOING
Jamaican male, 48, 160lbs, enjoy house work, gardening, music, down to earth, good sense of humour. Seeking a female with similar interests. AD#1230

CALL ME
Single Jewish male, attractive, 36, 5'10", 190lbs, enjoy tennis, reading, movies, dining. Seeking a Jewish female, 28-45, fit, outgoing, with a good personality. AD#1192

MR. NICE MAN
Single Jewish male, non smoker, seeking a slim, attractive female, 65+, with a great sense of humour, who likes sports and travelling. AD#1292

AFFECTIONATE
Single Jewish male, 42, attractive, honest, sincere, never married, enjoy movies, travelling, sports events, swimming, walking. Seeking a Jewish female, 32-43, up to 5'3", non smoker, attractive, honest, petite. AD#2032

GREAT OUTDOORS
Single male, 25, enjoy walks, camping, sports, biking, outdoors. Seeking a Jewish female, 21-25, similar interests. AD#1055

SOCIALIZING
Single Jewish male, attractive, early 50's, 5'10", caring, compassionate, enjoy dancing, electronics, computers, socializing. Seeking a female, attractive, intelligent, caring, compassionate. AD#1119

SOULMATE
Single male, 6'1", 160lbs, young looking, compassionate, enjoy nature, country site, classical music, dancing, dining out. Seeking a female with similar interests, looking for my soulmate. AD#1005

BEST IS YET TO COME
Single Jewish male, 53, 5'9", professional, successful, healthy, handsome, traditional, enjoy dining and dancing, long walks. Seeking a female, similar interests & qualities for long term relationship. AD#2017

FUN LOVING
Single male, 33, 6', blue-green eyes, slim, attractive, financially secure, fun loving, enjoy dining out, movies, dancing. Seeking a Jewish female, 28-35, tall, attractive, with similar interests. AD#2008

MARRIAGE MINDED
Single Jewish male, 46, fit, easy going, sincere, hard working, enjoy art, music, movies, long walks. Seeking a female, 25-35, for marriage minded, serious relationship. AD#2086

WHAT A CATCH!
Single Jewish male, 36, 5'10", 190lbs, enjoy tennis, squash, reading, movies, dining & dancing, TV. Seeking a Jewish female, 28-47, fit, outgoing, personality is a plus. AD#2014

ATTENTION LADIES!
Single male, reformed, 40, tall, slim, handsome, fair hair, hazel eyes, non smoker, social drinker, medical specialist, enjoy movies, blading, the outdoors, trying new foods. Seeking a slim, educated, fit, employed female, with a car and blue jeans, no kids or cats. AD#2000

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Clark & Hilda, detached, 3 bdrms., 2 ½ baths, large kitchen, finished basement, lots of storage **$248,800.**
Rose Printz @ Re/Max Realtron
(905) 764-6000

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

Forest Hill
Real Estate Inc. Realtor
(416) 488-2875 (416) 226-1987

List with us and appear on our Website: www.foresthill.ca

CENTRAL PROPERTIES

NEW LISTING! SPECTACULAR LOWER VILLAGE
Totally renovated! Highest quality finishes, 4 bedrooms + den on 2nd floor, 4 baths. Reesa Sud* 488-2875

FABULOUS FOREST HILL FAMILY HOME
A-1 location. 10+ home!! Cathy Kwinter* 488-2875

272 CRAWFORD ST. STUNNING CONTEMP!
Art deco home, ultimate city living. Judith Fedor* 488-2875

BATHURST/GLENCAIRN - RENOVATED
4 bdrms. w/loads of extras. Garage. Bonnie Singer** 488-2875

CRICKET CLUB GEM
$549,000 pretty bungalow, fabulous lot! Rena Bader* 488-2875

ARMOUR HEIGHTS!
4 bedrooms, cac, large lot. S. Dick-Goodman* 488-2875

ARMOUR HEIGHTS SOLD FABULOUS 4 BEDROOM
Beautifully maintained. Main floor powder room. Great sunny south lot. $374,900. Patti Pollock* 226-1987

1ST AD! 144 GOULDING AVE! $366,888!
Yonge N./Finch! Reno'd. 4+2 bdrms., 4 baths. Exec. S/S! Nanny ste.! Gorg'us 50x132'! Move in! Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

HUGE REDUCTION 3 CORWIN CRESCENT
Amazing 2 storey separate entrance to finished basement, 50 ft. lot. Walk to shuls, immaculate. Ruth Silver* 226-1987

43 GRANTBROOK ST.! SOLD! 3 BDRMS., 2 BATHS
$269,900! Yonge N./Finch! Pure perfect. 1.5 storey! Gorgeous 62x123' lot! 10+++ Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

BAYVIEW PROPERTIES

8 VALLEY RIDGE PLACE! EXEC. RESORT!
$2.5K! Spectacular indoor pool! 4 car gar., 5+2 bdrms., 11 baths! 156x190'! Vendor says sell! Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

NEW PRESENTATION - BRIDLEPATH $1,780K
Grand 5 bdrm. custom Hyde Park estate on approx. 1 acre of privacy. Superb quality. Carolyn Feldman** 488-2875

YORK MILLS - FAB. "UCCI" - RENO'D. - $899K
Quiet Crt., contemporary 4 bdrms., w/up basement to pool, main fam.+lau.+2 pce.! Won't last!! Carolyn Feldman** 488-2875

BAYVIEW/YORKMILLS - CUL-DE-SAC - $799K
Custom 5 bdrms., main den+family rm.+ 2 pce.+lau., w/out lux. lower level. Barbara Jacobs*/Carolyn Feldman** 488-2875

BAYVIEW/PARKVIEW SOLD FREEHOLD -$489K
2,850', 3 bedroom townhome. Family room, den, fireplace, private garden, 2 car garage. A "10". Carolyn Feldman** 488-2875

NORTH PROPERTIES

28 MAIMONIDES COURT! NOW $469K!
Unbelievable! Bathurst/Atkinson,cul-de-sac! 4+1 bdrms., 4 baths, main fam.+lib.! Walk to Shul! Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

CONDOMINIUMS

1ST AD! FABULOUS DOWNTOWN LOCATION
$215,000, 2 bedrooms., 2 baths, solarium, parking, huge rooms, 1,400 sq. ft., incredible value! Rena Bader* 488-2875

ASCOT MANSIONS - JOHN/LESLIE - $249K
1,350', 3 bdrms., 2 baths, 3 prkg.++ Carolyn Feldman** 488-2875

BATHURST/LAWRENCE - IMMEDIATE POSSESSION
2 bedrooms, 2 baths, eat in kitchen. Lillian Cooper* 488-2875

LAWRENCE/BATHURST - EXCLUSIVE
2 bedroom., 2 bath condo. Lillian Cooper* 488-2875

SOLD IN A WEEK! ROOMS! BRIGHT!
Move right in! Kitchen with walk-out! Lynne Elkind* 488-2875

NEW FOREST HILL BAGHAI BUILT CONDO
Unique 1 & 2 bdrm. suites - 780' + up including 1,250' garden suite, from $219K, parking, locker, appls.+++, immediate poss. Barbara Jacobs*/Carolyn Feldman** 488-2875

** Associate Broker * Sales Representative

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

BATHURST MANOR
House fit for a prince. Reduced to $399,900 - Custom built by owner, 4 bedrooms, den, family room + basement apt. Great location fits professional people.

BATHURST/REJANE
$229,000. First time buyer, 3 bedrooms, detached, 2 baths, walkout to garden, garage, long possession. Buy now and save.

SALLY ROSEN, Sales Rep.
(905) 884-4425
CENTURY 21 SMITH LTD. BROKER

ROYAL LEPAGE
Just Listed
HILLHURST BLVD.
$469,000. Close to Viewmount Park and cul-de-sac, 3 bedrooms + den, 4 baths, large rec room, ideal to renovate, on a large lot.
CATHY TOROK
(416) 921-1112

10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

Clark/New Westminster, Spac, 4 bdrm. home, kosher kit., close to shuls/schools. 416-650-5110

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

GISELA WOLF INDEPENDENT BROKER — HOME MART REALTY INC.

ATKINSON / CENTRE - Gorgeous 3500+sf, 4 bdrm, splendid 54 x 126' lot, Huge kit. w/breakfast area & w/o, Fam.Rm & Den. Walk to Shull, Best schools, REDUCED!!!
YONGE / CLARK Quiet street near busy commercial. Det. Open concept BSMNT APT, Multiple parking, Home/Office. ONLY$231K!
POWER OF SALE! SHEPPARD / W of JANE 4bdrm TH $170k!!!
BATHURST / SHEPPARD Plaza "Open Window Bakery"$159K!
BATHURST / SOLTANA Cash maker Dry Cleaning Depot, busy plaza Good return! Family business $69,900 Vendor take back!
Email: homemart@yesic.com ✻ www.realestate.ca/torontogwolf
Always there when you need her ! Call *Gila* 416 222-6669

10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

Hamilton, McMaster. Hospital/University. 4 bdrm., mod. kit & 2 1/2 bth. w/skylite, sep. din. room, 2 fam. rms., wood flr., priv. yard. Walk to synagogue, day school, Yeshiva, golf. $312K. 905-526-8257.

15 HOUSES FOR RENT

Bath./Steeles - 4 bdrm., furn. semi. Avail. mid Aug. for 1 year. No Shabbat calls. 222-9810

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

JUST LISTED, HOT...HOT...
Bathurst/Centre St., large 1,225 sq. ft. condo: 2 bdrms., 2 baths, large solarium. Family size kit. Very bright. Parking, pool, gym, sauna, more. ONLY **$178,000.**
NAT STARK,
Sales Representative
Re/Max Realtron Realty Inc.
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"TO BUY OR SELL CALL NAT"

EXCLUSIVE FINCH & BATHURST
Large 2 bedroom condo, fabulous balcony, 2 baths, unobstructed view, central air. 175K Call...
GABBY GOLDRING
HomeLife/Partners Realty Inc.
(416) 229-4454

TOWNSGATE CONDO
$259,000. 2 bdrms., 2 baths, balcony, hardwood throughout, orig. model suite, high ceilings.
HARVEY ADELMAN,
Associate Broker
Re/Max Realtron Realty
(416) 818-8823

3000 Bathurst-2 bdr, 2 bth, upgrades, pkg., excellent cond., 3 appl. $215,500. Call 364-1063.

35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

Bath./Steeles - Townsgate, lux. 2 bdrm, 2 bth., 5 appl., huge PH terrace, 2 pkg. 905-882-1534.

55 ACCOMMODATION WANTED

Bathurst from Clark to York Downs. Very clean couple wants to rent in-law quarters. No bsmnts. 416-665-0432.

60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

37 year old male with slight disability, independent, looking for male roommate to share 2 bdrm 416-739-6401

60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

Bath./Steeles - furn. room in 2 bdrm. apt., male, kosher kit., sauna, pool. 416-665-1388.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

BATHURST WILSON
CONVENIENT NORTH YORK LOCATION
NEWLY DECORATED SPACIOUS 1, 2 & 3 BDRMS.
- Large balconies
- Central air conditioning and heating
- Hardwood Floors
- Sunken living rooms
- Surveillance cameras and card access system
- Outdoor swimming pool
- Close to conveniences and TTC
- Underground parking available

125 Neptune Dr.
(416) 787-7171

BATHURST-SHEPPARD
Very lg. 1, 2, 3 Bedrooms., ample closets, some 1½ baths & 2 balc., roof, laundry, ravine setting, pool, ind. pkg., 6 apts. per flr. From $900.
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377 or 631-0388 - Super

Bath./Baycrest,spac. bsmt apt, new kit & bth, exc loc. n/smkr, n/pets. $495/mo. 782-5887.

Bath./Wilson - 3 bdrm. apt., 2 baths. 787-6969 or 782-2417.

Walk to Downsview Station. 1 bdrm. suite, util. & laundry incl. $760/mo. 416-512-2705.

105 COTTAGE FOR SALE

Belle Ewart - 2 cottages on lge. lot, near water. 905-889-1814.

Belle Ewart - Lakefront, shared lot, 3 bdrm., equipped, no agents. 905-881-3317.

110 COTTAGE FOR RENT

Collingwood, waterfront, newly decor. 3 bdr. cottage. $675/wk. July/Aug. 905-731-4528

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

Hemispheres - 2 bdrm., 2 bth., oceanfront, high flr., furn., tennis, etc. Yearly rental only. Call 416-963-8469.

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

ANBER MOVERS
(LOCAL MOVING)
SPECIALIST IN:
TORONTO ↔ VANCOUVER
NEW YORK ↔ FLORIDA
(514) 735-8148
1-800-561-MOVE

190 VACATION PROPERTIES

EXCLUSIVE STRATHALLAN WOODS INNISFIL
Privacy in nature. Right-a-way, to Lake Simcoe. 4 bdrm. cottage, gracious living rm. w/frpl., oversized kitchen, din. rm., 45 min. N. of T.O. This property has so much to offer. Please call for your personal viewing. Call...
NADIA DeAMICIS, Sales Rep
RE/MAX CHAY REALTY INC.
(416) 362-7100

105 COTTAGE FOR SALE

RE/MAX
Realtron Realty Inc., Realtor
Independently Owned and Operated
Harvey Adelman, FRI, AMB
Associate Broker
1998 Presidents Club Award Winner
(416) **818-8823**

BIG CEDAR POINT

$269,000. 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, 50 ft. waterfront, enclosed area for kids. Beautifully maintained, easy care.

198 SPACE FOR LEASE

Office to rent in medical building. Bathurst & Lawrence. Please call 416-787-7626.

198 SPACE FOR LEASE

Small congregation, Bathurst & Wilson, seats 60-80 people. Avail. for high holidays. Very reasonable rent. 416-633-3063.

210 LAND/LOTS FOR SALE/LEASE

2 building lots. 50 ft. frontages. For sale by owner. Located on Charlton Blvd. (Finch/Bath.) between numbers 173 & 179. Principals only. 416-225-4359, leave message on machine.

230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

SANDWICH SHOP. Office Bldg., North York, franchise, good **turnover.**
DISCOUNT & DOLLAR STORE. Downsview, large area, good **turnover.**
G. BARON RLTR.,
(416) 661-1041

232 BUSINESS FOR SALE

FOR YOUR INVESTMENT EXCELLENT BAKERY
Bathurst/Finch. Established over 30 years. Retail & wholesale. Money maker over $500,000 in sales. Owner retiring, MUST BE SOLD. ONLY **$199,900.**
NAT STARK,
Sales Representative
Re/Max Realtron Realty Inc.
(905) 764-6000
"TO BUY OR SELL CALL NAT"

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Bathurst Jewish Centre Early Childhood Department - **ASSISTANT DIRECTOR** required. Challenging and rewarding position; 5 years experience and E.C.E. diploma. Awareness of the Jewish Community an asset. Send resumes to Selection Committee, Early Childhood Department, Bathurst Jewish Centre, North York, Ont. M2R 1W6. Deadline: **July 4, 1999.**

Tax consultant looking for individual to assist in areas of GST & PST. Individual must be very meticulous & organized. Hours negotiable. Send resume to CJN Box # 7192.

TEACHER WANTED
A community Hebrew School is looking for teachers to teach Sunday a.m. Hebrew School. Ages 7 - 11. We are located at Bathurst & Wilson. Knowledge of Hebrew language and Jewish customs is a must. The likely candidate will have his/her B.Ed or in program. Please call Anne Pearsall at 416-630-5901 or Sandy Seider 630-6869.

TRADITIONAL SYNAGOGUE
in Dallas, Texas, 110 year History, 400 + families, seeks energetic Associate Rabbi to lead youth, family & adult programming & assist Senior Rabbi with all congregational & life cycle events.
Fax resume to Attn: Search Committee at 214-739-5625
or e-mail:
SteveBlas@Yahoo.com

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

PARTY PLANNER/ FUNCTION COORDINATOR
For Kosher Banquet Hall. Immediate opening. Salary commensurate w/experience. Fax résumé: (905) 569-6243.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

GOLDEN CARE LTD.
There's *no place* like HOME!
*Exper. Senior Caregivers, HCA's, PSW's & nurses. Live-in & Live-out
*Reference & Police Checks
*We only hire THE BEST!
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THE BEST PERSONAL SERVICE
Honey Hecker
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APPLE DOMESTICS
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Sponsor Qualified Filipino Nannies, Nurses, Caregivers
Amazing Selection
Screened + references
ShineX Caregivers Inc.
416-218-9537
No fee for Employers * We supply temps & do your paper work

EC Access Employ. Agency Filipino owned. Nannies/ Hskprs/Companions. 905-475-2518 416-759-4333

Exp. cleaning lady avail. to clean houses/apts. Every Wed. & every other Thurs. 588-7407.

Exper. honest & reliable cleaning lady avail. immed. Call Adriana at 416-245-8082.

Frustrated by trying to find a suitable nanny? Let us help you. We have dependable, caring nannies who are thoroughly qualified, personally interviewed & pre-screened. All refs. are checked. Some are CPR trained. Low finders fee. **Wee Care Placement Agency 416-789-3070 or 398-6110.**

Harvscott Domestic Services
"Five stars above the rest"
Housekeepers, elderly care, nannies, cleaning ladies, party helpers. 905-771-6543.

High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

Lady to care for elderly overnight or housekping. 438-3066.

255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

Full time live-out nanny for Avenue/Eglinton area. For 2 & 3 yr old girls. Starting September. Hebrew an asset. Salary negotiable. Fax resume: 482-2860 or email: bnashman@yahoo.com

Senior lady seeks Jewish lady companion to live-in. Free room & board in exch. for cooking (Kosher kitchen) & some cleaning. Lawr/Marlee. 416-781-0942

257 HEALTHCARE AVAILABLE

WESTERN HEALTHCARE
(416) 740-9981
Warm loving care in the comfort of your home. Provided by...
◆ RN, RPN, PSW, Homemaker
✓ Live in/Live out Companion
✓ Recovering from Illness
✓ Recovering from Surgery
✓ Child Care
✓ Homemaking Services
SERVICES GUARANTEED OR IT'S FREE. CALL NOW!

258 HEALTHCARE WANTED

Live-in HCA req'd for senior lady in Ottawa who needs t/t care. Refs. req'd. 613-825-4404 or 613-224-2702.

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

B"H
SOULMATES WORLDWIDE JEWISH MATCHMAKERS. Mating season has begun, call Soulmates now or you'll miss the fun! **905-709-3868 www.soulmates.net**

Jewish Singles Registry. Over 1730 registered. **416-483-4151.**

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Early 40's widow w/17 yr. old son, slightly physically challenged would like to find male companionship, 43-50, young Israel, Modern Orthodox background. CJN Box # 7186.

Male, 5'9', 160 lb , Israeli origin, youthful, professional, tolerant, loves countryside, classical music, cultural affairs. Looking for a real partner, female, 47-54. 416-386-0218

Middle age gentleman, environment, Hebrew - English, goldsmith, needs a lovable, feminine honest woman of any religion or status for friendship or more. 905-882-4471.

• CJN Boxes for Personal Companions Wanted ads are valid for 30 (thirty) days only (from 1st publication date). Replies must be received within this time frame in order to be forwarded to the correct CJN Box #.

CLASSIFIED ADS/ SERVICE DIRECTORY ADS
·CUSTOMER SERVICE·

The CJN requires that advertisers check their advertisement upon publication, as *The CJN* will not be responsible for more than one incorrect insertion, and there shall be no liability for non-insertion of any advertisement. Liability for errors in advertisements is limited to the amount paid for the space occupying the error. All copy is subject to the approval of the management of *The CJN*. *The CJN* reserves the right to classify all advertisements.

Service Directory & Classified Ad Deadlines are Wednesday, 8 days previous to the issue, by 4 pm.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Since I am the luckiest girl in world, I have decided to share my wealth. My father is a 58 year old widower looking for a special female between 50-60 to share the best of what life has to offer. You must be young at heart, down to earth & have a great sense of humour. In return, I promise he will show you that life is better when two people connect. So if you are looking to meet 1 great guy, please respond to CJN Box # 7194.

SJF, 50's, seeks golf partner, male or female. CJN Box 7193.

SJM, very professional, handsome, 5'11", outgoing with traditional Jewish values, seeks an attractive, accomplished SJF, 28-35 with similar background. CJN Box # 7191.

We are looking for an outgoing, educated, assertive young lady for our kind, non-assertive, academic son in his early 30's. Please respond with interests & picture to CJN Box # 7189.

Replying to a Companion ad with a CJN Box Number?

Address your mail to:

The Canadian Jewish News
1500 Don Mills Rd.
Suite 205
North York, Ontario
M3B 3K4
Box # _____

330 OBITUARIES

BENJAMIN'S LANDMARK MONUMENTS
ALL MONUMENTS ARE NOT CREATED EQUAL
BENJAMIN'S LANDMARK MONUMENTS
3429 Bathurst (corner of Melrose)
(416) 780-0635

FREEDMAN, Rose - on June 10, 1999.
GEIST, Esther - on June 10, 1999, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
MORGULIS, Yakov - on June 10, 1999.
STROBACH, Isidor - on June 10, 1999, late of 100 Antibes Dr.
KELMAN, Ruth - on June 12, 1999, late of 1 Evanston Dr.
KRIVOSHEIN, Solomon - on June 12, 1999, late of 6101 Bathurst St.
BROWN, Ida - on June 13, 1999, late of 550 Cummer Ave.
GELLER, Irving - on June 13, 1999, late of 94 Charleswood Dr.
POMERANZ, Joseph - on June 15, 1999, late of 7 Townsgate Dr.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

330 OBITUARIES

IZENBERG GOLDBERG Monuments
Serving the Jewish community for over 80 years
•Finest quality memorials crafted in our own factory - under our supervision
•Very reasonable prices
LIFETIME GUARANTEE ON ALL MONUMENTS

EXPERIENCE QUALITY - SERVICE
3173 BATHURST ST.
(just north of Lawrence)
(416) 787-0319

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the loving memory of the late
PHILIP GRIEF & LISA SHORE ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 27th at 10:00 a.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Beit Rayim Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
SYLVIA GORDON ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 27th, 11:00 a.m.
Dawes Road Cemetery
Sons of Jacob Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
IRVING SCHACTER ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 27th, 10:00 a.m.
Mt. Sinai Cemetery
Shaarei Shomayim New Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
MIRIAM KASMAN ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 27th, 1:15 p.m.
Dawes Road Cemetery
Canadian Hebrew Benevolent Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
ESTHER SHESKO ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 27th, 11:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Cemetery
Farband Lithuanian Jews
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
HELENA STRASSER ז"ל
loving mother, grandmother, great-grandmother & aunt
will take place
Sunday, June 27th at 11:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
(Bathurst S. of Steeles)
Torah Emeth Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

338 SHIVA CATERING

SAME DAY SERVICE
*Tasteful Presentation
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and Full Course Meals
• DELIVERY AVAILABLE
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3457 BATHURST ST.
milk 'n honey
THE DAIRY RESTAURANT

335 UNVEILINGS

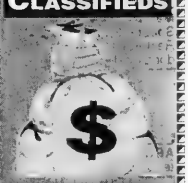
The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
MORRIS SKY ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 27th, 11:00 a.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
Pride of Israel Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
FRANCES SMULEVITCH ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 27th, 10:45 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Warsaw Lodzer Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
DINA WEISS ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, June 27th, 10:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Achavat Achim
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

338 SHIVA CATERING

KING SOLOMON'S CATERING
COR
630-0666
SHIVA CATERING

IT PAY$ TO ADVERTISE IN THE CJN CLASSIFIEDS

CALL TANYA AT (416) 391-1836 FOR ADVERTISING RATES
CJN Classifieds Really Work!

SERVICE DIRECTORY
Section

350 APPLIANCES

Barbecue Now
Don't Pay 'Til October
Sobie's
Natural Gas, Propane & Charcoal
Toronto's Best BBQs Online
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162 Willowdale Ave.
416 224-2526

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Repairs to washers, dryers, dishwashers and stoves. 2 yrs warr. Same Day Service. **FREE est.**
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All kinds of construction. Commercial/residential. We will beat any price by 5%. 416-988-9067

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Brit Milah • Bar/Bat Mitzvahs
Home or Office • Shiva Meals • Corporate Accounts
3522 Bathurst St. (S. of Wilson) (416) 787-0309

Sonny Langer's
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• TAKE OUT
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e-mail:trielm@pathcom.com

395 ELECTRICAL

Air Conditioning, Electrical Contracting, licensed, repair services, reasonable, guaranteed. Call 905-882-5474.

Electrician seeks small jobs only, Lic #E-329.Call 636-5732.

405 FURNITURE

Marcantonio Furniture Repair Specializing in touch-ups. Restoration & general repairs done on premises. 654-0518.

410 HEALTH, BEAUTY & FITNESS

AROMA massage. Russian attendant. 792 Wilson. 635-0853.

415 HOME IMPROVEMENTS

Polish Hardwood Flooring. All types, old &new, sanding, staining. 25 yrs. exp. 416-755-7169.

City East Hardwood Flooring. Sand,stain,finish. 905-839-0733

Complete hardwood flr service. Old floor like new 905-891-5038

ALL JUNK REMOVAL
Basements, yards, garages, sheds, renovation clean-ups, small moves and odd jobs.
Call 905-832-9655.

440 MISCELLANEOUS

Classic DRYCLEANING
SHIRTS 99¢ each
365 WILSON AVE.
630-6799

445 MOVING

A-1 Short Notice Movers. 1 man $35/hr., 2 men $50/hr., 3 men $65/hr. 30 ft. tractor trailer 18 ft. cube. Metro/surrounding, insured. SRM Movers 747-7082

B-K Movers. 2-28' trucks. Homes, offices, apts. Family business. Reasonable. Call 905-274-6144 or 905-278-0939

G&M Moving and Storage. Apts., homes, offices. Short notice.Lge or small. We carry supplies. 905-738-4030.

450 PAINTING/ WALLPAPERING

Bargain Painter, apts, houses, offices. Mikhailov, 633-5973.

David Painter. Prof. Workmanship. Jewish, Hebrew, Hungarian, Romanian. 905-660-7794.

E. Kats Paint/Decor. Free est. 416-219-4182 or 905-709-4017.

Exp. painter/ plasterer/ vinyl tile flooring. Best prices. Free est. Guaranteed. Bill, 638-9249.

415 HOME IMPROVEMENTS

MR. FIX IT RESTORATIONS
▪PAINTING ▪TILES ▪DECKS/FENCES
▪PLASTERING ▪STUCCO ▪MAINTENANCE REPAIRS
▪DRYWALL Etc. Etc. ▪FREE ESTIMATES
QUALITY CRAFTSMANSHIP AT COMPETITIVE PRICES (416) 458-4655

***HANDYMAN 638-5488**
Repair & Improvement. Ephram

EPHRAM - 416-638-5488
****Superior skills handyman****

Home Services. Painting, plaster, carpentry, plumbing, electric, ceramic, tiling. 736-1179.

Polish Hardwood Floor and ceramic tiles installation. **Free estimate.** 905-278-6536.

Universal Hardwood Floors. Installation, sanding, refinishing, repairs & finishing floors. Quality, prof. workmanship. Owner operated. Free est. John, 905-848-0140 or pgr, 416-424-7623.

420 INVITATIONS/ PRINTING

A & D INVITATIONS. Excellent price, selection & service.Call Mark 905-731-5864

438 LOCKSMITH

LOCKS - DEADBOLTS
Schlage, Special - 1 for $85, 2 for $160 Installed. Fast, reliable service. Moshe 416-445-6438.

Before signing any contract, make sure your contractor is appropriately licensed with the
Metropolitan Licensing Commission
(416) 392-3000

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The Canadian Jewish news

CLASSIFIED/SERVICE DIRECTORY

PLEASE NOTE:

EARLY DEADLINE FOR THE FOLLOWING ISSUE:

JULY 8th

Deadline

Monday, June 28th, noon

JULY 15th

Deadline

Monday, July 5th, noon

The Classified office of The Canadian Jewish News will be closed July 1st for Canada Day and for the week of July 12–July 16

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There will be no issue of the CJN for the week of July 22/99

CLASSIFIED DIRECTORY

Call (416) 391-1836
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The Canadian Jewish news

Sports

CHECK OUT OUR INTERNET EDITION AT www.cjnews.com
The Canadian Jewish news

Quick-skating teen selected by OHL's Sarnia Sting

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — How good do you have to be for an Ontario Hockey League (OHL) junior team to draft you, even though you're an underage player?

Well, 105 points (65 goals, 40 assists) in 70 games as a bantam doesn't hurt; the fact you were selected to try out for the Ontario Under 17 provincial team – one of 95 teens from across the province – is another factor in your favor.

And let's not forget that even as a kid, you always played against youngsters one or two years older than yourself.

Put that package together, add jet-fast speed, high skill levels and the willingness to get your nose dirty, and you can see why the Sarnia Sting chose 16-year-old Eric Himelfarb in the fourth round of the OHL's priority draft.

Himelfarb, who played for the Don Mills Flyers last season, will attend the Sting's camp in September with the full expectation that he can make the team despite his youth.

The Sting's coach and general manager, Mark Hunter, sees it pretty much the same way.

"I like the way he plays," Hunter said. "I'd be shocked if he doesn't push the issue."

An impressive stamp of approval indeed, but Himelfarb is keeping his options open – there's always the alternative of U.S. college hockey. Still, he has his sights set on playing in the OHL and failing that there's always a stop in Tier II junior A en route to the OHL.

"Nothing is etched in stone," he said.

Coming from a middle of the pack bantam team, Himelfarb, a centre, was given a heavy work load last season and he played in all kinds of situations. Even though he prefers to dish off the puck to his wingers, his stats show he can put the puck in the back of the net. And there's the God-given talent that allows him to make plays.

"Skating is my best asset," said Himelfarb, who's only 5-foot-9, 145 pounds. "I was just blessed with it."

Again, Hunter agrees. "He's not very big, but I like his skills. He's a really good skater and he plays really hard.

"I see a young man who likes to compete and play the game of hockey. You don't have to go looking for him on the ice...He makes good plays, one-on-one. He's an all-round player."

Hunter expects him to put on some weight, bulking up to the 175-lb. range. But size isn't the determining factor when it comes to Himelfarb.

"One of the scouting reports compared him to a little Mike Peca (the Buffalo Sabres' captain). The little guy competes," said Hunter, who had a long NHL career with the Montreal Canadiens.

Himelfarb has always been competitive when it came to hockey. His mother, Anne, remembers starting him out when he was only 4 years old. Even at that age, "he was anxious to play and he was a wonder right from the start."

As a 6-year-old, he played AAA hockey – the highest level – against kids who were eight.

Over the course of his career, he played for a number of teams, including the Young Nats and the Thornhill Islanders. Like other elite players, he attended summer hockey camps and he rounded out his summers playing rep baseball for Thornhill. He attended Associated Hebrew Schools until Grade 7.

The family was willing to make the sacrifices needed to allow Eric to reach his full potential as a hockey player, Anne said. There was the cost of equipment, registrations, out-of-town travel and hotel bills, but it was well worth it, she added.

"When you hear about so many kids today ending up in pool halls, street corners and malls....

"We knew where he was, who his friends are and that he was having fun and doing well," she said.

Eric has already begun training for the Sting's fall camp, skating once or twice a week and working out in the gym. One of his work-out buddies is Michael Henrich, a star with the OHL's Barrie Colts who was selected in the first round of the NHL entry draft last summer by the Edmonton Oilers.

The Henrich and Himelfarb families are friends and vacation together, Eric said. "I work out in the same gym as he does in Thornhill."

Henrich, he acknowledges, is an "inspiration," and like the Colts' forward, Himelfarb shares some of the same goals.

"It's always been my dream to play in the NHL, but there's still a long way to go," he said.

Eric Himelfarb

Roger Neilson to hold hockey camp in Israel

TORONTO — For the third straight year, NHL coach Roger Neilson will pack up his summer hockey camp in mid August and head to the Holy Land.

Neilson, head coach of the Philadelphia Flyers, will run his school for hockey enthusiasts from Aug. 8 to 22 at the Canada Centre rink in Metulla, on Israel's northern border.

Campers will participate in on-ice practice and game sessions then tour, hike, rappel and kayak through the northern region of Israel. They'll also get a taste of day to day life as experienced by Israelis.

Last year, 15 North American teens and 45 Israelis took part in the program. A similar number is expected in 1999.

Steven Dubinsky of the Calgary Flames will join Neilson, an additional NHL player, and a number of instructors from Neilson's camp based in Lindsay, Ont., for the camp in Israel.

Previous NHL participants included Bill Lindsay of the Florida Panthers and Danius Zubrus, now of the Montreal Canadiens. Zubrus' experience in 1998 at the Neilson camp was documented on three episodes of *NHL Cool Shots* earlier this season. The NHL-produced series can be seen weekly on CBC and CTVSN in Canada.

Neilson's hockey school is sponsored in part by UIA Federations Canada in conjunction with the Canada Israel Experience Centre (CIEC). Roots Canada joined as a sponsor in 1998 and Easton Sports Canada has agreed to serve as a sponsor beginning this summer.

The CIEC is handling the Canadian end of the summer camp arrangements. Cost of the program is $1,395 plus airfare.

For more information, contact CIEC at 1-800-567-4772 or in Toronto, call 398-6931.

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Wpg. athlete honored

By MYRON LOVE
Prairies Correspondent

WINNIPEG – Champion cyclist and weightlifter Riva Benditt is this year's Max Nusgart Memorial Award winner and 1999 Manitoba Jewish Athlete of the Year. The award was presented at the 27th Annual "Y" Sports Dinner on Monday, June 7.

Benditt, 28, was recognized for her accomplishments in the two sport she excels at. This past year, she won a gold medal at the Senior Expert Mountain Bike Provincial Championships and a silver medal in the Open Women's Road Cycling Provincial Championships. In weightlifing over the past three years, she has won four gold medals and one silver medal in different Manitoba and western Canadian competitions.

The Inside Back

ספרותנו

מאת: יעל זליגר

יהודה עמיחי

פעם נשאל ישראלי חילוני כיצד יתכן שהוא מצחיר על עצמו כאחד שלא מאמין. השיב הבחור שהוא דווקא כן מאמין. תמה השואל וביקש לדעת מה מאפיין את חדת שבה הבחור מאמין וחני"ל השיב: שירתו של יהודה עמיחי.

רבים המבקשים לפענח את סוד הצלחתו של עמיחי בקרב ציבור קוראיו, הצלחה שעלתה על גדולים אחרים בני דורו כדן פגיס, אמיר גלבע, נתן זך וחיים גורי. עמיחי הוא זה שחוכתר כמשורר/נביא. זה המשורר שביצירתו נשמעה מהדהדת קולה של האומה, בשילוב קולו של חפרט, הקולקטיב והאישי שזורים זה בזה.

כך, כאשר כתב עמיחי על אביו שהיה "ארבע שנים במלחמת/...ובנה אותי יום-יום משלוותי/רחמעטות כל-כך,אשר לקט/...הוא מלא עיניו בהם והוא טעה: אל כל מלחמותי יוצא אני" חשנו שמדובר במדינה חצעירה שבתקומתה נאלצה להילחם על נפשה שוב ושוב אך, בעת ובעונה אחת נדמה היה לנו שהמלים נוגעות בנו כפרטים, במאבק חבין-דורות האישי, האינדיבידואלי.

יהודה עמיחי, שנולד בגרמניה ועלה ארצה בשנת 1936 בהיותו נער צעיר, לא רואה עצמו כמשורר לאומי. הוא כותב, כך אמר, לא מתוך תחושת השליחות אלא מתוך דחף נפשי, אישי. החיפוש אחר הערכה וכבוד באים רק בשלב מאוחר יותר. התגמולים אינם חלק מהתהליך היצירתי. כמו כן, אין הוא כותב שירה על כתיבת שירים ואינו מתפלסף בנושא. פעם טען שעקרונית הוא אדם עצל אחרת היה כותב פרוזה.

כך או כך, משמתפרסם ספר חדש של יהודה עמיחי חוגגים המוני אוהדיו. <u>פתוח סגור פתוח</u>, הוצאת שוקן,ספרו חחדש של עמיחי יחפך אף הוא ללהיט ספרותי.

שוב בפנינו קובץ נדיר שבו הלאום והפרט שזורים זה בזה. "למדתי אחבה בילדותי בבית הכנסת של ילדות/בעזרת הנשים בעזרת הנשים שמאחורי המחיצה/שכלאה את אמי עם כל הנשים והנערות." האב <u>פתוח סגור פתוח</u> מייצג בדרך כלל את הממד הציבורי והאם מספקת את חידע הפרטי. "וכשאמי מתה הצטרפו כל הבבואות הקטנות/ לנבואה גדולה אשר תגיע עדי נבואת אחרית הימים."

מנושאי השירים המעולים שבספר: האמונה והתפילה, התנ"ך ומדרשים; "משה הרים את שתי ידיו/ בקרב נגד העמלקים כדי לחזק את הלוחמים/ וביימינו זה סימן לכניעה."

כדרכו, מיטיב עמיחי לבטא חשיבה מורכבת במלים פשוטות, נחדרות. כך גם בעיסוקו ביחסים בין נשיות וגבריות ובטיבה חדקדוקי של השפה; "לילה, הדבר הנשי ביותר הוא בלשון זכר/ אבל הוא גם שם אשה. יום הוא זכר ויממה נקבה/ זָכָר וָנְקֵבָה בנקבה וכמיהת אשה באיש. כלומר שנינו, כלומר אנחנו."

יפות התמונות הפשוטות' שעמיחי מעלה: "ראיתי איש קורא על המקום בספר מסעות ותירות/ והוא יושב באותו המקום עצמו. וסוגר את הספר/ והולך למקום אחר."

על מהות החיים: "אני חושב שהחיים הם חזרות לקראת/ ההצגה האמיתית. ובחזרות אפשר עוד להכניס/ שנויים, למחק משפט ולהוסיף דבור, להחליף/ שחקנים ובמאים ואולמות עד להצגה האמיתית/ שבה שוב אין משנים, ולא משנה שאין משנה/ כי ההצגה מורדת מיד אחר תפנם הראשונה."

יותר מכל הופתעתי מהפעלתנות חצעירה שבספר זה. יהודה עמיחי, סופר באמצע שנות השבעים, כתב ספר מלא בעוצמת חיים. וכך הוא מעיד על עצמו: "רחל המשוררת שרה יואולי לא היו הדברים מעולם/ אבל אני רוצה לשיר על הדברים שהיו מעולם, היו ודאי."

THIS RECIPE BROUGHT TO YOU BY...
HERB CAPLAN
1111 Weston Road (S. of Eglinton) 767-1655
PLUM CHICKEN
WE SELL KitchenAid FOR LESS

4 boneless, skinless chicken breast halves
1 medium onion, chopped
1/2 cup bottled Italian dressing
1/3 cup soy sauce
2 tblsp. molasses
2 plums, pitted, sliced

Arrange chicken in baking dish. Sprinkle onion over and around chicken. In small bowl, mix together dressing, soy sauce and molasses; pour over chicken.

Place plum slices on top of breast halves. Place chicken in 425°F oven and bake for 35 minutes or until fork can be inserted in chicken with ease.

Makes 4 servings.

About Food

Dear Norene

Oh, the thrill of the grill! Although the usual fare is steak, chicken, hot dogs and burgers, grilled vegetables are also delicious! Thickly slice some eggplant, zucchini, portobello mushrooms, onions and/or peppers. Sprinkle with olive oil, balsamic vinegar, salt, pepper and basil. Grill about 5 minutes per side.

Whether you use charcoal or gas is a personal choice. Gas grills are easy to light and you can control the cooking temperature. Here are some simple tips.

To add flavor, soak 3 or 4 handfuls of wood chips in water while food is marinating. Toss chips on top of hot coals (or in the gas grill smoking box) just before placing food on the BBQ.

Don't flip foods more than once. Cook over heat, not flame, to prevent flare-ups. Use heat-resistant mitts and long-handled tongs to prevent burns.

Piercing meats with a fork allows juices to escape. *Never* place cooked food on the same plate that the raw food was on!

Questions? Call the Weber Grill-Line at 1-800-GRILL-OUT (1-800-474-5568). It's open until Labor Day.

Enjoy this recipe I recently created. It's delicious using chicken, tofu, or even veggies.

ORANGE TERIYAKI GRILLED SALMON

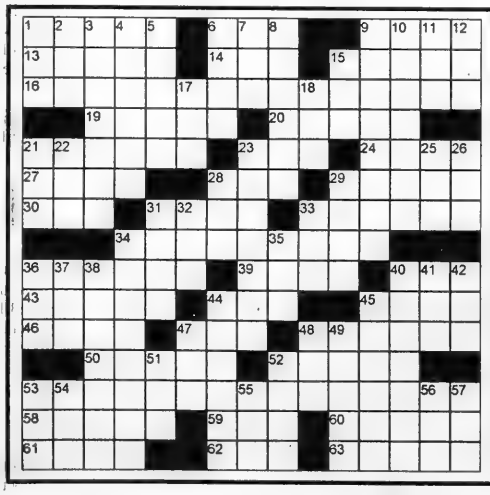
4 salmon steaks or fillets (or halibut)
2 tbsp. soya sauce
2 tbsp. orange juice
2 tbsp. orange marmalade
2 tsp. sugar
1 tsp. Oriental sesame oil
1 tbsp. fresh ginger, minced (optional)
¼ tsp. dried basil

Arrange salmon in a single layer in a glass casserole. Combine remaining ingredients; mix well. Pour over fish and marinate at room temperature 30 minutes (or refrigerate up to 2 hours). Preheat BBQ. Remove fish from marinade; reserve leftover marinade. Place fish in a lightly greased grill basket. Grill about 4 inches from heat 3 to 4 minutes per side; baste occasionally. If overcooked, fish will be dry.

Sauce: Bring leftover marinade to a boil. Dissolve 1 tsp. cornstarch in 3 tbsp. orange juice. Stir into boiling mixture. Simmer 2 to 3 minutes, until thickened, stirring often. Drizzle over fish; serve immediately. Delicious over rice.

Note: Boneless chicken breasts take 5 to 7 minutes per side, until juices run clear. Tofu takes 3 to 4 minutes per side, until lightly browned.

Norene Gilletz, a Canadian author of kosher cookbooks, gives lectures and cooking demonstrations throughout North America. Submit cooking questions to The CJN. *Contact Norene at gourmana@total.net*



The Canadian Jewish news

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Righteous Gentile

By Matt Gaffney and David Bianco (QSyndicate@aol.com)

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(This week's answers are on page 40.)

BIG Suites

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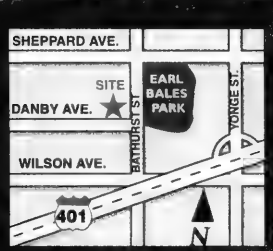

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montreal
Reflexions
A reflection of FEDERATION CJA and Jewish life in Montreal
volume 1 number 9 june 1999

Be a Permanent Part of the Montreal Jewish Community Campus!
See page 4

cover story

Building our future together

ANGELA CAMPANELLI

Bâtissons notre avenir ensemble

Back row, from left: José Benchetrit, Sandy Grief, Harry Grief, Susie Goldberg. Middle: Audrey Alloul, Tamara Jedwab, Jamie Merling, Henry Ungar, Romy Jedwab. Front: Jay Goldberg, Amber Garfield-Shulman, Michael Korenberg

The Montreal Jewish community is facing its future with the construction of the Montreal Jewish Community Campus. Who are the faces of the future? It's all of us, including the dozen faces you see here, from five-month Jamie Merling to 69 year-old Henry Ungar. These are the faces that represent the rich diversity of our community and symbolize our hopes and dreams for the future.

What happened in the National Assembly?

MARC LOCCA

Learn more about the Jewish community's field trip to Quebec City on page 3.

Man of Steel

Community cashes in on local businessman's generosity

by Derek Cassoff

Most of us go through life never having met a superhero. And then there's Jack Dym, who had the good fortune of living in the same home as one. His father, Mike, was an underground resistance fighter during the Second World War before immigrating to Canada. In 1958, he started distributing steel out of the back of a pick-up truck, eventually turning his business into Pipe and Piling Supplies Ltd., a leading supplier of steel, with operations across Canada and the United States.

When Mike passed away four years ago, Jack inherited more than the family business. He also picked up his father's devotion to community and his knack for lending a hand to those most in need.

So it is perhaps only fitting, then, that when plans for the Montreal Jewish Community Campus were first announced, Jack rushed to the head of the line with an offer of help. The result? His company has donated all of the structural steel needed to build the Gelber Conference Centre and the fifth floor of Cummings House. Project managers figure it would have cost the Jewish community more than $50,000 on the open market.

"As a Jewish businessman, I have a responsibility to give back to the community that has been so generous to me," Jack said. "I think we have an obligation to support our community, whether it be through money, time or materials."

HOWARD KAY

Sticking to family tradition, Jack kept the gift under wraps until just recently, when he decided that a bit of publicity might lure other businesses into making similar gifts.

"One thing that my dad taught me is that *tzedakah* is between the giver and the recipient," he said. "My father never liked this sort of publicity. He didn't want his name anywhere." ⊙

Leave a lasting legacy

Learn more about the Montreal Jewish Community Campus and how your family could play a role...

- A once in a lifetime opportunity, p.2
- What's in a name, p.4
- A big piece of the puzzle, p.4 & 5
- Opportunity knocks, p.5
- 18 reasons to buy a Mezuzah, p.5
- Earth-shattering, p.6 & 7
- Look who's bought a Mezuzah, p.8
- Count us in, p.8
- We even have something for the little ones, p.9
- It's a matter of fact!, p.9

An initiative of Federation CJA

FEDERATION CJA is the central address for Jewish philanthropy and community service in Montreal. Phone: 514-735-3541 Fax: 514-735-8972 www.federationcja.org

HOWARD KAY

Robert Vineberg, Marvin Corber, Stanley Plotnick

A once in a lifetime opportunity... meaningful for even longer

The pride is enormous, the concern constant, the anticipation overwhelming... the Montreal Jewish Community Campus will soon be a reality.

It will provide the most important opportunity for communal service improvement in decades and will enable us to go forward into the next millennium with renewed strength, efficiency and visible commitment to the future.

Each of us can not only play a part in its success, but can tangibly show how much we care about the future of our children and grandchildren in this great Jewish community. The project has already attracted many supporters with gifts from $100 to $1,500,000... Although the dollar amounts are substantially different, each gift is a clear testimony to our confidence in our future.

For many of us, it is the first time that we have been able to participate in such an incredible project, and in such a meaningful way. It is the opportunity to dedicate an entire floor, a room, a mezuzah, or even honour a child or grandchild... and for as little as $100.

It really is the opportunity of a lifetime, to do something important that will last for even more than a lifetime! ⊛

Stanley K. Plotnick is president of FEDERATION CJA, the central address for Jewish philanthropy and community service in Montreal.

The FEDERATION CJA Family

Association of Jewish Day Schools • Caldwell Residences • Canadian Jewish Congress (Quebec region) • Camp B'nai Brith, Communauté Sépharade du Québec • Contact ProMontreal • Golden Age Association • Hillel Jewish Student Centre • Jewish Community Foundation • Jewish Education Council • Jewish Family Services of the Baron de Hirsch Institute • Jewish Hospital of Hope • Jewish Immigrant Aid Services • Jewish Nursing Home • Jewish Public Library • Jewish Rehabilitation Hospital • Jewish Support Services for the Elderly • Jewish Vocational Service/JVS Jewish Workshop Inc. • Le Mercaz (JFS) • Maimonides Hospital Geriatric Centre, Miriam Home & Services • Montreal Holocaust Memorial Centre • Montreal Israel Experience Centre (JEC) • Mount Sinai Hospital Centre • Project Genesis • Sir Mortimer B. Davis Jewish General Hospital • YM-YWHA Montreal Jewish Community Centres

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Look who's talking...

Donors have their say in CJA focus groups

HOWARD KAY

Joel King is hoping for a healthy campaign

Many donors to Combined Jewish Appeal want a greater say over how their money is spent and feel that more dollars should be directed to the poor and the frail elderly. At least those are the initial results of ongoing focus groups being conducted by the Campaign Team as it prepares for the 1999 CJA Campaign.

"Presented with several areas of critical needs, most participants felt that assisting the poor and supporting the frail elderly should receive priority treatment," says Joel King, general chairman of CJA '99. "And people want us to keep focusing on youth retention, which they see as being the biggest challenge facing the Montreal Jewish community."

One plan being formalized would enable CJA donors to direct the increased portion of their future gifts to one of six areas, including assisting the poor, retaining youth in Montreal, supporting Jewish education or rescuing Jews in peril.

The focus groups are part of a plan to receive more feedback from the most important component of any fund-raising campaign – the donors themselves.

"The Campaign leadership always has certain ideas about the Campaign," Joel says. "But we're always looking for the public's input." ⊛

The 1999 Combined Jewish Appeal Campaign will run from August through November. Proceeds raised during the Campaign will benefit the social, cultural, educational, health and welfare needs of Montreal's Jewish community through FEDERATION CJA and its constituent agencies. Funds will also assist with immigrant absorption efforts in Israel and will meet the humanitarian needs of Jews in distressed lands around the world. Last year, the CJA Campaign raised more than $34 million. For more information, call (514) 345-2645, ext. 2600.

Taking it to the max

In her two decades of service as a Jewish community professional, Maxyne Finkelstein never met a challenge she could not overcome. It's something that carried her through her work with Canadian Jewish Congress, the Golden Age Association and FEDERATION CJA, where she most recently served as executive director.

Well, the secret is finally out – and Montreal has graduated one of its best to the ranks of national community service. Maxyne leaves her post this month to accept the job of executive director of UIA Federations of Canada, the national umbrella organization for the Jewish communities in Canada. She will assume the position of executive vice-president in June, 2000.

"Maxyne reflects the best of the Montreal Jewish community. Her intellect, commitment to Jewish values and *Menschlichkeit* made her one of Montreal's most uniquely-talented and successful community leaders," says Danyael Cantor, executive vice-president of FEDERATION CJA. "Her assuming the highest professional position in the national Jewish system is a tribute to Maxyne and an honour to the Montreal Jewish community."

While Maxyne's new job is based in Toronto, she expects to return frequently to her old home on business or any excuse to catch up with friends and family. ⊛

NATHALIE MAMAN

a capital idea

More than 50 leaders of the Montreal Jewish community took their act on the road, spending a day meeting with members of the provincial government and the official opposition in Quebec City. The Parliamentary Mission was designed to ensure that politicians understand the issues of concern to the community, including healthcare, education and intercultural relations. The delegation met with Premier Lucien Bouchard, Vice-Premier Bernard Landry, Health and Social Services Minister Pauline Marois as well as other cabinet ministers and members of the opposition's Shadow Cabinet. They attended a vin d'honneur and luncheon with Jean-Pierre Charbonneau, the president of the National Assembly, and a cocktail hosted by the Parti Québécois. They dined at the Chateau Frontenac with leaders of the Quebec Liberal Party. The trip was organized by Canadian Jewish Congress and included representatives from FEDERATION CJA, the Communauté Sépharade du Québec and other Jewish community groups. ●

PHOTOS BY MARK ALDER

1 Premier Lucien Bouchard, Pauline Marois, Minister of State for Health and Social Services, Stanley Plotnick and Max Bernard
2 Marilyn Blumer and Premier Lucien Bouchard 3 Henri Elbaz of the Jewish General Hospital and Vice Premier Bernard Landry
4 Christos Sirros, MNA for Laurier-Dorion, with Ian Karper, president of the "Y" 5 Dorothy Zalcman-Howard, Premier Lucien Bouchard, Stanley Plotnick, Pauline Marois and Max Bernard 6 Toute la gang
7 Monique Gagnon-Tremblay, Deputy Leader of the official opposition, with Joseph Gabbay 8 Jean-Pierre Charbonneau, president of the National Assembly, with Stanley Plotnick 9 Lawrence Bergman, MNA, Jeffrey K. Boro, Jacques Chagnon, President of the Liberal Caucus, and MNAs Russell Copeman and Jean-Marc Fournier 10 Louise Beaudoin, Minister of International Relations, with Philippe El-Harrar and David Sultan

Au revoir Daniel Gal!

HOWARD KAY

Après un mandat de près de cinq ans à Montréal, où il représentait Israël à titre de Consul général pour l'est du Canada, Daniel Gal, et sa femme Jacqueline, se préparent pour leur prochaine affectation. Mais le couple quitte Montréal avec des sentiments mitigés.

"Nous nous sommes attachés à cette ville. Ma femme et moi avons trouvé cette expérience extraordinaire. Nous avons fait la connaissance d'une communauté dynamique avec une richesse d'activités hors pair", de dire le Consul général.

Diplomate chevronné, ayant travaillé en Europe, en Asie et en Afrique, M. Gal dit avoir été particulièrement impressionné par le puissant sentiment d'appartenance de la communauté juive de Montréal envers Israël. Les événements annuels comme la Marche vers Jérusalem, les cérémonies du Yom Hazikaron et la merveilleuse célébration du 50e anniversaire d'Israël l'an dernier en témoignent.

"Selon les Nations Unies, le Canada jouit d'une des meilleures qualités de vie au monde. À Montréal, vous avez l'une des meilleures qualités de vie juive en dehors d'Israël", affirme M. Gal.

Stanley Plotnick, le Président de la FEDERATION CJA, déclare que le départ de M. Gal sera une grande perte pour la communauté juive de Montréal. "Daniel Gal est une personne extraordinaire et il était un excellent Consul. Nous n'avons jamais eu un Consul qui s'impliquait autant dans la vie des juifs montréalais et qui travaillait sans rélâche."

La FEDERATION CJA et tous les membres de la communauté juive de Montréal souhaitent à Daniel et Jacqueline Gal leurs meilleurs voeux de succès dans leurs entreprises à venir – quel que soit le pays où ils se trouvent. ●

What's in a name?

How you can leave a lasting legacy to your community

There aren't too many times in your life when you can leave a lasting and permanent legacy for future generations.

But then there's the Montreal Jewish Community Campus – designed as an enduring symbol of our community's strength and vitality. It's a place to strengthen our values, maintain our identity and keep alive our shared history and culture. And you – yes, you – can participate in turning this dream into reality, no matter how much or how little you can afford.

What better way to leave a lasting legacy for your children and grandchildren than through the various naming opportunities available at several of our agencies and services? You and your family can "purchase" a piece of the Montreal Jewish Community Campus, by donating major assets such as conference rooms and reception areas, or by dedicating a mezuzah through our Dor L'Dor Campaign. Either way, it's a great opportunity to honour a family or perpetuate the memory of a loved one.

KinderLink is a unique, one-time opportunity to add your child or children's names to those of thousands of others as part of a timeline of the history of the Jewish community. What a thrill for them – a piece of history to show off to their own children many years from now. But you have to act now. Once the dust settles – literally – on the Campus project, the opportunities will end. ●

Be a Permanent Part of the Montreal Jewish Community Campus!

For more information on these opportunities, call (514) 345-2645

Major naming opportunities ($18,000 and over)	**Danyael Cantor, ext. 2623**
Dor L'Dor Mezuzah campaign ($1,800 to $5,400)	**Pam Litman, ext. 2614**
KinderLink children's campaign ($100 to $250)	**Andrea Freedman, ext. 3245**

a big piece of...

The Ruth and Michael Rosenthal Family Jewish Information Referral Service

"The Montreal Jewish Community Campus will be the very heart of our community and as a donor, I want to leave a supportive message about this worthwhile campaign It's important to pass on the feeling of solidarity with the Jewish community to our children and grandchildren. I strongly believe in the Jewish community and I wanted to memorialize the efforts of my late wife, Ruth, who was very active in our community."

– Michael Rosenthal

HOWARD KAY

The Plotnick Family Conference Room
Fourth floor of Cummings House (sponsored by Sybil and Henry Plotnick, Stanley and Barbara Plotnick, Larry and Jane Plotnick, in memory of the late Gertrude Plotnick)

"Our Mom and Dad taught us about the need to get involved in our community and they were always in favour of us contributing in whatever way that we could, financially and time-wise. It was primarily through their encouragement that we discovered the need for a strong Jewish community in Montreal, in Canada and in Israel. It is only fitting then that we dedicate a conference room in honour of our parents in the new Montreal Jewish Community Campus. Our family believes very strongly in the Campus – it's our way of making sure that our community has a home for future generations."

– Larry Plotnick

The Nettye and Henry Greenberg Jewish Public Library Conference Room
(sponsored by Nettye Greenberg, Lewis and Donna Greenberg and Fred and Dorothy Lackstone)

"The new Campus will show young people that we are a viable community that has the best possible facilities. It will be an expression of strength for the future and give them a reason to stay here. My father had a very strong sense of community and of giving back. We have been fortunate in life and we wanted to do something special. My mother and my late father placed great importance on education, so we chose the library because of its educational value."

– Lewis Greenberg

Opportunity knocks

There are still several major naming opportunities available at the Montreal Jewish Community Campus, including the conference rooms and reception areas of several agencies.

Here are some other great ideas:

$1.5 million Montreal Holocaust Memorial Centre Pavilion

$750,000 The offices of Camp B'nai Brith

$225,000 Montreal Holocaust Memorial Centre Archives & Conservation Centre

$100,000 Jewish Community Campus Grove • FEDERATION CJA Communications & Marketing Department • Jewish Public Library Reference Library

$72,000 Café Campus volunteer & staff lounge • FEDERATION CJA Executive Offices • The offices of Combined Jewish Appeal • The offices of the Jewish Community Foundation

$50,000 FEDERATION CJA executive boardrooms • Canadian Jewish Congress, Quebec Region boardroom

$36,000 Jewish Public Library circulation area

$25,000 FEDERATION CJA President's Office • FEDERATION CJA General Chairman's office • FEDERATION CJA Women's Chair office • FEDERATION CJA Wall of Honour

$18,000 Cummings House Agency directory board

For more information on major naming opportunities, call Danyael Cantor at (514) 345-2645, ext. 2623.

the puzzle

Joel Raby, circa 1958

The Alice and Joel Raby Camp B'nai Brith Raby Conference Room

"My memories of attending Camp Wooden Acres as a child still are dear to me. In 1958, I was a nine-year-old boy who was able to enjoy my summer because of financial aid from the Jewish community. As a camper, I learned to play Capture-the-Flag and Red Rover, and I experienced my first bee sting. Now, I'm in the fortunate position to be able to dedicate the Camp B'nai Brith Boardroom so that another nine-year-old boy can enjoy the great programs. I hope that kids today can benefit in the same way I did. I guess you could say I feel it's payback time."

– Joel Raby

SHERYL ANN MEDICOFF

The Corber Conference Room
Fourth floor of Cummings House

"My wife Harriet and I have strong ties to the local Jewish community, having lived in Montreal our entire lives. Despite the loss of many young Jews to points south and west, we still have a strong community. The Montreal Jewish Community Campus project will bring a renewed sense of comfort to the public. It shows those of us who have chosen to stay here that Montreal is a very viable community."

– Marvin Corber

18 REASONS
why you should buy a Mezuzah

1. To carry on the memory of a loved one
2. To commemorate the birth of a grandchild
3. To honour someone you love
4. To pay tribute to a corporate client
5. To celebrate a Bar/Bat Mitzvah
6. To celebrate a milestone birthday
7. To support the Montreal Jewish Community Campus
8. To support a cause that is close to your heart
9. To celebrate a special wedding anniversary
10. To give a unique gift to that special someone who has everything
11. To celebrate a child's college graduation
12. To perform a mitzvah
13. To mark your father's well-deserved retirement
14. To celebrate the birth of triplets (three Mezuzot)
15. To perpetuate a family name
16. To celebrate a child's wedding
17. To celebrate a parent's birthday
18. To ensure the future growth of the Montreal Jewish community

If you need more reasons, we've got another 38!!

Mezuzot range in price from $1,800 to $5,400.

For more information, call Pam Litman at (514) 345-2645, ext. 2614.

Earth-shattering

On Monday, April 12, the earth moved – our community broke ground on the future site of the Montreal Jewish Community Campus.

We would have never made it to this point without the generous support of our partners – the federal, provincial and municipal governments as well as Hydro-Québec and the incredible support of some of the leading families of the Montreal Jewish community.

We owe a big thank you to those families who have come on board the project as major sponsors – the Bronfman family; the Cummings family; the Nahum Gelber family; Marlene and Joel King; Beatrice Medicoff and Marion Schneiderman; Leanor and Alvin Segal; and Christine and Herschel Victor.

We look forward to welcoming everyone to our new home – your new home – when we open our doors in the fall.

Groundbreaking with (from left): the Victor family, Beatrice Medicoff, the King family, the Segal family, the Gelber family and the Cummings family

1 Stephen Bronfman 2 The Segal family: Joel, Leanor, Eileen and Alvin 3 The Cummings family: Steven, Norma and Joanne Cummings and Marc Gold 4 Mayor Pierre Bourque, Robert Vineberg and Robert Perreault, Quebec Minister of Citizenship and Immigration 5 Yoine Goldstein, Marilyn Blumer, Herschel Victor, Israeli Consul General Daniel Gal, Stanley K. Plotnick, and Robert Perreault 6 The Gelber family: Carl, Reeva, Debra and Geoffrey 7 Danyael Cantor and Steven Cummings 8 Robert Vineberg and Hydro-Québec's Michel Hudon, Director General, Customer Service for Montreal Island 9 Beatrice Medicoff and Mayor Bourque

10 The King family: Joel, Marlene and Bonnie 11 Blumer, Goldstein, Mayor Bourque, Martin Cauchon, Secretary of State for Canada Economic Development, with an aide, Bronfman, Plotnick, Lawrence Bergman, MNA for D'arcy McGee, and Consul General Gal 12 Vineberg, Blumer, Marvin Corber, Mayor Bourque, Ian Harper, Perreault, Plotnick, Cauchon, Goldstein, and Cantor 13 Beatrice Medicoff 14 Plotnick, Cauchon, André Boulerice, Deputy House Leader of the Quebec Government, and Perreault 15 The Victor family: Alan, Alyssa, Gail Victor-Echenberg and Herschel

LOOK
who's already bought a Mezuzah
(list updated as of May 28, 1999)

Gilda and Sylvain Abitbol
Anonymous
Beverlee Ashmele
Esther and Steven Backler
Baron de Hirsch Community Foundation
Bill Bell and Barry Pascal
Etty and Ralph Bienstock
Joan and Hy Bloom
Marilyn and Herbert Blumer
Terry and Danyael Cantor
Ida Cernis
Arthur Diamond
Penny and Gordon Echenberg
Evie Farbstein, Debbie Blumenthal and Seymour Stern
Laya and Harry Feldman
Maxyne Finkelstein
Ursula and Seymour Finkelstein
Melanie and Kalman Fisher
Marcia Gillman and Michael Flinker
Irene and Michael Frankel
Brenda and Sam Gewurz
Bunny and Sheldon Goldberg
Dr. Hy Goldman
Annette and Lionel Goldman
Rosalind and Morris Goodman
Rena and Mervyn Gornitsky
Alice Herscovitch and Robert Kleinman
Dorothy and Steve Howard
Guita and Stanley Hyman
Lily and Paul Ivanier
Ellen and Peter Jacobs
Larry Joseph
Elsa Kisber
Sheila and Marvyn Kussner
Alta and Harvey Levenson
Renee and Marty Lieberman
Carol and Elliot Lifson
Lynda and William Luber
Gloria and Alan Maislin
Joan and Jim Miller
Harriet and Fredrick Muroff
Debby and Matthew Newpol
Reevin Pearl
Miriam and Sydney Pinchuk and Family
Freda and Ernest Rashkovan
Dorothy Reitman
Kurt Rothchild
Essie Schubert
Esty and Hilton Schwartz
Linda Seltzer
Phyllis and Bernard Shapiro
Janice and Mark Sherman
Shlomo Shimon
Tova Shimon
Joyce and Marvin Tanner
Sarah and Irwin Tauben
Suzanne and Gary Ulrich
Sally and Murray Yaffe
Barbara and David Zukor

Installing a Mezuzah on a doorpost is one of the most enduring symbols of our connection to our past. Here are five people who have done just that.

As chairman of Combined Jewish Appeal's marketing task force the last several years, **Mark Sherman** has certainly left his imprint on the Montreal Jewish community. Now he and his family will leave a lasting mark with a Mezuzah gracing the front door of the Communications Department.

"For our family, this was a great way to participate in the Montreal Jewish Community Campus project, our way to leave a lasting contribution to the community. Fundraising campaigns of this magnitude usually focus on big donations and big gifts. This was our opportunity to make a meaningful contribution within our means."

"I feel a sense of responsibility. I am fortunate to have achieved some success in life and I have to give something back to the community. The Campus project is an important one and if we don't keep this community vibrant, we are destined to lose it. I hope we can have an impact on other people's lives and teach our kids to be active members of the community."

Michael Flinker is one of those people who has not forgotten his roots. Along with his wife, **Dr. Marcia Gillman**, he will be donating a Mezuzah to be hung outside the ProMontreal Department on the new Campus premises.

You don't have to tell **Shlomo Shimon** about the importance of Jewish education. He is the executive director of FEDERATION CJA's Jewish Education Council and, along with his wife Tova, who also works at the JEC, will dedicate two Mezuzot for the JEC offices.

"We spend endless hours in these offices, so they feel like our home and what better place to hang a Mezuzah than outside of your own home? We also want to show appreciation to the many volunteers who dedicate their efforts to the community and to the selfless professionals who give of their time and talents. Without this leadership, we couldn't do what we do today."

« Nous voulons que la mezzouzah soit placée là où elle sera la plus bénéfique. Une mezzouzah est un symbole religieux, et les Juifs ont la responsabilité de s'acquitter de tâches à la fois religieuses et sociales. Dans le Campus, l'engagement social sera jumelé à la responsabilité religieuse. J'espère aussi que mes enfants verront la mezzouzah que nous avons achetée pour qu'ils soient motivés à s'engager à la communauté. »

Sylvain Abitbol et sa femme, **Gilda**, ne sont certainement pas des donateurs difficiles. Peu importe l'emplacement de la mezzouzah qu'ils ont achetée, pourvu qu'ils puissent appuyer par son entremise un projet regroupant une vaste gamme de services sous un seul toit qui sans aucun doute profitera à la communauté sépharade.

Renee and **Marty Lieberman** have been involved in so many aspects of Jewish community life that a Mezuzah in their honour would have fit in well just about anywhere on the Montreal Jewish Community Campus. But for them, the decision was obvious – they chose to purchase a Mezuzah for the Memorial Room in the Montreal Holocaust Memorial Centre.

"We wanted our children and future generations never to forget the Holocaust and to remember our victory over Hitler by showing that Jewish life goes on," Renee says. "Children should feel the importance of visiting the area and know that as a community, we must stand together. Educating children is the key to our survival. It provides strong roots for the future and a sense of unity. As a community, Montreal has a bright future and the new Campus will be indicative of this strength."

We even have something for the little ones...

HOWARD KAY

Barbara Plotnick, chair of KinderLink, with two of her three grandchildren, whose names will be inscribed on the Timeline of Jewish History.

The Montreal Jewish Community Campus is about the future – the future growth and future vitality of our community here in Montreal. And what better way is there to celebrate this commitment than by paying tribute to the children of the Montreal Jewish community?

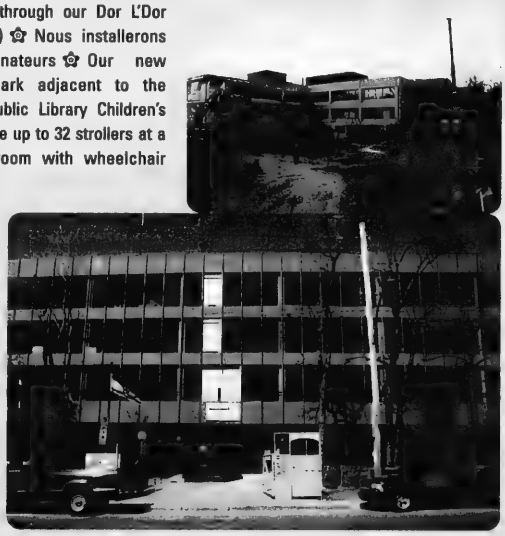
Imagine a timeline of Jewish history on the fifth floor of Cummings House inscribed with the names of our community's children and grandchildren. That's 150 linear feet of names, celebrating the rich and diverse make-up of our city and our community. We're calling it KinderLink, for the true essence of this project is to link together all our children. Their hopes and dreams will help shape the unfolding story of the Jewish people and will honour our past, celebrate our present and invigorate our future.

How does it work? It's simple. For a small gift of $100, you can have the name of one child or grandchild, 18 or under, inscribed on the Timeline of Jewish History. Two names go for $180, three or more for the maximum donation of $250. Payment can be made by cheque or credit card. ⊛

For more information on KinderLink, call Andrea Freedman at (514) 345-2645, ext. 3245. You can also contact Andrea by e-mail at afreems@total.net

It's a matter of fact...

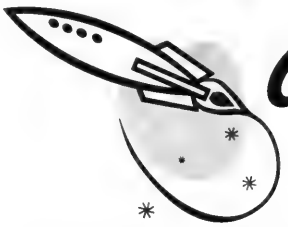
It's nothing but a cavernous shell right now, but when complete, the Montreal Jewish Community Campus will incorporate 250,000 square feet of new facilities and 89,000 square feet of renovated space ✡ Nous utilisons plus de 56 tonnes de métal ✡ nous nous attendons à ce que les travailleurs mettent plus de 84,000 heures de plus avant la fin du mois d'août ✡ Once we open, we expect 2,000 people a day to enter the North Campus each day ✡ We will have 318 doorways in Cummings House and the Gelber Conference Centre (that means 318 opportunities to buy a Mezuzah through our Dor L'Dor Campaign) ✡ Nous installerons 273 ordinateurs ✡ Our new stroller park adjacent to the Jewish Public Library Children's Library will be able to accommodate up to 32 strollers at a time ✡ Looking for a washroom with wheelchair accessibility? We'll have four.



a March for the ages

Beautiful sunshine and warm temperatures were the operative words as 20,000 people took part in the 27th annual March to Jerusalem, walking, cycling and in-line skating 19 kilometres through city streets. Afterwards, thousands absorbed Israeli culture and refreshments at the YM-YWHA Israeli Street Festival at the Cavendish Mall.

PHOTOS BY HOWARD KAY



A match made in cyberspace

Steve Robins admits he was skeptical at first. It's not every day that you receive e-mail from someone purporting to be your long-lost second cousin. But that's exactly what Meir Raz insisted he was in his electronic message from Israel.

An engineer from Haifa, Meir always knew he had relatives in Montreal. His grandmother had made aliyah to Israel from eastern Europe, but other siblings had embarked for Canada instead, leaving a gaping hole in the family tree. The gap began to fill when Meir stumbled across FEDERATION CJA's website – **federationcja.org** – and sent an e-mail to the webmaster, Judith Leichter, with the names of his relatives. Using the phonebook and Combined Jewish Appeal's donor lists, Judith contacted the relatives and eventually put Meir in touch with Steve.

"At first, I was hesitant. I wanted more proof that we were cousins," Steve said. "But once we figured it out for sure, each e-mail became friendlier and friendlier and we learned a lot about each other and our families."

SHERYL ANN MEDOFF

Surf's up at the Robin's family nest

The new relationship hit a peak early last month when the two cousins met in person. Meir was making one of his frequent business trips to Seattle and instead of taking his traditional flight through New York, he flew through Dorval instead, stopping over for 36 hours. The two spent just about every moment together.

"It's a Jewish miracle made in cyberspace," says Elaine Goldstein, who spearheaded the launch of FEDERATION CJA's website two years ago. The site receives more than 50 visitors every day, including requests for information from as far away as Russia and New Zealand. ⊙

a stable environment

by Derek Cassoff

It's funny how the smallest events in one's life often make the biggest difference. For George Kis, his foray into volunteerism began after reading a magazine article that espoused the virtues of horseback riding for children with physical and intellectual handicaps. Turns out the simple activity, taken for granted by so many, is one of the best ways to stimulate the minds and muscles of children.

George owns a pair of horses that he keeps at a stable in St. Lazare, so the connection was obvious. "I figured, I have access to horses and I know what to do around them," he said. "It would be a shame for me not to do anything."

Once a week, a group of children and young adults from Miriam Home foster homes comes out to the stable, where George and friend Danny Rapp take them on horseback along forested trails.

George's efforts were recently recognized by the Quebec government with a prestigious volunteer award, but he says no award could ever overshadow the joy he gets from watching the smiles form across the kids' faces.

"Some of the kids are amazing; they're not afraid. They have no inhibitions," he says. "One kid spends the entire week in a wheelchair, but when we put him on a horse, nothing holds him back." ⊙

Miriam Home and Services is one of the public health establishments supported by FEDERATION CJA. The agency operates 20 community residences for the intellectually handicapped, as well as a supported employment program. For more information, call (450) 681-9256. George Kis is always looking for volunteers to help with his program. If you would like to help, call George at (514) 381-4201.

Un engagement sans frontières

Une bénévole récolte des fonds au profit des aînés en Israël

par Julie Lesser

Joyce Deitcher se décrit comme une citoyenne du monde. De l'autre côté du globe, un groupe d'aînés à Jérusalem est chanceux de pouvoir bénéficier de sa compassion et de son dévouement hors pair.

Depuis les neuf dernières années, Joyce assure la présidence d'Amit, un organisme international qui récolte des fonds au profit d'aînés en perte d'autonomie et d'infirmes à Jérusalem.

"Ces personnes ont besoin d'aide," de dire Joyce, qui prépare actuellement la campagne de financement d'Amit. "Nous voulons améliorer leur qualité de vie et nous assurer qu'elles ne sont pas isolées. C'est important d'appuyer les programmes pour les aînés, quel que soit leur pays de résidence, et comme sioniste, Israël me tient à coeur".

Les fonds récoltés dans les communautés juives à l'échelle mondiale permettent de financer une foule de services, dont le transport, des activités sociales et des programmes pour combattre la violence à l'endroit des aînés. Les minibus achetés par Amit offrent aux participants la possibilité de se rendre à leur rendez-vous médicaux et de jouir de sorties agréables. Une fois par semaine, un hôtel à Jérusalem offre un déjeuner gratuit aux membres d'Amit. Les bénévoles sont formés pour reconnaître les signes de violence à l'égard des aînés et assistent régulièrement à des ateliers pour se perfectionner.

À Jérusalem, un concert printanier annuel est offert aux membres d'Amit et aux étudiants du secondaire pour rapprocher les générations. "L'objectif de ce programme de musique est d'établir des liens entre les jeunes et les aînés," explique Joyce. "Les jeunes peuvent ainsi mieux comprendre ce que cela signifie de ne plus avoir l'énergie de la jeunesse". ⊙

La campagne de souscription d'Amit est chapeautée par l'Association culturelle juive, une initiative de la FEDERATION CJA. Depuis 1973, l'Association culturelle juive a recueilli plus de 3 millions de dollars pour appuyer des programmes en Israël et consolider l'identité juive des jeunes Montréalais. Pour de plus amples renseignements, appeler au (514) 345-2645, poste 6440.

HELP WANTED

Looking for Volunteers

(514) 345-2645

ext. 6407

CLERICAL/OFFICE MANAGEMENT/ ADMINISTRATION 100

COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER
(FEDERATION CJA Communications Dept)
REQUIREMENTS: University student in communications or journalism to assist in the overall function of the Dept. May include the preparation of press releases, research for newsletters and brochures, and some media monitoring. Understanding of issues in the Jewish community an asset. COMMITMENT: Flexible. **Ref: 103**

COMBINED JEWISH APPEAL 200

CANVASSER FOR FALL CAMPAIGN
(CAMPAIGN DIVISIONS)
REQUIREMENTS: Likes working with people. Some prior knowledge about community helpful. COMMITMENT: Personally select cards in spring; attend training session in late August. **Ref: 201**

COMMUNITY SERVICE 300

BASKET PROGRAM
(LE MERCAZ)
DESCRIPTION: Create gift baskets from selected products. Solicit corporate accounts; product development. REQUIREMENTS: Familiarity with food industry an asset. Interested in fundraising and development of new projects. COMMITMENT: Flexible. **Ref: 305**

DELIVER BOOKS ON WHEELS
(JEWISH PUBLIC LIBRARY)
DESCRIPTION: A project of selecting and delivering books and other materials to shut-ins. COMMITMENT: Regular, at volunteers' discretion. **Ref: 311**

INFORMATION AGENT
(PROJECT GENESIS)
DESCRIPTION: Inform Cote-des-Neiges residents about our services, discuss community concerns and provide information, referral and advocacy services. May also involve helping tenants organize for needed improvements in their buildings. REQUIREMENTS: Sensitivity to cultural diversity, languages in addition to English or French an asset. COMMITMENT: Approx. 3 hours per week, afternoons plus monthly training sessions. **Ref: 321**

FAMILY & CHILDREN 400

TUTOR
(JEWISH FAMILY SERVICES OF THE BARON DE HIRSCH INSTITUTE)
REQUIREMENTS: Ability to provide remedial help to youngsters, aged 6-13, in either English, French or Hebrew. Takes place in child's home, after school hours. COMMITMENT: 1-2 hours per week for the duration of the school year. **Ref: 421**

HEALTH 500

COFFEE SHOP CASHIER
(JEWISH NURSING HOME)
REQUIREMENTS: Serve drinks and operate cash. Good human relations an asset. COMMITMENT: 3 hours/week. **Ref: 502**

VISITES AMICALES
(HÔPITAL MONT SINAI)
EXIGENCES: fiabilité, bonté, amabilité, discrétion, entregent. ENGAGEMENT: régulier sur base hebdomadaire. **Ref: 513**

This is just a sample of some of the great volunteer opportunities available in the Montreal Jewish community. For more information, call Gail at (514) 345-2645, ext. 6407.

Événements Events

EVENTS IN BRIEF

Annual Meetings & Dinners

Monday, June 14 ***Hebrew Academy Annual Dinner***

Wednesday, June 16 ***Annual Meeting JVS and the JVS Jewish Workshop Inc.***

Wednesday, June 16 ***Montreal Hadassah Wizo Women of Achievement evening***

Tuesday, June 22 ***Montreal Israel Bond, Women's Division Community Leadership Award***

Monday, June 28 ***Auberge Shalom Pour Femmes Annual Meeting***

Auctions & Raffles

Tuesday, June 15 ***Congregation Beth El Annual Raffle***

Thursday, June 17 ***ORT Montreal Auction***

Tuesday, June 22 ***Shomrim Laboker Synagogue Raffle***

Tuesday, June 29 ***Tifereth Beth David Jerusalem Congregation Raffle Evening***

For Kids

Thursday, June 10 ***Free Hebrew for Juniors***

Tuesdays, June 22-August 10 ***Jewish Public Library Story time for Pre-Schoolers***

Wednesdays, June 23-July 21 ***Jewish Public Library, Music with Sandy***

Thursdays, July 8-August 12 ***Jewish Public Library, Summer Bedtime Story Hour***

Monday, June 28-August 13 ***Centre Saidye Bronfman Summer Camp of the Arts***

Golf & Tennis tournaments

Monday, June 14 ***JGH Mercedes Benz Annual Golf Classic***

Thursday, June 17 ***Congregation Beth Tikvah Annual Golf Tournament***

Monday, June 21 ***Miriam Foundation Champagne and Strawberries Golf Tournament***

Monday, July 5 ***Beth Israel Beth Aaron Congregation Golf Tournament***

Thursday, July 8 ***Mount Sinai Hospital Golf Tournament***

Monday, July 26 ***Jewish General Hospital 2nd Annual Tennis Classic***

Friday, July 30 ***Camp B'nai Brith Golf Tournament***

Monday, August 2 ***Montreal Hadassah WIZO 25th Pro-Am Golf Tournament***

Thursday, August 5 ***Maimonides Hospital Ladies Auxiliary Friendship Golf Tournament***

Lectures

Tuesday, June 22 ***Jewish Support Services for the Elderly Over-Medication in the Elderly***

Shows & Festivals

Sunday, July 25 ***The Bar- Mitzvah Show!***

Wednesday, August 18-22 ***Klezkanada Festival***

Young Adult Division

Friday, June 18, ***Hands-on Montreal***, Mini-Shabbaton

Sunday, July 18, ***Angrignon Zoo***, Young Families outing

Sunday, July 25, ***The Bar Mitzvah Show!***

Thursday, August 5-12, ***Young Leadership Mission to Israel***

Thursday, June 10 – 6:00 p.m.

Free Hebrew for Juniors, a supplementary Hebrew school is celebrating its 25th anniversary and honouring its past presidents. Shaar Hashomayim Congregation. *Shani Shusterman (514) 735-2255*

Monday, June 14 – 6:00 p.m.

Jewish General Hospital, ***JGH Mercedes Benz Annual Golf Classic,*** Elm Ridge Golf and Country Club. *Debra Hendler (514) 340-8251*

Monday, June 14 – 6:00 p.m.

Hebrew Academy Annual Dinner, Tifereth Beth David Jerusalem. $55.00. *Cindy (514) 489-5321*

Tuesday, June 15 – 5:30 p.m.

Congregation Beth El Annual Raffle, A blockbuster evening, refreshments par excellence and the excitement of a raffle draw with a $10,000 first prize. 1000 Lucerne Road. *Judi Sendel (514) 738-4766*

Wednesday, June 16 – 7:00 p.m.

54th Annual Meeting of Jewish Vocational Service and the JVS Jewish Workshop Inc. *Nathalie (514) 345-2625 ext. 3321*

Wednesday, June 16 – 7:30 p.m.

Montreal Hadassah Wizo Women of Achievement Evening. Held at the Montefiore Club, the evening will honour the Hadassah Wizo women volunteers and recognize their ongoing dedication to the organization. $18.00 Dessert *Goldie Weinstein (514) 933-8461*

Thursday, June 17

ORT Montreal Auction, Just for Laughs Museum. *Emmanuel Kalles (514) 481-2787*

Thursday, June 17

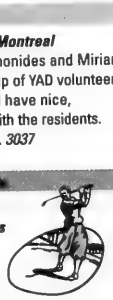
Congregation Beth Tikvah Annual Golf Tournament: *Michael Hosckenstein (514) 683-5610*

Friday, June 18

YAD Division – Hands-on Montreal Mini-Shabbaton with Maimonides and Miriam Foster Homes. A small group of YAD volunteers will go to these homes and have nice, *frailach* Shabbat dinners with the residents. *Melissa (514) 345-2645, ext. 3037*

Monday, June 21 – 8:45 a.m.

Miriam Foundation Champagne & Strawberries Golf Tournament, Cedarbrook Golf and Country Club. *Beverly Smordin (514) 345-1300*



Tuesday, June 22

Shomrim Laboker Synagogue Raffle. Fun evening and a chance to win the first price of $18,000 along with other wonderful prizes. Cocktail. Raffle ticket $100. *Bianca (514) 731-6831*

Thursday, June 22 – 6:00 p.m.

Montreal Israel Bond Organization - Women's Division Community Leadership Award Event, Private residence. *(514) 482-0427*

Tuesday, June 22 – 7:00 p.m.

Jewish Support Services for the Elderly Lecture Series: *Over-Medication in the Elderly.* Guest Speakers: Roland Grad, M.D. and Ruby Friedman, M.D. Free admission. Maimonides Hospital Geriatric Centre. *(514) 345-6646*

Tuesdays, June 22-August 10 – 2:30 p.m.

Jewish Public Library, Story time for Pre-Schoolers (Ages 2 1/2 - 5). No charge. Children must be accompanied by an adult. *(514) 345-2627*

Wednesdays, June 23-July 21

Jewish Public Library Music with Sandy (15-24 months & 24-36 months). Introducing music using games, chants, body movements, and percussion instruments. $40.00. *(514) 345-2627*

Monday, June 28-August 13

Centre Saidye Bronfman Summer Camp of the Arts A day camp opened to those 5-15 years of age. Exploration of visual and performing arts. *Susan Apter (514) 739-2301*

Monday, June 28 – 7:30 p.m.

Auberge Shalom Pour Femmes 10th Anniversary Annual Meeting. *Diane Sasson (514) 731-0833*

Tuesday, June 29 – 7:30 p.m.

Tifereth Beth David Jerusalem Congregation Raffle Evening. Gala raffle evening with grand prizes totalling $20,000. $125.00. *Liana Share-Brown (514) 489-3841*

Thursday, June 29 – 7:30 p.m.

Several events, beginning in Spring 1999 and running through Spring 2000, are being planned ***to celebrate the Library's 85th Anniversary.*** The kick-off event will take place in conjunction with the ***Library's annual meeting*** at the Shaar Hashomayim Congregation, 450 Kensington, Westmount. *(514) 345-2627, ext. 3017*

Monday, July 5

Beth Israel Beth Aaron Congregation Golf Tournament. *Elaine (514) 487-1323*

Thursday, July 8

Mount Sinai Hospital Golf Tournament, Cedarbrook Golf and Country Club. *Patsy Rudner (514) 369-2222 ext. 01331*

Thursdays, July 8-August 12 – 7:00 p.m.

Jewish Public Library Summer Bedtime Story Hour. Come in your pyjamas, bring your favorite stuffed animals, and listen to wondrous stories (ages 3-8). *(514) 345-2627*

Sunday, July 18

YAD Division Young Families outing to the Angrignon Zoo. Come join other young families for a fun day at the Angrignon Zoo. Car pool. *(514) 345-2645 ext. 2639*

Thursday, July 22

Tisha B'-av

Sunday, July 25

Young Adult Division's **The Bar- Mitzvah Show!** YAD's 5th annual presentation at Club Soda. *Jenn (514) 345-2645, ext. 8460*

Monday, July 26

Jewish General Hospital Foundation Leadership ***JGH 2nd annual Tennis Classic.*** *Debra Hendler (514) 340-8251*

Friday, July 30 – 11:30 a.m.

Camp B'nai Brith Golf Tournament, Mountain Acres Golf Club. *Alta Levenson (514) 735-3669*

Monday, August 2

Montreal Hadassah WIZO 25th Pro-Am Golf Tournament, Hillsdale Golf and Country Club. *Goldie Weinstein (514)933-8461*

Thursday, August 5 – 8:00 a.m.

Maimonides Hospital Ladies Auxiliary Friendship Golf Tournament, $100, Cedarbrook Golf and Country Club. *Karen Grossbaum (514) 483-2121 ext. 0230*

Thursday, August 5-12

YAD Division, Young Leadership Mission to Israel (25-40). A fun-filled, young adult experience in Israel, together with young Europeans.*(514) 345-2645, ext. 2639*

Wednesday, August 18-22

Klezkanada Festival. A celebration of Yiddish/ Jewish music and culture, featuring an international array of scholars, artists and entertainers including *Brave Old World* and the *Epstein Brothers Klezmer Band.* Camp B'nai Brith, Lantier, Quebec. *Hy Goldman (514) 345-2610*

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(Income Tax Receipt Available)

To Register: contact Andrea Freedman
by phone: (514) 345-2645 ext. 3245
by fax: (514) 345-6445
by e-mail: afreedma@total.net
by mail: 1 Carré Cummings Square
Montreal, Quebec H3W 1M6 (see back panel)

Through your children, create a lasting link between your family and the Montreal Jewish community!

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Marvin Corber - Fundraising Chairman
Montreal Jewish Community Campus Project

Barbara Plotnick - **KinderLink** Chair
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This Week

National

Canada seeks to postpone controversial conference on territories. *Page 3*

Canada 3000 puts the brakes on extra fee for kosher meals. *Page 5*

A funny look at kosher sex. *Page 7*

Business Profile

James Perly helps drivers get around. *Page 29*

Arts

Laurence Kosoy searches for his Jewish roots on his second CD. *Page 30*

Sports

Israel on the verge of qualifying for major European soccer tournament. *Page 38*

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Shabbat: Pinchas
Candlelighting: 8:45
Tammuz 18, 5759
Havdalah: 9:50

www.cjnews.com

YOUNG KUWARANS MUNCHING ON ARRIVAL

These three young children enjoy a snack at Ben-Gurion airport. They were part of the first group of Ethiopian Jews from Kuwara province that arrived last week in Israel. It is hoped approximately 3,000 Jews from Kuwara will be rescued. *[Israel photo]*

Canadians rally for jailed Iranian Jews

By DAVID LAZARUS, PAUL LUNGEN & BEN ROSE
Staff Reporters

Jews from across Canada gathered last weekend to show support for 13 Iranian Jews being held on espionage charges, and to send a message to Iran's Islamic government that their brethren have not been forgotten.

In a hastily convened rally in Toronto, about 500 people gathered at the Leah Posluns Theatre to hear community representatives pledge solidarity with the imprisoned Jews and to urge Iran to drop the spying charges.

Liberal MP Jim Peterson told the overflow crowd that Canada is following events in Iran closely, and that Foreign Minister Lloyd Axworthy has voiced Canada's concerns about the upcoming trials directly to the Iranian ambassador in Ottawa.

Representatives of the Roman Catholic, Anglican and United Churches joined the Jewish community at the rally, as did members of the Baha'i and Zoroastrian faiths, officials of the Canadian-Polish Congress and MPPs Monte Kwinter and David Young.

Dr. Mohammad Ashraf, director general of the Islamic Society of North America, represented the Muslim community. Ashraf told *The CJN* that "any trial of any person in any country should be fair and open…Islam stands for justice and justice is the same for everybody. They should not be prosecuted because they are Jewish."

The Iranian Embassy in Ottawa, the only one in North America, is no doubt monitoring the Canadian reaction to events in Iran and is likely "using it as a barometer" of world reaction, said Keith Landy, chair of Canadian Jewish Congress' Ontario region. Congress and the UJA Federation of Greater Toronto co-sponsored the rally.

Jews in Canada are united behind their co-religionists in Iran, Landy said. "We remain united, committed, a single world community. When one of us is threatened, all of us are threatened."

"We are here to expose anti-Semitism in Iran disguised by judicial jargon," said Alan Sandler, the newly elected president of UJA Federation. "We are here because for us, silence itself would be criminal."

Peterson said Canada is watching the situation in Iran very closely. The arrested Iranian Jews "appear to be victims of a cynical power play" by conservative forces in Iran. Those forces seek to undermine the reforms and rapprochement with the west engineered by Iranian president Mohammad Khatami.

Continued on page 22

The CJN wins AJPA awards

PHILADELPHIA — For the fourth year in a row, *The Canadian Jewish News* has received Simon Rockower Awards for excellence in Jewish journalism.

The awards, presented at the American Jewish Press Association (AJPA) annual conference held here recently, are the highest honor bestowed by the association.

The CJN won two honorable mentions, one for Excellence in Arts Criticism News and Features and another for the Louis Rapoport Award for Excellence in Commentary and Editorial

The AJPA is the professional umbrella organization for English language Jewish media publications throughout North America.

INSIDE

The dilemma of a Jewish reporter covering the Kosovo crisis.
Please see page 9.

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The News in Brief

CANADA

New Head of UIAFC

MONTREAL — David Goldstein of Toronto was elected president of UIA Federations Canada (UIAFC) at the organization's recent annual meeting held here. UIAFC was created last year as a result of the merger between the United Israel Appeal of Canada and the Council of Jewish Federations. Goldstein replaces Harvey Wolfe of Montreal.

Quebecer Wins

MONTREAL — Seventeen-year-old Leonard Karp-Friedman of Cote St. Luc was the only Canadian prize-winner among 700 entrants in the eighth annual Morris J. and Betty Kaplun Foundation Essay Contest. The Kaplun Foundation of New York City was established to further humanitarian, scientific and Jewish concerns. Its annual essay contest, open to Jewish high school students around the world, attracted entries from across the United States and Canada. Karp-Friedman, who recently graduated from Bialik High School, won second prize, worth $1,250 (US).

Cogan Honored

OTTAWA — Linda Nadolny Cogan of Ottawa was recently awarded the International Women's Division Award of Excellence from Keren Hayesod/United Israel Appeal in Jerusalem. The award recognizes outstanding contributions to national and international Jewish life.

UW Boosts Funding

TORONTO — The United Way of Greater Toronto has announced a $1.5 million increase in funding to 55 member agencies. The increases are a result of United Way's 1998 campaign, which raised over $60 million. Four Jewish organizations will also see their United Way allotments boosted. The Bloor Jewish Community Centre will receive an additional $1,988 to cover salaries and administrative costs; Jewish Family & Child Service will get an extra $25,295 to provide four additional groups a year for abused women, their children and their batterers; Jewish Vocational Services will receive a $5,000 increase to enhance staffing; and the Toronto Jewish Free Loan Cassa will receive a $12,870 grant for each of the next two years.

Holocaust Symposium

GRANDE PRAIRIE — A Holocaust symposium organized by the Jewish Federation of Edmonton held here recently attracted more than 450 students. The one-day program took place at Grande Prairie Regional College and attracted Grade 12 students from the city's three public and Catholic high schools, as well as six other schools from within a 120 kilometre radius of the city.

ISRAEL

Secret Pullout Deal?

JERUSALEM — Defeated Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu initially agreed, in secret talks with Syria, to a full withdrawal from the Golan Heights to the pre-1967 border, according to an article in last week's issue of the *New Republic* magazine. In turn, Syria agreed to a single six-mile demilitarized zone and to an international monitoring station on the Golan, Mideast expert Daniel Pipes wrote, citing "several sources with first-hand knowledge" of the 1998 talks. Netanyahu, who denied the report, ultimately balked at signing the accord after his defence and foreign ministers refused to endorse it.

WORLD

Jewish Officer Released

MOSCOW — A Jewish officer in the Russian army who was kidnapped last year in the breakaway republic of Chechnya has been freed in a prisoner swap. After his release, Lt. Sergei Fishman, 25, said his kidnappers had tortured him, singling him out for especially harsh treatment because of his religion.

Embassy Move Blocked

WASHINGTON — President Bill Clinton has blocked the move of the U.S. Embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. As expected, Clinton invoked his authority to stop the move based on the "national security" interests of the United States. A group of senators plans to introduce legislation to revoke Clinton's ability to renew the waiver when it expires in six months.

Jews Laud Poland

NEW YORK — Poland should be commended for passing legislation to create protective zones around former Nazi concentration camps in the country, a coalition of international Jewish groups agreed during a recent meeting. The coalition, which includes groups from the United States, Israel and Europe, also agreed to resume discussion with the Polish government concerning the preservation of the site of the Auschwitz and Birkenau camps.

Rebbe's Death Marked

NEW YORK — Thousands of pilgrims visited the New York grave of Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson last month to mark the fifth anniversary of the Lubavitcher Rebbe's death. Thousands of other followers of the Rebbe around the world also marked the anniversary with commemorations.

Jews Blamed For NATO Bombing

ATHENS — Jews were responsible for NATO's shelling of Yugoslavia, according to a statement circulated among students in the northern Greek city of Salonika.

The accusation, which surfaced periodically during the bombing campaign, prompted the concern of Greek and Yugoslav Jews.

At the University of Salonika, the accusation was attributed to the school's Socialist Student Movement.

It alleged that "Jewish Zionists are controlling world developments through the Masonic lodges and associations they have created around the world."

It also stated that U.S. Jews created the Monica Lewinsky scandal and used it to blackmail Clinton into taking action against Yugoslavia.

The accusations drew swift condemnation from the Central Jewish Board of Greece, which sent a letter of protest to the ruling Socialist party, and demanded the statement be retracted.

Last week, the national Socialist Youth Movement issued a statement that the accusations were the work of a "single individual who acted wrongly and unacceptably."

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Vol. XXIX, No. 26 (1,403)*

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Canada seeks to postpone territories conference

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Canada is trying to postpone a controversial conference on territories occupied by Israel after 1967 – just five months after it voted to have the conference.

Canada is working with Switzerland "to seek an indefinite postponement" of the international conference, scheduled to take place in Geneva July 15, Michael O'Shaughnessy, a spokesperson for the Foreign Affairs ministry, told *The CJN.*

The unprecedented meeting is designed to examine how the post-World War II Geneva Conventions governing civilians can be applied to the West Bank, Gaza Strip and eastern Jerusalem – areas Israel occupied following the 1967 Six Day War.

"In current circumstances, the convening of the conference would be unhelpful for the peace process," O'Shaughnessy said. In the event the conference does go ahead as scheduled, Canada would then consider whether or not to attend, he added.

Ottawa is trying to postpone the worldwide gathering, "because of the highly politicized nature of the conference," O'Shaughnessy said, refusing to elaborate on why Canada would work to put off the meeting when it voted for it.

The development comes just five months after Canada, in a move that was blasted by Jewish groups, voted at the United Nations to have the conference take place.

Meeting in a rare emergency special session in early February, the UN called for an international conference to ensure that the conventions are respected in areas still under Israeli control, and that their ban on settlements is implemented.

The Arab-sponsored resolution passed by a vote of 115 to 2. Only the United States joined Israel in opposing the motion. There were five abstentions, and 36 member nations were absent for the vote.

The non-binding motion called for the 188 signatories to the 1949 Fourth Geneva Convention, which governs treatment of civilians in occupied lands during wartime, to discuss "measures to enforce the convention in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem."

Ottawa voted for the resolution, despite publicly stated misgivings about its language and how it was brought forward.

Slammed by Jewish organizations

Canada's support for the motion was condemned by national Jewish organizations, who argued that Ottawa was undermining its own role in the peace process, as well as contributing to the violation of the Oslo Accords, which contain mechanisms for resolving Israeli-Palestinian disputes.

Israel condemned the motion in the strongest terms, and pointed out that a conference on Israeli treatment of civilians in occupied lands made no sense, given that 97 percent of Palestinians in those areas now live under Palestinian rule.

Analysts have pointed out that the resolution could have been the result of continued Arab anger over Israel's controversial Har Choma housing project in a Jerusalem suburb.

A few weeks ago, U.S. Vice-President Al Gore announced that the United States would boycott the meeting.

"The conference is a badly disguised attempt to single out Israel for criticism," Gore said.

A statement from Israel's embassy in Ottawa said Jerusalem believes it is "especially absurd" to hold the conference, as it would take place just days after the establishment of the new government of Prime Minister-elect Ehud Barak, which has made the renewal of the peace process a priority.

Israel, said the embassy, "appreciates" the efforts of countries to postpone the conference, which would have a detrimental impact on the peace process and was passed out of "narrow political motives, and not humanitarian considerations."

The Canada-Israel Committee (CIC) said it was pleased with Canada's efforts to postpone the meeting, and with the government's receptiveness to the arguments the CIC advanced.

Canada did not attend a pre-conference meeting held in Cairo last month, the CIC pointed out.

UN Watch, a Geneva-based, independent monitor of the United Nations, observed recently that not once in the past 50 years has the Fourth Geneva Convention been invoked against a state.

It added that the timing of the conference would undermine peace initiatives of the new Israeli government.

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Pidyon Shvuyim!

The full extent of the danger facing the 13 Jews who are locked in an Iranian jail, falsely accused of spying for Israel, is only now settling into our consciousness.

With the first announcement, nearly three weeks ago, of their arrest and incarceration in January, February and March, there was a sense of incredulity that any government anywhere on earth, in this day and age, would *officially* engage in such medieval behavior towards its own citizens.

But that incredulity quickly dissipated into anger; and that anger has evolved into a steel-hard resolve to do whatever we can to help secure the release of these unfortunate men.

Throughout the civilized world, governments, non-government organizations and a wide, multi-faith coalition of clergy have condemned the brazenly evil hostage-taking policies of the Iranian regime.

In keeping with the millennia-old obligation of *pidyon shvuyim*, the redemption of prisoners, Jewish communities in the Diaspora and in Israel are mobilizing to help try to bring about the release of the "thirteen."

Beginning last week, continuing through Friday, in synagogues on Shabbat, and then on Sunday and Monday in the major communities of Canada, people gathered in large numbers to protest the actions of Tehran.

In addressing the Sunday night rally in Toronto, Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region chair, Keith Landy, poignantly prescribed the next set of steps that we must follow if we are to be of any help to the hostages.

"It is critical that in the face of events like these, we stand united as a community, Jew and non-Jew alike, loudly asserting the universality of every Jew's basic human rights."

The postcard inserted in this column was distributed to the people who attended the rally in Toronto on Sunday evening. It is addressed to the president of Iran.

We urge all *CJN* readers to set aside a few moments to clip it out of the paper and mail it the government of Iran at the address listed below. It is the very least we can do; and we are only at the beginning of the things that we must do.

His Excellency Hojjatoleslam val Moslemin Sayed Mohammad Khatami, President, The Islamic Republic of Iran
c/o His Excellency Seyed Mohammad Hossein Adeli, Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran

245 Metcalfe Street,
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K2P 2K2.

We must all act. *MBD*

נפשי בשאלתי ועמי בבקשתי

For my life grant my request, For my people grant my petition.
Esther (Hadassah), Chapter 7, Verse 3.

Dear Mr. President:

The Islamic Republic of Iran is a glorious civilization with a long history. As you know, generations of Iranian Jews have contributed to this proud heritage and have been an integral and vibrant part of Iranian culture.

I ask that you honour your government's commitment to protecting and securing Iran's longstanding Jewish community by immediately releasing those Jews falsely imprisoned on espionage charges.

These prisoners must be permitted immediate visits by their families and representatives of the International Red Cross. Everything necessary must be done to ensure their speedy release and it is imperative that the rights of these prisoners be guaranteed, as must the human rights of all religious minorities.

As King Artaxerxes accepted Queen Hadassah's petition on behalf of her people centuries ago, please accept our petition on behalf of our innocent brothers.

Mr. President, the eyes of the world are upon you, let my people go!

Name _____
Address _____
_____

SEE JN

ASSOCIATED AWARDS ASSEMBLY

The Kamin branch of Associated Hebrew Schools presented the Miriam Venis Award for citizenship to (from left) Heather Berger, Mark Zaretsky, Shawna Lichtblau and Kyle Bornstein. Ruvena Buslovich (centre) received the Adam Kruger Award for community services and citizenship.

UJA-Federation program aims to help survivors

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A UJA Federation agency has initiated a four-pronged program to help elderly Holocaust survivors.

The program, created by volunteers at the Holocaust Education and Memorial Centre, focuses on the material needs of survivors as well as their emotional well-being, said Michael Herman, chair of the centre.

Its four components include publishing a booklet to aid in making restitution claims; sensitizing staff in hospital and senior care facilities to the particular needs of survivors; providing home visits; and recording the memoirs of Holocaust survivors.

The process of applying for benefits from European countries "can be pretty daunting for elderly survivors," Herman said. "We walk them through the process and make sure they are talking to the right people, the right restitution group."

Craig Rimer, a centre volunteer, developed the booklet that summarizes the criteria and process for claimants who wish to benefit from restitution funds, Herman said. Two hundred copies have already been distributed with plans to print more.

The 13-page booklet outlines the programs offered by seven European governments and provides contact names, addresses and phone numbers for further inquiries.

"We have prepared this booklet as a partial attempt to deal with [the problems of confusion and misinformation] and to assist claimants in advancing their cases," Rimer said.

Those people with access to the Internet are advised to check the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum's Web site at www.ushmm.org/assets/home.html. That site contains "the best and most comprehensive source of information" on restitution and compensation, Rimer said.

Volunteers have also begun to train staff in geriatric centres to make them aware of unique issues involving survivors who are experiencing dementia.

"When some people get older, they may get delusional and they revert to their experiences of 50 years earlier," Herman said. Innocuous noises, like bells, showers, shaving, can bring back memories associated with those sounds. "They're laying in bed and they think they're in the camp," Herman said.

Volunteers are also being recruited to visit survivors in their homes to provide "chauffeuring, grocery shopping and just to sit with them," Herman continued.

Finally, the centre is asking survivors who wish to record their experiences to come forward. Volunteers will help record their memories and may even ghost-write their stories for them, he said.

Herman said the centre's program developed out of a meeting a little while ago. "We sat down and we said, 'the survivors will not be with us that much longer. Are we doing enough for them?'"

The centre's executive brainstormed and came up with the four-part plan. About 12 of the centre's 200 volunteers are taking part in the new program. Many of them are 30-something professionals who don't have relatives who lived through the Holocaust, but who wish to bring their skills to bear in projects that will help improve survivors' quality of life, he said.

For more information, contact the centre at (416) 631-5689 or e-mail at holmem@ujafed.org.

Outdoor projects help give BJC new lease on life

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Rescued from bankruptcy four years ago, the Bathurst Jewish Centre (BJC), formerly part of the Jewish Community Centre, is enjoying a new lease on life with a $300,000 outdoor construction program financed entirely by donors.

In the plans as well over the next two to five years are a new aquatic centre, including an indoor-outdoor pool, and a new lobby, these projects to be financed jointly by BJC and the capital funds from UJA Federation.

The earth-moving trucks and bulldozers are racing to complete the extensive relocation of the BJC outdoor facilities by July 5.

"We're very excited to improve services for 800 campers and BJC members," said executive director Deborah Pinsky.

"We've agreed, starting in 2000, to set up a fund that in 10 years will pay the donors back. We're hoping that this money will be used for emergency repairs."

The new facilities include a baseball diamond, a soccer field, an in-line skating surface on two of the unused tennis courts, tents, a renovated clubhouse for campers, and two outdoor change cabins for campers. Showers in an outdoor pool area will be enlarged by 20 percent.

The extra pool area was made available when the back area of the road leading to the Lipa Green building was upgraded and realigned to allow the pool fence to be moved back.

Moving the road also provided 14 new parking spaces on BJC land and four new spaces in the Lipa Green lot.

A slightly shorter new outdoor track is already in operation.

New playground equipment for the early childhood program this summer will be installed by July 5.

One of the few indoor changes involves installation of a climbing wall in one of the courts now used for racquetball. It will be for campers in the summer and members in the fall.

Phase 2, to be completed in two or three years, includes air conditioning for two more gyms and new playground equipment for the school, in addition to the new aquatic centre.

Phase 3, probably five years away, includes a new lobby with escalators leading to different BJC areas.

Young named

TORONTO — David Young, one of three Jewish MPPs elected in last month's provincial election, has been named by Premier Mike Harris as parliamentary secretary to education minister Janet Ecker.

Young, who was elected in Willowdale, will serve as a sort of understudy to the minister.

As well, Tina Molinari, who represents the heavily Jewish riding of Thornhill, was named as parliamentary secretary to Dianne Cunningham, the new minister of colleges of universities.

Canada 3000 grounds charge for special meals

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Canada 3000 has put the air brakes on its plan to charge a fee for special in-flight meals.

The charter airline announced last week that its board of directors had reversed the previously announced policy of charging $10 for kosher, vegetarian, diabetic, halal and other special meals. That policy was implemented on May 1 and rescinded on June 21.

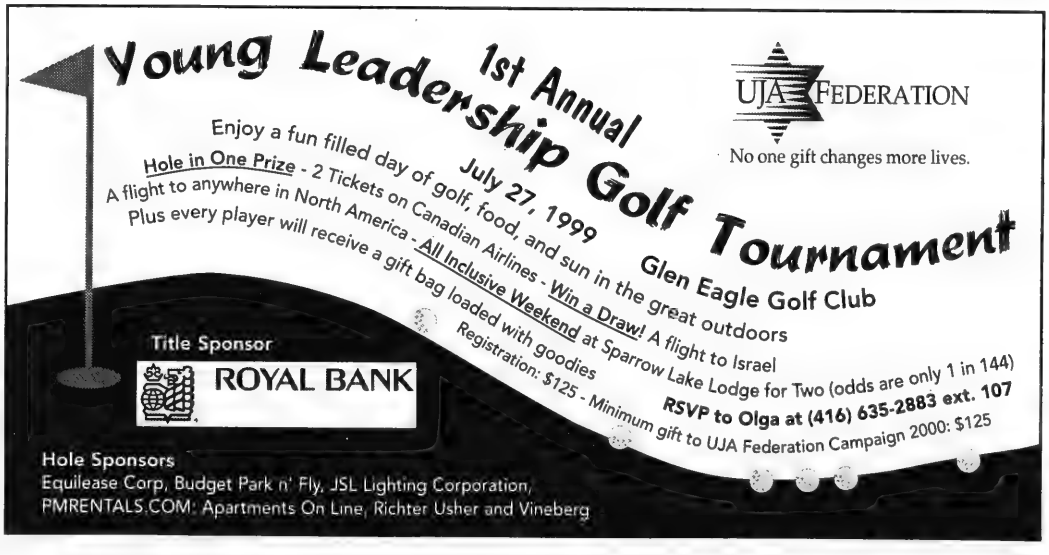
In a letter to Manuel Prutschi, national director of community relations for Canadian Jewish Congress, Canada 3000 president Angus Kinnear stated, "The board took note of your comments and has decided to withdraw the special meal charge." The airline also sent a notice to travel agents informing them of the decision.

Congress had been in the forefront of a broad-based campaign by community and religious organizations that called on Canada 3000 to rescind the special meal charge. The coalition included Seventh Day Adventists and the Vietnamese-Buddhist Association, whose members require vegetarian meals, as well as the Canadian Islamic Congress.

"We are pleased that Canada 3000 took the courageous step to review a policy in response to the widespread public concern," Prutschi said. "I think it was bad public relations for them and they realized that when the other carriers were open in indicating they had no intention of adopting that policy. They saw it as part of the standard service provided to passengers."

Congress brought the various groups together to add weight to the protest, Prutschi said.

"It is a heartening sign that when groups work together in a principled cause, the ultimate result is success," he added.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Greater Toronto Area

Ontario court facing unique kosher conundrum

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The Ontario Superior Court of Justice has reserved a decision on a motion by three rabbis to have a lawsuit against them removed from the secular court.

Levitts Kosher Foods Inc. is suing the three rabbis for libel and slander, for inducing breach of contract, and for restraint of trade. The case arose out of the refusal by the Kashruth Council of Toronto (COR) to allow the sale of Levitts fresh kosher meat in establishments under its supervision.

After three days of legal arguments, Madam Justice Mary Lou Benotto, who is hearing the case, said that she would rule on the motion in early July.

Because COR, as an unincorporated body cannot be sued, Levitts is seeking damages from Rabbi Yitzchok Kerzner, chair of the Rabbinical Vaad Hakashruth; Rabbi Mordechai Levin, executive director of the Kashruth Council; and Rabbi Avrohom Lowinger, chief mashgiach of the council.

Joel Richler, lawyer for the rabbis, argued that the court should not, and does not have the necessary expertise to rule on matters which are intrinsically religious in nature.

Richler said that since Levitts is under the kashrut supervision of the Montreal Vaad Ha'Ir (MK), it is bound by the Shulchan Aruch, the code of Jewish law, which stipulates that controversies be dealt with before a beth din, a rabbinical court.

Levitts' lawyer David Hager, who prefaced his remarks by acknowledging that as a Jew, the case "brings me no joy," said that the charges are economic and civil in nature, and concern matters of Canadian law, particularly the Competition Act.

While Levitts packaged meats, such as hot dogs and salamis, are allowed to be sold in COR-supervised establishments, fresh meat is not. Richler said that no one questions the fact that Levitts meats under the supervision of the Vaad Ha'Ir of Montreal, are kosher. However, he explained that the products do not meet COR's standards of kashrut, which include the stipulation that the owners be shomrei Shabbat, Sabbath observant.

The shomer Shabbat regulation has been in force since 1985, due, Richler said, to the increasing consumer demand for greater strictness in kashrut. This is not only true for COR, he said, but for such supervisory bodies as O-U (the Orthodox Union), the London, England Beth Din and MK.

Since it was recognized that this change in requirements would cause great hardship to companies already under supervision, those businesses which had been kosher under the old rules, and had demonstrated exemplary adherence to kashrut, would not be affected.

This is what happened with Levitts in Montreal, Richler said. (While the original owners, the Levitt family, were shomrei Shabbat, the current owners, Morton Katz and Murray Brookman, are not.)

As a result, COR sent letters to mashgichim and kosher establishments ordering that Levitts fresh meat not be used in establishments they supervise. COR warned that these establishments could lose their hechshers if they don't comply, and insisted that meat already purchased be returned by the establishments to Levitts.

Richler said that this action is strictly in accordance with COR's halachic responsibilities and obligations.

Hager said the action resulted in significant financial loss to the company, and unfairly restricted its business opportunities in Ontario.

Hager alleged that COR's actions could be attributed less to Halachah and more to the council's desire to protect local slaughterers.

While denying that Levitts had any desire to question COR's halachic competence, Hager argued that these matters are not governed by Halachah, but by Canadian law, and should, therefore, be dealt with by a Canadian court.

Hager also objected to the fact that the rabbis had taken the matter to a beth din before the motion was even heard. Levitts takes the position that if the court rules that the case should be heard by a rabbinic court, it would be willing to attend.

A beth din is composed of three rabbis. Each of the two parties involved chooses one, and those two rabbis choose a third.

Richler asserted that no matter what the issues are, they should be dealt with in a beth din.

The CJN will continue to follow the case.

Food company defaced with anti-Semitic graffiti

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

Workers at Levitts Kosher Foods Inc. in Montreal were shocked when they arrived at work on June 14. They discovered anti-Semitic graffiti scrawled on their Ste. Dominique Street storefront.

But an even greater shock came in the days to come.

The graffiti – a Nazi swastika and the infamous Auschwitz death camp slogan, *Arbeit macht frei* – reappeared the next day, two days later, and again after the weekend, despite the application of a fresh coat of paint on the wall after each incident.

"We're upset," said Steven Brookman, Levitts' vice-president of production. He's worked for 12 years in the family business co-owned by his father Murray, who took over the 60-year-old Montreal institution from the Levitt family years ago.

"This is the first time since I've worked here that something like this has happened."

"I'm 31 years old. I've heard about these things, seen it and studied it. But never had to face it head-on.

"At first I sloughed it off, but when it happened for three, four days, you have to do something."

A Nazi swastika and the phrase, Arbeit macht frei, are scrawled on the wall of Levitts Kosher Foods Inc. in Montreal.

According to Carlos Mota, Levitts' general manager and a 15-year employee – he discovered the initial graffiti – a neighbor in the area saw an individual skulking about the business' premises and called police.

Mota said the police, who promised to patrol the area more rigorously, filed a report, but did not have any clues as to who the culprit is.

According to B'nai Brith Quebec director Robert Libman, who was in contact with the Brookmans and police, there were some initial suspicions revolving around an individual in the neighborhood who'd been hurling anti-Semitic remarks at Levitts workers.

David Birnbaum, executive director of Canadian Jewish Congress, Quebec region (CJC-Q), has also been in contact with the Brookmans and police. He said the vandalism was "very troublesome," but cautioned that it would amount to a "big leap," to see it as anything other than an isolated incident.

Brookman, for his part, said the the family business plans to relocate within the next year, because it had outgrown its current premises.

It had nothing to do with the vandalism, he said.

"I'm not going to put up cameras. Yeah, it hurts, but what can I do about it?"

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Greater Toronto Area

Apotex home scheduled to open in five months

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The state of the art Apotex Jewish Home for the Aged will open in January 2000, said Stephen Herbert, president and CEO of the Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care (BCGC).

Herbert was speaking at the first joint annual general meeting of BCGC and the Baycrest Centre Foundation (BCF), held recently at the Wagman Centre.

On the financial side, the centre reported an operational deficit of $365,000 on the year's operations ending March 31, much less than the budgeted deficit of $1,705,000 and the deficit of $878,000 last year.

The foundation raised $10.1 million this year, its president Elaine Todres reported, a half-million above target, in what she described "as an incredibly competitive field."

Foundation treasurer Howard Henry said it had $81 million in total assets, with $77 million invested.

The future goal of the centre is "to reach out and reach north," said Herbert, pointing out that it already offers exercises, discussion groups and shopping help to seniors in nine apartment buildings in the vicinity.

In York Region, it has established services in Unionville, and under an agreement with Orillia Soldiers' Memorial Hospital, now has services in nine different communities, Herbert said.

A total of 1,100 people are on the Baycrest Centre waiting list for admission. Construction will begin in September on 2 Neptune Court, the building sponsored by Baycrest, Herbert said.

After the new Jewish Home for the Aged building is done, "we will keep our hard hats on to build two 120-bed nursing homes, one in Toronto and one in York Region," he said.

"If we were a private corporation our shares would be blue chip," he commented.

Todres said the new Baycrest Call Centre, which is also in the planning stage, will make Baycrest an important source for geriatric information in Ontario.

As the Call Centre becomes better known, it will enable Baycrest to reach out to new contributors outside the Jewish community and attract new corporate support, she added.

The Women's Auxiliary raised in excess of $600,000 last year and has almost reached its $5 million pledge to the new home, auxiliary president Mimi Greenspoon said.

"We've sold 900 mezuzahs for the new building, and we say keep building and we'll keep supplying the mezuzahs."

The Mother's Day run for Baycrest raised 45 percent more than last year, and it is expected the Men's Service Group will raise $250,000 in the next 12 months, said president Irwin Wortsman.

Others taking part in the meeting were Marvin Sadowski, Baycrest Centre board chair; Florence Minz Geneen, immediate past chair; and Leo Fine, chair of the foundation board. Fine and Sadowski were re-elected to their positions, as were Todres and Herbert.

Rudy Bratty and Wilfred Posluns were named new members of the Baycrest Centre board, while Susan Fenwick and Robert Van Reekum became ex officio directors.

Florence Brill, Judy Engel, Susan Fenwick and Avra Goldhar were added to the foundation board.

Among those named as new governors of the Baycrest Centre were Faye Corbin, Bernard Dickens, Gail Donner, Arthur Fish, Susan Harris, Mark Henkelman, Susan Himel, David Kassie, Donna Kaufman, Barbara MacDougall, Anthony Melman, Irv Nyman and Cecil Yip.

Kosher sex proves funny

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The several hundred people who came to hear Rabbi Shmuel Boteach, author of the controversial book *Kosher Sex*, expecting (or hoping) to get a how-to lecture were disappointed.

What they got was a hilarious discussion of sexuality, based entirely on Torah principles.

Rabbi Boteach was speaking at Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue at a program sponsored by the community outreach and new leadership committees of Jewish National Fund of Toronto.

Everyone, he said, "needs one person to make you feel that you are more important than the greatest pop star."

After three weeks of marriage, Rabbi Boteach said, "the passion is gone. We go from making each other's blood boil, to making each other sick."

Following the halachic and talmudic rules for the relationship between husband and wife, he said, reverses this tendency.

Couples today want their spouse to be, at the same time, their lover and their best friend, he said. This is impossible, Rabbi Boteach insisted, because it presupposes the co-existence of "skin tingling and predictability, spontaneity and routine. It's like fire and water – they can't co-exist."

That is one of the benefits of observing the laws of family purity, which forbid physical contact during a woman's menstrual period and for seven days afterwards.

"You are lovers for two weeks, and best friends for two weeks. It allows [sexual] desire to rebuild."

On the other hand, the rabbi said, people aren't really looking for love from their spouse. "Our parents have to love us. We want to be special."

To love, he said, is to be incapable of comparing the loved one to anyone else. To you, the one you love is more perfect, more beautiful, more special, he said.

"The essence of sex is to connect, to become one flesh," he said. In the Bible, he explained, sex is considered the highest form of knowledge. That is the purpose of intimacy, he said, to truly "know" someone.

He urged romantic gestures between spouses. "If a husband buys his wife a dishwasher for their anniversary, that's not romantic. It is saying 'I love you but do the dishes.'"

Flowers, on the other hand, are romantic, because you can't do anything with them. "They are only a gesture to say 'you are the centre of my universe.'"

The rabbi quoted Rabbi Akiva as saying that some jealousy is good, because once you see your spouse through someone else's eyes, you are more conscious of the need to please them.

Rabbi Boteach said that we must keep our spouses as the centre of our universe, even if we have to deal with the distractions of work, children, and constant bustle. "Judaism says that greatness lies in the private sphere," not in the outside world, he said.

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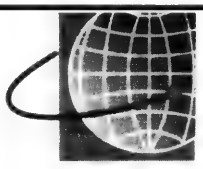

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Iranian terrorism

Two weeks ago in this space, we urged the governments of the west "to bring their full political and economic weight to bear" against Iran to try to secure the freedom of the 13 Jews from Shiraz and Isfahan who have been arrested on phony charges of spying for Israel.

The government of Canada, we are pleased to note, has responded with earnest effort. It has, thus far, at least twice communicated its concern over the imprisonment of the Jews to Iranian officials. Foreign Minister Lloyd Axworthy has personally conveyed his alarm at the situation to the Iranian ambassador. He has also given his personal assurance to the World Jewish Congress that he would continue to explore all avenues available to him. In particular, he promised that he would seek to intervene directly with the Iranian foreign minister so that Canada's concerns for the welfare of the imprisoned Iranian Jews might be registered at the highest level. For all of us who are anxious about the fate of the "thirteen" and especially for the imprisoned Jews themselves, the Canadian response may sound quite modest. But if all countries of the west were to take the same steps, their cumulative impact could not be ignored by the rulers in Iran.

At one of the many community rallies in cities across Canada earlier in the week, Jim Peterson, secretary of state for international financial institutions, in Toronto forcefully reminded the Iranians that the arrest and imprisonment of the Jews cannot be regarded as merely an internal matter. There is a new world order in which respect for human rights occupies a very high place, Peterson proclaimed. "And Canada is part of it."

If the Iranians want also to be part of that new world order, they had better prove to the rest of the world their readiness to abide by the norms of humane, civil behavior. What they pass off as domestic law enforcement is nothing more than state terrorism.

Meanwhile, as western governments plead with Iran, Jews around the world must be vocal and visible in their efforts on behalf of the "thirteen." Innocent lives hang in the balance.

We may not know them by their faces. But we do, indeed, know these 13 men by their kindred connection to their fellow Jews, and by their names.

Javeed Beit Yakov, 40
Navid Bala Zadeh, 16
Nejat Broukhim, 35
Ramin Farzam, 35
Nasser Levi Haim, 45
Faramarz Kashi, 34
Farzad Kashi, 30
Ramin Nemati, 22
Shahrokh Paknahad, 29
Farhad Saleh, 30
Dani Teffilin, 28
Omid Tefillin, 25
Asher Zadmehr, 48

Iranian terrorists

It is uncertain whether the deadly barrage of Katyusha rockets that slammed into Kiryat Shmonah last week, killing two civilians, was related to the growing outcry from the west against Tehran's brutal imprisonment of the 13 Jews. What is certain however, is that Tehran – and Damascus – have the power over Hezbollah, their designated terrorists, to rein them in or indeed, to stop them altogether, from their murderous attacks against Israelis.

Iranian policy towards Israel and Jews seems governed by nothing higher or more enlightened than abject hatred. This hatred has so grotesquely infected the Iranian body politic, its leaders no longer recognize the pathology. Left untreated however, like all pathologies, it will one day be the country's ruination.

WISDOM OF THE AGES

You must give the daughters of Zelophchad the right of inheritance along with their father's brothers. ***(Parshat Pinchas)***

Dry Bones
WE SIMPLY KICKED BIBI NETANYAHU OUT OF THE GAME...
BUT
AND THEN WE DEALT EHUD BARAK AN IMPOSSIBLE HAND TO PLAY!
THE ONLY FORCE ON THE PLANET THAT'S CAPABLE OF HUMBLING AN ISRAELI PRIME MINISTER
IS THE ISRAELI VOTER!
BUT

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Wants open trial for accused 13 Iranian Jews

Upon learning of the arrest of 13 Iranian Jews and the fact that they were charged by the Iranian government as being spies for Israel and the United States, I immediately faxed a letter to Seyed Mohammad Adeli asking that I be permitted to be present at the trial as an observer. I also asked for the names and addresses of the accused, and the identity of their lawyers.

Additionally, I have written to the minister of foreign affairs and the minister of justice asking for their assistance in arranging for my attendance as an observer.

It is imperative that all your readers write to the ministers urging their complete co-operation in ensuring that the 13 accused are dealt with in accordance with international legal standards including an open trial and competent defence counsel.

Bert Raphael
Chair
Canadian Lawyers and Jurists for World Jewry

Concordia did not fund Palestinian student group

Re, "Concordia students fight 'anti-Semitic' campaign," (*CJN*, April 9 (March 31, Montreal)).

The Concordia Collective for Palestinian Human Rights (CCPHR) is a student association which is attached to the Concordia Student Union. As such, it receives no funding from Concordia University whatsoever. The Student Union and all of its member associations are entirely independent of Concordia's administration both in terms of their funding and their activities, so long as those activities adhere to university policy and our Code of Rights and Responsibilities.

The article's assertion that the CCPHR is funded by Concordia's administration is absolutely false. Subsequent comments about the university funding "anti-Semitic" groups or activities are inaccurate and potentially damaging to the reputation of our institution.

As for the general tenor of the article, which suggests that Concordia is allowing or endorsing anti-Semitic activities on campus, nothing could be further from the truth. This situation, as are all situations involving disputes between groups holding different opinions, has been closely monitored by the university. The materials displayed and distributed by the CCPHR on campus have been checked and re-checked by both the Dean of Students' Office and by the Office of Rights and Responsibilities. While the material could be construed as presenting an extreme position and being of a somewhat polemical nature, it is by no means anti-Semitic.

The intention of some Jewish students at Concordia, to found their own association and to present information which challenges the position of the CCPHR, is one we applaud.

Donald L. Boisvert
Dean of Students
Concordia University
Montreal

Objects to book review of Orthodox lifestyle

The book reviewed in Rabbi Bernard Baskin's column (*CJN*, June 3), depicts Orthodox Jews in a most demeaning and crude fashion. The book's author, a self proclaimed "cultural Jew," engages in mocking authentic Jewish culture – namely an Orthodox lifestyle.

The article's title ("Exploring Pious Jews") as well, enhances that mockery. The book does not explore pious Jews, but rather fictitiously demeans them in a fashion not unlike the Shylock character of previous generations.

As we stand at the threshold of Y2K, a sincere exploration of pious Jews would be of far more value to all, to help foster mutual respect within all segments of our community.

Zev Binder
Montreal

Transnistria added to death camp list in U.S. museum

On April 18, 1999, the name Transnistria was finally engraved and added to the names of all other death camps in the Remembrance Hall of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum.

The ceremony took place in the presence of more than 300 Transnistria survivors who had arrived from all corners of the United States and Canada. One Transnistria survivor came from as far as Hawaii. Among the 300 people present were survivors and members of the second and third generations.

The name Transnistria has been added due to the determination and incredible effort of a single person: Ruth Glasberg Gold, a native of Cernovitz (Romania), a Transnistria survivor and the author of *Ruth's Journey: A Survivor's Memoir.*

Along with other presentations at the Washington, D.C. ceremony, congratulatory letters from the Montreal Transnistria Survivors Association and the Association of Former Transnistria Camps-Kishinev (Moldova) were read. Until this date, the Montreal Holocaust Memorial Centre had been the only North American Museum that had inscribed Transnistria, in the memorial room. The Montreal site had commemorated Transnistria, along with all other death camps, in 1995.

Baruch Cohen
Docent/Speaker
Montreal Holocaust Memorial Centre

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures. Letters sent by e-mail must also include the sender's municipal address.

Journalist faces catch-22 in reporting about Yugoslavia

By MICHAEL J. JORDAN
Special to The CJN

I'm a journalist and a Jew, but it was only recently that I became a Jewish journalist.

Curiously enough, it all began with the Kosovo conflict.

Far from the front pages of the world's newspapers is a story that is perhaps only of interest to Jewish audiences – the possible demise of two more Jewish communities in the Balkans.

As bombs rained down on Yugoslavia, Serb forces continued to kill, loot and expel ethnic Albanians from their homes. The refugees poured over the border into Macedonia (among other places) and threatened to tip that country's own delicate ethnic balance.

The instability had Jews in both states considering flight to safer havens.

Despite traditionally friendly relations with their countrymen, these Jews feared their exodus might be denounced by their neighbors as a "betrayal" of the nation. That would unleash anti-Semitism, which would further discourage these Jews from ever returning home.

In reporting on the fate of these Jews for the New York-based Jewish Telegraphic Agency (JTA), I have been torn by the following issue: present "the facts" and "the truth" of their plight, or assume a partisan role that feels, to me, like something bordering on complicity.

Is my first obligation to the reader, or to the safety of these small, nervous Jewish communities? The two objectives are incompatible, even diametrically opposed.

My father, of course, had some wisdom to share. Quoting my deceased grandmother, a Hungarian Holocaust survivor, he e-mailed me: "Do nothing that might harm a single hair on any Jew's head."

So, journalistic credos be damned! But as a committed career journalist, I found the choice was not so clear-cut. For five years, I have been a freelancer based in Budapest, writing mostly for, among others, JTA and the *Christian Science Monitor*. (Quite a tandem, religiously speaking.)

But the events of March 24 shattered my illusion of neutral observation. On that day, NATO launched air strikes against Yugoslavia. In turn, Serbs accelerated their ethnic cleansing of Albanians from the southern province of Kosovo. And within hours, busloads of Yugoslav Jews were on the road to Budapest, 250 miles north. They'd been invited by the Hungarian Jewish community, a plan that was kept hush-hush. I only learned of it days later, after the JTA, informed by other sources, ran a short bulletin on its newswire.

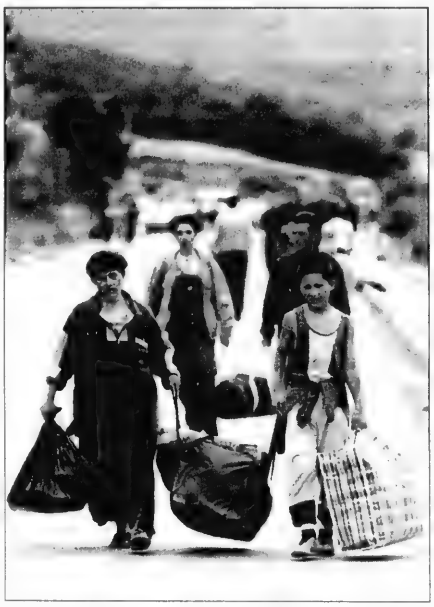
Now JTA wanted me to follow up with a feature story. On Monday morning, March 29, I walked to the local Jewish community centre, a couple blocks away from my apartment in downtown Budapest. Overnight, the airy, newly renovated centre had been transformed into a hostel. And instead of its normal morning quiet – until dozens of Holocaust survivors stroll in for their afternoon card games – the place was bustling with about 150 Jewish young people and older women, speaking Serbo-Croatian.

The din didn't last long.

When the crowd saw me approaching with pen and notepad, they became edgy and suspicious. I asked to speak to the local representative of the Joint Distribution Committee (JDC), which was offering assistance to the newcomers, and to the Yugoslav group's appointed spokesperson.

The stonewalling soon began.

After giving me a few general details about the situation, the JDC representative, normally a media-friendly type, suggested we wait a few hours until they received clearance from headquarters in New York. Then I could go ahead with my story. I politely informed him that, regardless, I would be writing an article that day.



Albanian Kosovars return to their homes from refugee camps in Macedonia. [RNS/Reuters]

Next came the spokesperson, who is also head of the Jewish women's organization in Belgrade, the Yugoslav capital. From the outset, she insisted that her contingent not be referred to (and consequently stigmatized) as "refugees." They were, she said, officially "tourists," and wished to be described as such. (Later, a second JDC official suggested I refer to them with the awkward phrase "bombing escapees.")

I told the woman frankly that I would have trouble playing along with the "tourist" euphemism. But her reasoning was clear: Nationalists could easily twist and sensationalize the news of their departure, and portray them as "traitors."

And that would make life more miserable for the 3,000 Jews remaining in Yugoslavia. This, after all, is a totalitarian state where the media are very tightly controlled and libel and slander are alien concepts.

Once you have been branded a traitor, there is little hope of defending yourself. Still, I wondered if this woman wasn't being just a bit overly paranoid.

"They'll read what we're saying," she said, through the Yugoslav Embassy in DC. I scoffed: If it were in the *New York Times* or *Washington Post*, sure. But why would any Yugoslav read JTA?

The real reason for the spokesperson's anxiety, then, was that Jews – especially those in eastern Europe – know better than anyone that in a flash, anti-Semitism can rear its ugly head. Anytime, anywhere.

Yugoslav and Macedonian Jewry, like so many of their European counterparts, were decimated by the Holocaust. (It must be noted, however, the deed was not carried out by homegrown fascists.)

Then came four decades of repressive communism. The public was conditioned to never challenge authority, or else pay a price – like unemployment, prison or even death.

That's why the president of the Yugoslav Jewish community, himself a Holocaust survivor, instructed this woman not to utter a single politically oriented comment while abroad.

The more I probed, the more nervous she became. She didn't want her name used. Then she wanted to retract much of what she had already told me. Soon, a crowd formed around us; from all sides I was being pressured not to write anything at all.

I tried to explain my predicament. How could I act as if I had not seen these people? Their very reaction, their fear of exposure, convinced me this was even more of a "story." How could I conceal the fact there were Jews in the world who felt endangered?

Moreover – and from a practical, but purely competitive standpoint – I'd just discovered from someone in the crowd that the Israeli and Hungarian media had also learned of their exodus.

Their story would get out one way or another, I told them.

Understandably, the Jews surrounding me were unsympathetic to my cause.

After all, this was their life I was writing about. And here I was, upset about mere journalistic principles. "As a Jew," they pleaded, "you have certain responsibilities."

They were right, of course, but I didn't like it.

Deflated, I managed to do one or two more half-hearted interviews (names and identities withheld, of course) and headed home. I still had an article to write.

My thoughts raced as I outlined how I would word it. As soon as I got home, I fired off an elaborate e-mail to my editors, describing the pickle I was in. (They would later tell me to proceed, but cautiously.)

And then I wrote. Among other points, I danced around the "refugee" vs. "tourist" distinction, touched on their anxiety about the loyalty issue, and went to great lengths to illustrate the Jewish community's fondness for Yugoslavia and their desire to return home soon.

No lies, mind you. Just a case of emphasizing certain angles, downplaying others. It was an article I could live with.

The only slip-up – in the eyes of the Yugoslav Jews and JDC officials who read it later – was that I quoted an unnamed young woman as saying, "Milosevic is a jerk," as one of her comments. Too political, I was told later. Too dangerous.

Over the next couple of weeks, I wondered how the Jews in Macedonia were holding up. I'd visited them a year and a half earlier, and was impressed with how actively this small, tight-knit community, which officially had 190 members, was, in preserving its identity, history and traditions.

I'd been reading in the papers how the influx of Kosovo Albanians was exacerbating relations between the Macedonian majority and its own large, restive population of ethnic Albanians.

When I finally met Macedonia's Jews a few days later in mid-April, it was déjà vu. I'll spare you all the details, but it was more linguistic acrobatics. I was free to ask them anything, they said, but they wouldn't tell me everything. Again, the truth was too risky; it might rile the neighbors.

My meeting with community leaders was two hours of playing cat and mouse: I chiselled away for nuggets of information; they responded diplomatically, with grand but bland statements, such as: "Jews have always shared the fate of the Macedonians."

Later, someone finally stumbled and admitted that the Bulgarian Jews in Sofia, like the Hungarian Jews in Budapest, had offered some sort of escape route, just in case.

Today, it seems that offer may come in handy.

Most people I spoke with during my week in Macedonia – Macedonians, Albanians, Jews and others – predicted that their country, too, was ripe for civil war. Tomorrow, perhaps, or in 10 years.

So that's what I wrote for JTA.

What, then, are the lessons learned from these two experiences? I still wrestle with the moral dimensions of the question: Does publishing the truth serve the greater good? I think it does. Certainly, heeding grandma's words, I don't want to be the cause of harm to any hair on any head.

But in this case, writing that things are fine within Yugoslavia and Macedonia – for Jews or any other minority – only misleads the outside world. And sadly, it is the outside world that will be needed in the event of a conflict.

After living in central Europe for six years, I've learned close up about this Jewish tendency to avoid "making waves."

Yet it's a hopeless catch-22. A synagogue is vandalized, or a politician says something anti-Semitic. Rather than speak up, they suffer in silence, for fear of making it worse. Which means no one knows there's a problem, so it happens again.

Michael Jordan is a New Jersey native. He can be e-mailed at michaeljjordan@ csi.com.

Opinions

The 'Y' chromosome

They are called Lemba. They are a tribe of 50,000 in southern Africa. Up to now very little has been known about them, but lately they have had two distinctions: they made the front page of the *Jerusalem Report*, and a few days later of the Sunday *New York Times*. That is quite a journey for a small group of people whose existence was hardly known outside of their own immediate environment.

Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

It all started when a University of Toronto researcher, Dr. Karl Sorecki, entered his synagogue in 1995 and saw a young man, a kohen, receive the first aliyah at the Torah service, as is the custom in every traditional synagogue. Sorecki, a kohen himself, wondered whether he and the one that was called up had anything genetically in common. Could their descent from the priestly tribe be verified by genetic investigation?

Sorecki not only followed up his idea, but he did it with vim and vigor. He contacted scientists in various parts of the world and enrolled them in an investigatory program. On one occasion, kohanim, gathered at the Wall in Jerusalem, agreed to have themselves tested. They provided cell samples, taken by swabs from their mouths – a procedure that takes only seconds but seems to have implications that stretch over millennia.

Analyses of the samples were submitted to DNA researchers who found that the swabs have a remarkable feature in common: their Y chromosomes have identical sets of markers. This seems to indicate that those who exhibit this particular DNA identification have indeed a common ancestry.

This joint origin has of course been an oral tradition amongst those who considered themselves part of the kohanitic tribe. Sometimes it is their name – like Kahn, Kagan, or Katz (an acronym of the first letters of Kohen Tsedek), but more than the name, it is the tradition handed from father to son across the generations that has given today's kohanim their identity. The genetic marker verifies their oral tradition with reasonable accuracy.

This research would in itself have been newsworthy, but it has been enhanced by the fact that a South African tribe that traces its origin to Yemen in southern Arabia and further back to Israel, lays claims to the same ancestry.

Members of the tribe have long been Christians, but at the same time have maintained their claim to Jewish descent. For hundreds of years they have practised certain Jewish rites, but it is only now that this has become public knowledge. Lemba people do not contemplate migrating to Israel, but they are glad that their origins have finally been given credence.

To be sure, there are other people that carry the same marker on their Y chromosomes, but nowhere is the percentage of such incidents as high as amongst those who identify themselves as kohanim.

No wonder all of this has made the news. Meanwhile, Sorecki is teaching at the Technion in Haifa and is affiliated with the Rambam Hospital. To him and to all others who have busied themselves with this project, one feature remains central: A powerful Jewish oral tradition has suddenly been given scientific support.

Barak's daunting agenda

In Ehud Barak's few public pronouncements since his election as prime minister, he has spoken of three key challenges: the peace process with the Palestinians and Syria, a social challenge, and constitutional reform.

While a great deal of attention is given to Barak's plans for moving the peace process forward, his domestic agenda is no less ambitious.

In his campaign, Barak emphasized a more equitable allocation of resources in education and social policy. He challenged the preferential treatment given to West Bank settlements and educational institutions run by Shas, and funding for yeshivot run by Shas and the haredi Yahadut Hatorah. This funding pattern had reflected Likud's own policy on the settlements, as well as coalition agreements with other parties.

Barak wants to do things a different way. He speaks of an equitable allocation of resources that is based on transparency and accountability, rather than on back-room deals. But aside from the attractive rhetoric, Barak knows there is a serious political imperative involved.

This time around, he succeeded in cracking the wall of support for Benjamin Netanyahu in development towns and poorer socio-economic areas, but it was just a crack. He is already looking ahead to the election of 2003. In order to penetrate those communities, Barak must deliver on a strong social platform that will reconnect them to the Labor party (now called One Israel), from which they have been alienated for decades.

Barak acknowledges the role played by Shas in meeting social needs, but he wants to make Shas services a choice rather than the only game in town. He speaks of introducing a longer school day in the public school system, universal early childhood programs, and better student loan programs for higher education. At the same time, he speaks of including core subjects like science, math and citizenship in the Shas schools as a condition of public funding.

Shira Herzog in Toronto

To many observers, this sounds like a revival of the Israeli welfare state of old. But Barak sees himself operating in the mould of Tony Blair's Third Way. He wants to reincarnate the Labor party as Israel's "new" Labor, incorporating elements of a strong market orientation along with a new social program that can meet the challenge of the weaker elements in Israeli society.

To do so effectively will likely require far-reaching tax reform that will reconstruct some of the basic building blocks of government intervention in the marketplace and society. Several such proposals have been put before Barak, including a comprehensive plan drafted by a prominent task force at the independent Institute for Social Policy Research in Jerusalem.

The constitutional challenge is no less daunting. Barak has firmly stated that the rule of law and democratic norms come first and foremost on his agenda. In the absence of a constitution, Israel has passed a series of Basic Laws guaranteeing a series of human and civil rights.

The passage of several of these laws has been delayed due to the fundamental conflict between the religious and secular visions of the state and its relation to its citizens. Barak is sensitive to the fact that while many Israelis resent the mix of religion and politics, they also do not want a complete separation of religion from the state. In other words, they want some definition of a Jewish state to be a fundamental plank of their sovereign existence.

The tough question is how to incorporate this into a constitutional framework that has to pass the test of a secular democratic framework, and how to do so without increasing the divisiveness that already exists around these issues.

Barak faces two immediate political challenges that are related to this agenda. In the last year, the Supreme Court has thrown two hot issues back into the legislative arena.

The first is the exemption from military service for yeshiva students. Barak has six months in which to draft a new compromise that will be acceptable to his religious coalition partners, but will also deal with the widespread public resentment and his own election promise to revise the current situation.

The second is the issue of conversions to Judaism in the state of Israel. Barak has to introduce legislation reflecting the Ne'eman committee compromise or the issue will go back to the high court.

As in similar Canadian cases, the court has rejected the status quo as being incompatible with the newer Basic Laws that have been passed. This position, and the inherent activism of the current chief justice, Aharon Barak, have led to vitriolic criticism of the courts by haredi leaders. For Prime Minister Barak, these will be early test cases of the new spirit he wishes to bring to these profound debates.

Existential challenge of the panhandler

In mid-June the *Globe and Mail* ran two consecutive opinion pieces on attitudes to panhandlers. The first article expressed a very clear position against giving any handouts. The arguments are well known: The money will not solve their problem but rather increase their dependency. They will probably use the money for booze or drugs. We pay enough taxes as it is; the state should be addressing the problems of the poor. Socialists would tell me regularly that they did not believe in giving charity because it just propped up the capitalist system, which is probably true … And so on. There are plenty of reasons not to give.

Morton Weinfeld in Montreal

The second article was designed to counterbalance the first. It was the story of a middle class Canadian university student in Europe, trying to get to an airport to catch a plane home. She ran short of cash, and suddenly her bank card did not work either. So she was forced to solicit money from strangers to get the cab fare to make it to the airport. That harrowing experience sensitized her from then on to the plight of the homeless and needy, and so today she gives.

Neither article was satisfying from a Judaic perspective, though the second resonated far more than the first. The first was too mean-spirited, plain and simple. Policy wonks can debate how to reduce poverty rates and the link between dependency and other social factors. But seeing an outstretched palm asking for spare change is an existential, moral dilemma. We choose to give, or not to give.

But the second article also posed problems for me. The unintended implication was somehow that if the student's bank card had worked that fateful day, she would not have become sensitized to the poor. Her story actually reminded me of the biblical injunction that Jews care for the less fortunate because we Jews had the previous experience of being slaves in Egypt and strangers in a foreign land.

But think of the implications of this kind of reciprocal morality. Suppose we Jews had not been slaves in Egypt, nor strangers in a foreign land. Would we Jews, like the student and most Canadians, then have to respond to existential challenges of the outstretched palm in a moral vacuum? To give or not to give?

Actually, Judaism offers us a moral safety net. We do not have to concern ourselves with the motivations or excessive cost-benefit analysis of giving to the poor, or of doing a good deed. The perspective of the Jewish religious tradition is clear, even had we never been slaves or known misery. For these are mitzvot, or commandments. We have no choice. Assuming we can afford it, we must give to the panhandler in the street. (We can do other things as well to solve social problems, but political work does not absolve us of the imperative to help at that moment…)

So for some people, the fact that we Jews have known suffering and poverty makes the injunction to help the less fortunate more understandable. But the bottom line is that Jews are commanded to do these good deeds, and the more of them we do, the better. In fact, the poor person asking us for a hand-out is doing us a favor, by enabling us to fulfil one more commandment. So when we give, we are seizing an opportunity for ourselves as much as we are helping someone out.

I learned all this from my late father. He had the habit of trying to have spare change in his pocket when he went out, lest he come across a needy person. He also taught me the lovely custom of giving a traveller a dollar to give to the first beggar she might see at her destination. This transforms the traveller into a shaliach mitzvah, or messenger of mercy, and would grant her a safe journey in order to carry out your good deed.

So do I always give? Of course not. I will admit I have particular problems giving to young able bodied well-behaved men, though I sometimes do. And I know that on occasion I have been hustled by semi-professional old women and young children, for whom panhandling is a chosen way of life. Like everyone else I am too rushed to stop. Or if I have already given once, I feel that is my quota for the day. And so on.

Yet every time I do not give, I feel a pang of guilt. Which, I suppose, is also a Jewish response of sorts.

The Kirshner File

Settlements generate fierce controversy

Jewish settlements in the disputed territories will probably top the agenda when Israel and the Palestinian Authority finally and belatedly launch permanent status negotiations on a wide range of crucial issues.

Sheldon Kirshner in Toronto

Israel's prime minister-elect, the Labor party's Ehud Barak, is acutely aware that settlements generate controversy. Even as he struggled to cobble together a government, the issue surfaced repeatedly.

A day after the May 17 election, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's lame-duck government approved a plan to extend the boundaries of Ma'ale Adumim, the largest settlement in the West Bank. The announcement enraged the Palestinians. They warned Barak that peace talks could not be resumed without a halt to settlement activity.

Settlements also precipitated heated and protracted exchanges during Barak's coalition talks with potential coalition partners. Meretz, the left-wing party, insisted on a settlement freeze, while the right-wing National Religious Party was equally insistent on the need to preserve and maintain settlements.

As these disagreements flared, there was speculation that Barak would curtail settlement construction and suspend the preferential economic benefits currently enjoyed by settlers.

But in a counterpoint to these reports, Barak said that he had strong emotional ties to the West Bank, and that he fully intended to establish settlement blocs there.

However one reads the political tea leaves, settlements have been a source of bitter division in Israeli politics since the Six Day War.

Within months of Israel's victory, the Labor party government, headed by Prime Minister Levi Eshkol, authorized the building of settlements in the West Bank, with the proviso that they be located in sparsely populated Palestinian areas. His successors, Golda Meir and Yitzhak Rabin, shared this outlook for strategic and sentimental reasons.

Shortly after the 1967 war, Israel offered to relinquish the bulk of the territories in return for peace. But with the Khartoum Declaration, the Arab states made it abundantly clear that they were neither prepared to recognize Israel's existence nor to enter into peace talks with Israel. As a result, the Israeli government continued to create "facts on the ground."

At the United Nations, Israel was accused of contravening the 1949 Fourth Geneva Convention, which forbids the transfer of an occupying power's civilian population to the area under its control.

Menachem Begin, the first Likud prime minister, was not concerned with such niceties. He built many new settlements, not only in the West Bank but also in the Gaza Strip, the Sinai Peninsula and the Golan Heights.

At the Labor party's insistence, the building boom in the territories slowed during the era of national unity governments from 1984 to 1990. But when the Labor party pulled out of the coalition, Likud accelerated the pace of construction.

Rabin, the prime minister from 1992 to 1995, and his successor, Shimon Peres, who lost the 1996 election, imposed a partial building freeze and withdrew the settlers' privileges – notably tax breaks and low-interest mortgages. But Rabin, distinguishing between dispensable "political" settlements and strategically vital "security" settlements, constructed new outposts around Jerusalem and along the Green Line, as well as bypass roads to skirt Palestinian towns.

By Netanyahu's estimation, the settlements expanded by 50 percent during this period, when Israel reportedly sank nearly $500 million into the territories and the Jewish population of the West Bank (and the Gaza Strip) grew from roughly 100,000 to 140,000.

Far more ideologically committed to the settlers than either of his two predecessors, Netanyahu reinstated the benefits they had cancelled, but resisted entreaties to erect new settlements. Instead, he decided to enlarge existing ones.

The Oslo agreements theoretically place no restrictions on settlements, but Netanyahu realized that an official, full-blown settlement drive might well touch off another Palestinian rebellion, destroy the peace process – which he had grudgingly accepted – and alienate the United States, Israel's major ally.

Be that as it may, the Jewish population in the West Bank rose, reaching 172,000 by the end of 1998, and housing starts doubled. Netanyahu pushed the limits of settlement expansion, although his communications director, David Bar-Ilan, claimed that "not one square inch is being added to any settlements."

In an effort to appease constituents on the far right, Netanyahu promised them that all Jewish settlements would remain under Israel's administration, even after a final agreement with the Palestinians was signed.

Throughout his term of office, Netanyahu continually rejected American demands for a freeze, or "time-out," as U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright described it. He based his rejection on the grounds that Israel was merely accommodating "natural growth."

Yet U.S. intelligence data leaked to Israeli newspapers painted a completely different picture. By Washington's reckoning, 25 percent of homes in West Bank settlements were empty. Comparable figures for Gaza and the Golan were 50 percent and 25 percent, respectively.

Ariel Sharon

As his shaky government floundered in the wake of the 1998 Wye memorandum, under which he had agreed to withdraw from a further 13 percent of the West Bank, Netanyahu turned a blind eye to land grabs carried out by radical fringes of the settler movement.

At least 19 new settlements, usually consisting of scattered caravans, sprang up in the months following Wye.

The settlers were encouraged and egged on by Foreign Minister Ariel Sharon. Urging them to seize hilltops, he had grandly predicted that 20,000 more Jews would live in the West Bank by the end of 1999.

Sharon's motives were crystal clear: to break up the geographic continuity of the West Bank and thus make it impossible for the Palestinians to establish a viable and contiguous state.

"It is a systematic, stepped-up campaign to confiscate more land," charged Palestinian spokesperson Hanan Ashrawi. "They will build enough settlements to fill the West Bank with Israelis, then there won't be a need for final status negotiations."

Indifferent to Palestinian concerns, Netanyahu made a point of expressing unequivocal support for the settlers. "We have done a lot, and we will do a lot more," he said on the eve of the election, in a transparent bid to curry favor with them and their allies.

Not surprisingly, Netanyahu's settlement policy strained Israel's pivotal relationship with the United States.

Washington has consistently hewed to the view that unilateral actions are imprudent, because they sour the atmosphere and prejudge and predetermine the outcome of negotiations.

Several months ago, in a harsh rejoinder to Israel, Dennis Ross, Washington's special envoy to the Mideast, called settlement activity "destructive" to the peace process.

Israel's settlement policy will face still further scrutiny later this month when a United Nations conference in Geneva is scheduled to tackle this contentious question.

Once again, Israel will come under fierce pressure to put an end to a policy which has antagonized friends and foes alike since the Six Day War.

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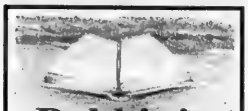

Days of mourning

By RABBI AARON FLANZRAICH

This week, as we commence the observance of the three weeks that commemorates the beginning of the destruction of the first and second Temples, we begin one of the most tragic periods of Jewish life.

Starting with the 17th of Tammuz, there are a number of powerful customs that have been adopted as law, to enforce a national observance of loss and mourning. For this reason, you will be hard pressed to find Jewish couples that celebrate a wedding anniversary at this time of year, because weddings are prohibited.

Yet, the Talmud offers a puzzling question about one of these observances. It has been a nearly 2,000-year custom not to launder clothing during the final nine days leading to Tisha b'Av – the actual day of the Temples' destruction.

In this day and age, this is not as severe a decree as it was in the time it developed into a practice. Clothing was a precious commodity, and people didn't have closets filled with shirts, pants and suits waiting to be worn. However, since the beginning of time, there have always been the "haves" and the "have nots," those who have been blessed with material abundance and those who struggle to make ends meet.

A classic confrontation

So the Talmud asks this question: "What if during this time of mourning, all a person had was one shirt? Could he then wash it?" The debate takes many twists and turns, and it is complicated by the original idea that a person – every person – should have clean clothes for Shabbat.

Yet, in spite of all the lines drawn to keep and enforce this important time of mourning, one problem does not go away – the question of "What if all a person had was one shirt?" So imagine this: Imagine, that in the hot and steamy time of August in the Middle East when the sweat rolls off you, not in the middle of the afternoon but in the morning, your shirt becomes soiled and wet. After a day or two, you become embarrassed to walk the street because of the smell and appearance.

Herein lies the classic confrontation: What do we do when the demands of humanity confront the demands of the law? In the end, through a legal loophole of sorts, the sages permitted the one-shirt person to wash his clothing.

In our own time also, we cannot only be concerned with the narrow observance of our laws as if they fulfil the totality of Judaism's spirit. Because they don't. In a world filled with inhumanity, to both Jews and non-Jews alike, we need to remember the powerful lesson of what these days of mourning teach us, and what humanity demands from us.

Rabbi Flanzraich is spiritual leader of the Beth Sholom Synagogue in Toronto.

Lists, lists and more lists

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

Do you want to give your kids a quality Jewish education at home but don't know anybody else who's trying to do the same thing? **[http://www.geocities.com/Athens/Agora/7633/JewishHomeSchoolers.html]**.

Are you a descendant of Spanish and Portuguese Jews who were forced to convert under duress? **[http://members.tripod.com/~anak/anusim.htm]**. Or would you like a synopsis of the Torah reading mailed to you weekly? **[http://www.ohr.org.il/web/sub.htm]** No problem. There's an e-mail list for you.

Last week, we looked at one of the most powerful and interesting areas of the Jewish Highway, e-mail lists. Today, where to find lists on practically any topics, how to create one of your own, and how you can join in, even if you don't have your own Internet account.

Most of the major Jewish sites host dozens or hundreds of lists.

Virtual Jerusalem **[http://www.virtual.co.il/city_services/lists/]** has over 100 lists. For example, "Passing Phrase" will appeal to people interested in idiomatic Hebrew as spoken by Israelis. There's a Shiduch list and there's Mishkan Ohelim, a list for people interested in what happened to "the over 20,000 children of Yemenite, Eastern, and Balkan backgrounds during the founding years of the State of Israel."

Shamash hosts over 300 lists **[http://shamash.org/help/listoflists.html]** including Rikud for fans of Israeli folkdancing, Kol-Isha for halachic questions concerning women's roles in Judaism, and Habonet, a place where Habonim alumni can swap notes and memories. I particularly like Shamash because they archive most past correspondence so you can catch up the discussion so far.

"Jewishnet" **[http://www.jewishnet.net/services/lis.htm]** does not operate its own lists. Rather, it has assembled a convenient listing of hundreds of Jewish lists from all over the Internet. You will find some duplication between its contents and the other Jewish lists.

What do you do if you want to join an online community, have access to the Internet but cannot get your own e-mail account? That's no problem because of the numerous Internet sites that will provide you with a free e-mail address. The most famous provider of free accounts is Hotmail **[http://hotmail.com]** but for more free e-mail providers, see the long list at Free Stuff **[http://www.1freestuff.com/e-mail/accounts.shtml]**.

Recently, some Jewish and Israeli-based companies also got into the act with their own brands of free e-mail with names like JewishMail **[http://www.jewishmail.com]** or Virtual Jerusalem **[http://login.virtualjerusalem.com/]**.

These free e-mail accounts differ from standard ones because your (secure) mail is stored on a computer somewhere else in the world. With your password, you are able to check your mail and compose correspondence from anywhere. These accounts really are free but you'll usually have to wade through some advertising before you can read your mail.

Still hunting for that perfect e-mail list? Try searching the List of Lists **[http://catalog.com/vivian/interest-group-search.html]**, CataList **[http://www.lsoft.com/lists/listref.html]**, and Liszt **[http://www.liszt.com/]**. (Get it, "Liszt"?) OneList is an excellent site that makes it very easy to search for, and subscribe to lists **[http://www.onelist.com/]**. I came up with over 100 lists when I searched for the word "Israel" and more than 200 for "Jewish."

There's a list for the discussion of business ethics from a Jewish perspective, a list for fans of the singer Debbie Friedman, and another to explore the genealogy of the name Gottesman. If your name isn't Gottesman, or you want to create a list on just about any other topic, you can do it for free through OneList. You're bound to strike a conversation with somebody, somewhere.

***

Mark Mietkiewicz is a Toronto-based television producer who writes, lectures and teaches about the Jewish Internet. He can be contacted at [mdm@inforamp.net].

BETH JACOB BAT MITZVAH CLASS

The girls in Beth Jacob V'Anshei Drildz' 1999 bat mitzvah class are seen here with their tapestry/chupah cover.

Peace now has a chance

By SIMON ROSENBLUM

Guest Voices

Ehud Barak, Israel's next prime minister, not only received a strong mandate to vigorously pursue the peace process, but also has the opportunity of putting together a broad based government without being held to ransom by any of the parties that might be part of a new governing coalition. With such an opportunity of course, comes a great responsibility.

The peace process is, without doubt, the major beneficiary of the May election. Benjamin Netanyahu's commitment to Oslo was thin at best, and — aided at times by Yasser Arafat's less than fulsome implementation of Palestinian security obligations — he successfully wrestled the peace process into the ground. The implications of his election were clear. When the election campaign began last year, the centrist Israeli newspaper *Ma'ariv* editorialized: "If the right wins, the peace process will sink into the deep mud."

But how much different are the peace and security policies of Ehud Barak and his newly elected One Israel government? Casual observations of the six-month-long election campaign would have led one to conclude that the differences between Barak and Netanyahu were more of style than substance. Clearly, they both waged American-style campaigns whose primary emphasis was chasing down the undecided voter. Consequently, politics was drawn to the centre from almost all quarters.

Yet, it would be a big error to mistake this for policy congruence. The differences between Netanyahu and Barak with regards to the peace process are significant both in attitude and in substance. Attitude is crucial. Barak is clearly pro-Oslo, and is determined to conclude both a final status agreement with the Palestinians, and hopefully, also a deal with Syria. Pro-Oslo forces will clearly bring new life and momentum to the peace process, and will negotiate positively, not negatively, since they do not see negotiations as a zero sum game.

As for policy specifics, Barak, speaking on Israel's television Channel 2 on April 11, outlined the four "red lines" of his party's approach toward a final agreement with the Palestinians: Jerusalem will remain united as Israel's eternal capital; there will be no return to the pre-1967 borders; there will be no foreign or Palestinian army west of the Jordan river; and most Jewish residents of the West Bank will live in large settlement blocks under Israeli sovereignty.

Without being overly sanguine, one can note that nothing in the above need necessarily block the conclusion of a just and lasting peace. Back in 1995, senior Israeli and Palestinian officials, Yossi Beilin and Abu Mazen, worked out a framework for reaching a final status agreement, which would have had Israel turn over 90 percent of the West Bank to a largely demilitarized Palestinian state, and would have a small Palestinian village, Abu Dis on the outskirts of Jerusalem, serve as the capital of this new Palestinian state.

Under this arrangement, 70 percent of the Israeli settlers would then be within Israel's new borders, and Palestinians living within a politically and geographically undivided Jerusalem would be able to be citizens of the newly created Palestinian state.

Suffice to say, none of Barak's four red lines are in direct conflict with the Beilin/Mazen plan. Negotiations will indeed be tough and undoubtedly there will be the occasional breakdown. Barak – as would any Israeli prime minister – will properly insist that the Palestinian Authority fulfil all of their obligations. The difference now will be that the Israeli demand for reciprocity will not be an excuse for sabotaging the peace process.

Barak will be welcomed into a permissive atmosphere for peace. Arafat and the Palestinian Authority will surely not want to jeopardize what may be Oslo's last chance. They will likely have their hands full as Hamas and other Islamic fundamentalist groups will, no doubt, do their best to sabotage the conclusion of a peace agreement. On the Israeli side, Barak will be given considerable room to negotiate since – according to the recent Peace Index of the Tami Steinmetz Centre for Peace Research at Tel Aviv University – 55 percent of Israelis now believe that the Palestinians *deserve* their own independent state, and 69 percent believe that such an outcome is a natural conclusion to the peace process.

When Barak goes to the Israeli public with a referendum on a final status deal, as he has committed to do, he will likely find that Israelis are willing to be generous with territorial concessions as long as they perceive the Palestinians as being generous in the fulfilment of their security obligations. Peace cannot be made on the cheap by either side. What has now changed, is that both sides will be bargaining in good faith. Peace now has a chance.

Simon Rosenblum, a Toronto-based foreign policy writer is national co-president of Canadian Friends of Peace Now.

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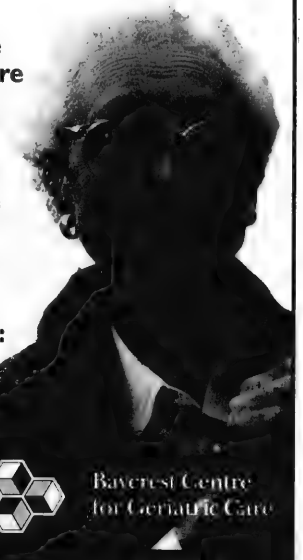

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Photos honor Swiss war hero

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The largely unsung heroism of a man described as an angel of mercy is the subject of a remarkable photo exhibit at the Bathurst Jewish Centre.

Visas for Life, a collection of about two dozen black and white photos, documents the efforts of Carl Lutz, who saved 62,000 Hungarian Jews from Hitler's clutches in wartime Budapest – a fact often eclipsed by the more famous actions of Swedish diplomat Raoul Wallenberg, who is credited with rescuing 100,000 Hungarian Jews from certain death.

From 1942 to 1945, Lutz was in charge of the foreign interests section of the Swiss diplomatic mission in Budapest, representing not only Switzerland but some Allied countries at war with the Nazis.

As deputy consul of the Swiss legation, he negotiated with the Nazis to permit the emigration of anyone holding immigration papers to Palestine.

Later, he issued Jews thousands of so-called safe conduct documents, and placed their holders in safe houses protected by Swiss neutrality.

He later worked with Wallenberg, who also issued false documents. But unlike Wallenberg, who was dispatched to Budapest by his government, Lutz worked without his superiors' knowledge.

Carl Lutz's daughter, Agnes Hirschi, before a photo of her father. [Ron Csillag photo]

On hand at the exhibit's opening last week were Switzerland's ambassador to Canada, Urs Ziswiler, and Agnes Hirschi, Lutz' adopted daughter, who came from Switzerland.

Hirschi recounted that as a child of six in 1944, she, her brother and mother were hidden by Lutz in the cellar of the British legation in Budapest for three months.

After the war, Lutz divorced his wife and married Hirschi's mother, Magda.

Lutz, who died in 1975 at the age of 80, was designated by Yad Vashem as Righteous Among the Nations. In 1963, the city of Haifa named a street for him.

The exhibit showcases the devastation visited on Budapest in the war's later stages. Many of the family-owned pictures show a dapper Lutz with his stunned-looking charges.

The exhibit, sponsored by the Bathurst Jewish Centre and the Canadian Society for Yad Vashem, in co-operation with the Swiss consulate in Toronto and Pro Helvetica, the Cultural Council of Switzerland, runs through July 15 in the BJC's lobby atrium.

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Beth Avraham Yoseph (O)	613 Clark Ave. W. (905) 886-3810	7:00 PM	8:45 AM	7:00, 8:00 & 8:45 AM	6:45 & 7:30 AM	8:50 PM
Beth Emeth (C)	100 Elder St. (416) 633-3838	7:00 PM	8:45 AM	7:30 & 8:30 AM	7:30 & 8:15 AM	8:55 PM
Beth Tikvah (C)	3080 Bayview Ave. (416) 221-3433	6:00 PM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	7:15 AM	7:30 PM
Holy Blossom (R)	1950 Bathurst St. (416) 789-3291	6:00 PM	10:30 AM	9:00 AM	----------	6:00 PM
Ohr Somayach / JEP (south) (O)	2939 Bathurst St. (416) 785-5899	7:00 PM	8:30 AM	7:45 AM	Mon. Thurs. 6:35 Tues. Wed. Fri. 6:45	8:50 PM
Shaar Shalom (C)	2 Simonston Blvd. (905) 889-4975	7:00 PM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	7:00 AM	7:00 PM
Shaarei Shomayim (O)	470 Glencairn Ave. (416) 789-3213	7:00 PM	9:00 AM	7:30 AM	7:30 AM	8:50 PM
Village Shul (O)	1072 Eglinton Ave. W. (416) 785-1107	7:00 PM	8:45 AM	8:00 AM	7:00 AM	8:50 PM

This is not a comprehensive listing of the synagogues in the Greater Toronto area. The information is provided by the Vaad Haraboanim of Toronto and the Toronto Board of Rabbis. The Vaad and the Board will periodically revise the listings. For statutory holidays, please call the Synagogue for any changes in times.

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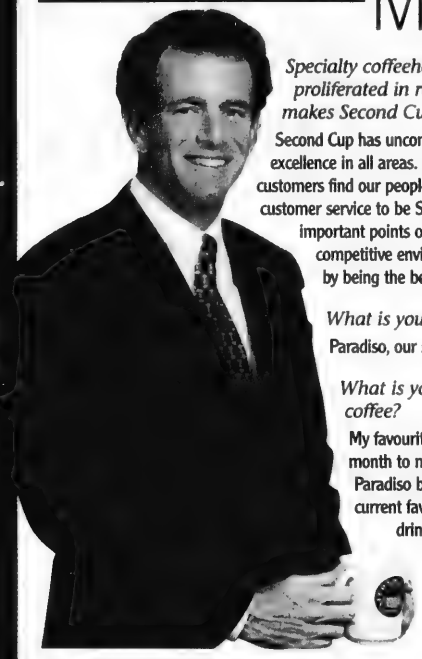
Our PEOPLE

An interview with Michael Bregman *Chairman and CEO, The Second Cup Ltd.*



Specialty coffeehouses have proliferated in recent years. What makes Second Cup unique?

Second Cup has uncompromising commitment to excellence in all areas. Research tells us that customers find our people at store level and our customer service to be Second Cup's most important points of difference in a competitive environment. We can only win by being the best at satisfying customers.

What is your biggest seller?

Paradiso, our signature brand.

What is your favourite cup of coffee?

My favourites tend to vary from month to month. I often drink Paradiso but Sumatra is one of my current favourites. The new espresso drinks are also outstanding.

How many cups of coffee do you sell each year in Canada?

Approximately 1 million cups of coffee per week. (Editor's note: At 52 million cups of coffee per year, Second Cup serves enough of its premium specialty coffees to fill over 40 Olympic-size swimming pools).

What is your busiest location?

Several stores compete for #1 status. Included are Bayview & York Mills in Toronto and St. Catherine near Peel in Montreal.

What characteristics do you most admire in others?

Always acting with integrity and compassion for people in need.

Briefly tell us about the Second Cup "Foster Parents" program.

Second Cup stores donate money through the Foster Parents program to help provide proper nutrition and education for needy children in coffee-producing countries . We believe strongly in the importance of social responsibility. This is one example.

What is your favourite Israeli vacation memory?

We hope to create some new favourite memories when we visit Israel with our children this summer.

What role does Israel play in your life?

I regard Israel as another homeland and I feel all Jews should have a close association with Israel.

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On Campus

University presidents join study visit to Israel

OTTAWA — Eighteen Canadian university presidents and the president of the Council of Ontario Universities left June 27 for a 10-day study visit to Israel.

The trip is organized by Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) and is being led by CJC past president Prof. Irving Abella. This is the second time that CJC has sponsored a visit to Israel by university presidents.

The heads of the following universities are participating: Brock, Concordia, Dalhousie, McMaster, Mount Saint Vincent, Nipissing, Queen's, Ryerson Polytechnic, St. Francis Xavier, University of Alberta, University of Calgary, University of Guelph, University of King's College, University of Manitoba, University of Regina, University of Windsor, University of Winnipeg and Wilfred Laurier University.

Abella, who headed up CJC's first trip in 1994, was pleased at the response to CJC's invitation.

"Ever since the highly successful 1994 visit, we have made it a priority to take another group. We believed that a new group of participants would find the experience equally as important and we are thrilled that so many have accepted our invitation."

Said CJC president Moshe Ronen: "Study visits like these present an invaluable opportunity for discourse, exchange and learning that could set the stage for

Organized by CJC

future joint activity between Canadian and Israeli universities.

"Israel is home to some of the finest academic institutions in the world and Canadian Jewish Congress is delighted to be able to facilitate contacts between them and Canadian universities."

The tour is slated to visit all seven Israeli universities and one academic college. Participants are also scheduled to visit Bethlehem University in the Palestinian territory.

Other highlights include a tour of Jerusalem, a meeting with the Chief Justice of Israel and with Israeli president Ezer Weizman, a visit to the Golan Heights and the upper Galilee, and a Canada Day reception at the residence of the Canadian ambassador.

Irving Abella

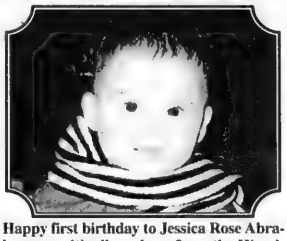
מזל טוב Mazel Tov

We cannot guarantee the date a picture will appear. Please limit all greetings to 25 typewritten words. We reserve the right to edit all items and condense any that are longer than that.

Label the back of all photos and enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope for return. Send all your photos to *The CJN*, Mazel Tov, 1500 Don Mills Rd., Suite 205, North York, Ont., M3B 3K4.

Happy first birthday Ashley Bercovitch from parents Carey & Ravit and delighted grandparents Jack & Marilyn Bercovitch and Mayer & Dalia Shoval.

Lillian & Martin Wagman are thrilled to announce their first child, Michael Eric. Ecstatic grandparents are Agi & Tom Foldes, Zelda & Bill Wagman.



Happy first birthday to Jessica Rose Abrahamson with all our love, from the Himelsteins and the Abrahamsons.

Happy first birthday to Ethan Akerman from parents Shawna & Monty, grandparents Becky & Jerry, aunts Julie and Tara, and Uncle J.J.

Happy second birthday to a special girl, Simone Elgrichi. Hugs and kisses from Mommy, Daddy, big sister Rebecca, and the Elgrichi/Bisgould family.

Congratulations to Allison on her bat mitzvah. Lots of love from parents, grandparents, Elena, Lance and all your family and friends.

Mazel tov to Seth Ronald on his bar mitzvah from parents Goldie & Bruce, sister Kayla, and grandparents Mike & Miriam Rabovsky.

Mazel tov Jennifer Blitzer on your bat mitzvah. We are proud of you and we love you, your Imi & Popsi Blitzer.

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פון אַלעק סילווער

איר האָט שוין אַוודאי געהערט, געזען און געלייענט איבער-גענוג וועגן דער קומענדיקער געשעעניש — מילעניום (טויזנט יאָר). די גאַנצע וועלט מאַכט אַזאַ גרויסן צימעס פון דעם, פונקט ווי עס וואָלט געווען דער צווייטער בריאת העולם. די פרעסע, ראַדיאָ און טעלעוויזיע קלאַפּן שוין אַ גאַנץ יאָר וועגן דער דאַטע פון 1־טן יאַנואַר, 2000. די וועלט גייט יאָ אונטער, די וועלט גייט נישט אונ-טער. יעדער האַלבער נביא, שטערנזעער, קאָרטן־וואַרפער, טיי-בלעטעלעך לייענער, טעלעפּאַט און פאָרויסזעער וויל צוטראָגן זיינע נביאות, וואָס עס וועט פּאַסירן אין דעם נייעם יאָרהונדערט. טאָמער וועט עס נישט פּאַסירן — נו, נעם אים אין „סאָנד" אַריין.

די טעכנאָלאָגישע ספּעציאַליסטן וואַרפן אָן אַ מורא אויף דער וועלט, אַז די קאָמפּיוטערס וועלן מאַכן אַ טעות צוליב די צוויי נולן אין דער דאַטע און קענען, חס וחלילה, אָפּשטעלן דעם לויף פון דער וועלט. וואָס וועלן מענטשן טאָן?. . . עראָפּלאַנען וועלן נישט פליען, די בענק וועלן נישט קענען אַרויסגעבן קיין געלט, מען וועט נישט קענען פּראָדוצירן קיין פילמען, די באַנען און לאַסט־אויטאָס וועלן נישט קענען ברענגען קיין שפּייז אאַ"וו אאַ"וו. כאָאָס וועט הערשן איבער דער וועלט. נישטאָ קיין אַנדערע ברירה, נאָר זיך לייגן שלאָפן און וואַרטן ביז דער קאָמפּיוטער וועט זיך „אויסהיילן" און אַלץ וועט ווידעראַמאָל ווערן נאָרמאַל. ווילט זיך פרעגן: וואָס האָבן מענטשן געטאָן ביים סוף פון ערשטן מילעניום, ווען זיי האָבן נישט געהאַט די קאָמפּיוטערס מיט די אַלע „גוטע זאַכן"? . . .

אַן אַנדערער וויכוח גייט אָן: איז דאָס יאָר 2000 דער אָנהויב פון דריטן מילעניום, אָדער דאָס לעצטע יאָר פון צווייטן מילעניום? פרעג איך אייך: צי איז אייך אַ חילוק, וואָס עס איז. אַבי דאָס יאָר קומט און מיר זאָלן עס דערלעבן. צום באַדויערן זיינען מיר, יידן, אַן אינטעגראַלער טייל פון דער פינאַנציעלער, וויסנשאַפטלעכער, עקאָנאָמישער און טעכנאָלאָגישער וועלט, וואָס איז אָפּהענגיק פון דעם קריסטלעכן „גרעגאָריאַן" קאַלענדאַר. איך וויל נישט אַרויפ-וואַרפן די שולד אויף קיינעם, אָבער מיר, יידן, זיינען זיך אַליין שול-דיק. וואָלט צווישן אונדז נישט געבוירן געוואָרן דער קריסטלעכער גאָט, וואָלטן זיינע אָנהענגערס נישט אָפּגעצייכנט דעם טאָג ווי אַן אָנהויב פון אַ קאַלענדאַר, וואָלטן מיר היינט נישט געשטאַנען פאַר אַזאַ פאַרלעגנהייט. אָבער דאָס קענען מיר שוין נישט ענדערן.

לויט דער וויסנשאַפט עקזיסטירט שוין די וועלט איבער 4 ביליאָן יאָר — טאָ וואָס שפּילט אַ ראָלע 2000 יאָר? לויט דער זעל-בער טעאָריע האָט דער מענטש „זיך אויסגעגליכן אויף צוויי פיס" (אין קעגנזאַץ צו אַ מאַלפּע, וואָס גייט אויף אַלע פיר) מיט אַרום הונדערט טויזנט יאָר צוריק. נו, שרעקט ער זיך פונקט אין לעצטן יאָר פון 2000? וואָס איז געווען אין די אַנדערע 99 טויזנט יאָר?. . . עס איז נישט צו פאַרשטיין.

אויב ס'איז אמת, אַז די וועלט וועט אונטערגיין אין יאָר 2000, איז די פראַגע: צי וואַרט דער וועלט־באַשאַפער אויף אַ קיילעכדיקן ציפער? וואַרט ער פונקט אויף דריי נולן, וואָס זאָלן נאָכפאָלגן אַ 2? וועלט־אונטערגאַנג איז זיכער נישט אָפּהענגיק פון אַ דאַטע אויפן קאַלענדאַר. ווען גאָט וועט זען, אַז ער קען שוין „מער נישט אויס-האַלטן" פון זיינע קינדער אויף דער ערד, קען ער דאָס טאָן אין יעדן יאָר. אָבער ער האָט צוגעזאָגט, אַז ער וועט נישט אומברענגען די וועלט. איך קענט רואיק שלאָפן. מילעניום, שמילעניום . . .

דער קריסטלעכער קאַלענדאַר איז נאָר איינער פון אַ ריי קאַ-לענדאַרן. לויט די אַרכיוון זיינען די עגיפּטער געווען די ערשטע צו שאַפן אַ קאַלענדאַר אין יאָר 4241 פאַר דער איצטיקער צייט רעכע-נונג. יידן האָבן נאָכגעפאָלגט אין יאָר 3760, איז אפשר זאָל די וועלט נוצן אַנדערע קאַלענדאַרן און נישט זיין אָפּהענגיק פון „גרע-גאָריאַן" קאַלענדאַר. איך דער זעלבער נאָכט, ווען די גלעקער אין דער מערב־וועלט וועלן אויסקלינגען דאָס יאָר 2000, וועט אין דער אויסלאַמישער וועלט זיין דאָס יאָר 1421; די זאָראָאַסטריענס וועלן לעבן אין יאָר 2390; אין כינע וועט מען אָפּצייכענען די דאַטע פון 4698 (דאָס יאָר פון פּיפּערנאָטער) און אין ירושלים וועלן מיר האָבן אַריינגעטראָטן אין יאָר 5760.

אין אונדזער עלטער וועלן מיר שוין קיין סך נישט געניסן פון דריטן מילעניום. מיר זיינען אויך זיכער, אַז אין אונדזער עלטער וועלן מיר מער נישט געשטעלט ווערן פאַר אַזאַ דילעמע ווי דער אומבייט פון אַ מילעניום. אפשר האָבן זיי אין הימל מילעניומס?. . .

טאָמער ווילט איר פייערן די נאָכט פון 31־סטן דעצעמבער, 1999, איז מהיכא־תיתי, קיינער וועט אייך נישט שטערן. מילעניום, שמילעניום, די וועלט גייט יאָ אונטער, זי גייט נישט אונטער. אויב איר ווילט טרינקען, עסן, טאַנצן און זינגען — זאָל עס אייך וואויל באַקומען. האָפנטלעך וועלן מיר זיך טרעפן אין יאָר 2000.

Scene in Ottawa

By G.K. SIMCOE

Most political pundits expected a dramatic cabinet shuffle immediately upon the prime minister's return from Europe. Speculation was rampant about who was in, who was out, and who was way out.

Sergio Marchi, for instance, was expected to leave politics altogether, and accept a diplomatic posting to Rome. Similarly, Marcel Massé was touted for an ambassadorial appointment to Paris.

Lloyd Axworthy, John Manley and Paul Martin were rumored to be involved in a round of musical cabinet chairs and Diane Marleau was headed for the Senate. The list goes on, but that is beside the point.

The issue of a cabinet shuffle is not nearly as much about the fortunes of a group of aspirants as it is about what Jean Chrétien's personal plans are for the immediate future.

If he plans on retiring, then it is reasonable to expect that some of his closest allies, like Marchi, would also move on to greener pastures.

If, on the other hand the prime minister is inclined to stay and engage the separatists in Quebec one last time, then he may be in the process of organizing the strategic plan for the federalists' forces. In this case, a shuffle would only be a distraction and blurr the focus on the battle plan.

A third possibility is that the prime minister is very worried about the growing trend within the Liberal caucus to chart a more independent and antagonistic course. Some have suggested that the shuffle has been postponed until after the national caucus meeting in August simply to keep the cabinet wannabees docile.

While only Chrétien and perhaps Jean Pelletier know his plans for sure, these musings are not simply idle speculation.

The Jewish community has invested a considerable amount of energy in developing relationships with various cabinet members. Their political fortunes will have a direct impact on the community's ability to pursue its agenda.

Whether on the issues pertaining to Israel, Jewish hostages in Iran, Holocaust museums, anti-Semitism or charitable donations to religious institutions, those contacts and points of access do matter.

It therefore behooves the community to pay closer attention to these developments and, to the extent possible, anticipate who's in and who's out.

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE REMINDER

Monday, July 5, is deadline for July 15 issue. As there will no issue published July 22, all items that would ordinarily appear July 22 must be included in the July 15 column. Monday, July 19, is deadline for July 29 issue. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Thursday, July 1

COIN LAUNCH

Celebrate Canada Day with the Royal Canadian Mint at Coin Launch Celebration Extravaganza 1-5 p.m. on the street at 607 Danforth Ave. The coin, titled Our Nation of People, celebrates Canada's ethnic and cultural diversity. **Kelly** or **Robyn** 924-5700.

Sunday, July 4

CANADA DAY EVENT

Discovery Children's Museum at the Bathurst Jewish Centre Canada Day event, family fun, clowns, ice cream making, outdoor games, arts and crafts, face painting, singers, bubble-blowing, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. $2 per person. 636-1880, ext. 456.

FESTIVAL ON BLOOR

From noon to 7 p.m., Bloor Street between Spadina and Bathurst will be closed to traffic and open for fun – music, arts and crafts sales and displays, pony rides, kiddie cars, a dunk tank, entertainment for everyone. Festival, organized by the Bloor Jewish Community Centre and the Bloor Bathurst Madison Business Improvement Association, celebrates the ethnic and creative diversity of the Annex. 924-6211.

100 YEARS OF ZIONISM

Entertainment and Cultural Connection and Shaarei Shomayim Brotherhood feature **Jerry Zeidenberg** presenting 100 Years of Zionism: Part 8, Yitzhak Rabin, A Jewish Journey Through the 20th Century (including showing of rare films). 8 p.m. at Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. Co-ordinators **Jerry** and **Sandra Genesove**.

GARAGE SALE

Community garage sale and flea market 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Earl Bales Community Centre and Park. Celebration moves inside community centre during poor weather.

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

Letters between **Margaret Laurence** and **Adele Wiseman** are discussed by the Feminist Book Discussion Group, North York chapter, Older Women's Network, 2 p.m. at North York Community Centre, 505 Lawrence Ave. W. (basement). **Mildred Selznick** 488-2287.

GIANT GARAGE SALE

Soleil chapter of Jewish Women International giant garage sale, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Earl Bales Park. New and slightly used items, books, clothes, toys, odds and ends. All benefits go to charity.

Wednesday, July 7

MAGEN DAVID ADOM

Toronto chapter, Canadian Magen David Adom for Israel (supporting Israel's National Emergency Medical Service) meeting, 7 p.m., 788 Marlee Ave. Interested visitors welcome. **Cheryl**, 780-0034.

And What Else Is New

CHAPTER OF THE YEAR!

Get involved and get together! Great group of Jewish women, 25-35, in Tikvah chapter, Jewish Women International. Monthly speakers, socials, community service, fundraising events. 633-6444.

TEL AIDE VOLUNTEERS

Tel Aide: The Jewish Distress Line is now accepting applications to train volunteers who are sensitive, caring and good listeners for the next six-week training program. Especially needed are volunteers to fill morning and afternoon shifts although some evenings are available. 636-9695.

BB SINGLES LODGE

B'nai Brith Friendship Singles Lodge '50s and '60s party, Sunday, July 11, 7:30 p.m., 15 Hove St. Members $18, non-members $23. Dress in '50s or '60s style and save $2 off admission. Disc jockey, dancing, prizes. RSVP by July 8 to hotline 633-6224, ext. 351.

FREE HELP FOR SENIORS

Are you a senior, 55+, looking after your husband or wife all day? Would you like free volunteer relief? (No physical care provided.) Contact **Paula Mintzberg**, Respite Services co-ordinator, at Bernard Betel Centre, 225-2112, ext. 311.

LEARN TO SPEAK YIDDISH!

Adult Yiddish classes in the summer beginning July. Call the

Continued on page 19

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What's New

Continued from page18

Yiddish Hotline 635-2883, ext. 150 at UJA Federation of Greater Toronto.

NIGHT YESHIVA

Night Yeshiva at Beis Malkeinu, 396 York Hill Blvd., Thornhill. For information regarding courses and dates, 937-5373.

FOR SENIORS

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). July 1, closed for Canada Day; July 8, lecture by **Rosalyn Kurz** on the Holocaust; July 15, talk by **Israel Nutzati** on the Situation in Israel After the Election (note change of program); July 22, trip to the Thousand Islands; July 29, bingo; Sunday, Aug. 1, dance with the Teddy Band, call **Malka Colla** for tickets 630-5771. **Jerry Bengall**, president, 905-707-7334.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: July 27. trip to Kingston, cruise, entertainment; Aug. 25, morning cruise, matinee performance of *Move Over Mrs. Markham* at Gryphon Theatre; Oct. 12, *West Side Story* at Stratford. **Lena** 785-5773. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel, **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

LZA Seniors Club in the Borochov Cultural Centre, 272 Codsell Ave., is open for socializing Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Ladies Folkdancing class Thursdays 1:30 p.m.; Cultural Discussion Group Tuesdays 10 a.m. Register now to see Famous People Players Sensational Lunch and Performance *Leave the Porch Light On* Wednesday, Sept. 29. Contact office 630-9444 or **Libby** 782-2059.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Community garage sale and flea market July 4; Catskills Paramount Hotel July 11-18; Casino Rama July 14, 28, Aug. 11, 25; barbecue party Aug. 15, 2-4 p.m.; ballroom dancing every Thursday morning 10 a.m. 395-7881.

Young at Heart Seniors Catskills trip to kosher Raleigh Hotel (under United States KOU), 10 days, 2 weekends, July 23-Aug. 1, double occupancy $1,399 (Cdn), single $1,675, including tips and gratuities. German restitution accepted. **Helen** 635-6363.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Low Vision Support Group, Tuesday, July 6, 1:15-2:15 p.m. Registered nurse **Janet Taylor** presents General Eye Care and Maintenance.

Parkinson's Fitness Classes: **Karen Shuster**, fitness motivator, leads a series of Creative Movement classes for seniors with Parkinson's Tuesdays 1:15-2:15 p.m., July 6, 20, 27, Aug. 3, 24, 31, Sept. 7. $12:25 for all seven classes. **Ruth Cohen** ext. 105.

A Makeover Madness session Thursday, July 8, with **Tracy Reddick**, cosmetic manager, Shoppers Drug Mart, Thornhill.

Arthritis Management Clinic with **Bev Tobe**, registered therapist with the Arthritis Society, Thursdays 1-4 p.m., July 8, Aug. 5, Sept. 2. Make appointment at the Wellness Desk, ext. 131.

Israeli Club Etrog: Do you speak Hebrew? Join club members every Tuesday at 7 p.m. for movies, lectures, dances, singalongs, bingo, picnics. All programs based on topics of special interest to Israelis and conducted in Hebrew. **Anna** ext. 110.

WAGMAN CENTRE

Wagman Centre, 55 Ameer Ave. For information, call **Mara Swartz** 785-2500, ext. 2275.

Lunch and Learn, Sunday, July 27, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., the third session of Challenges of Successful Aging. Members $3, nonmembers $6. Kosher dairy lunch. Reservations must be made in advance at the Wagman Service Desk.

Barbecue Lunch, Mondays July 5 and 12. Join the Terrace residents in the dining room for a barbecue lunch at noon. $9.40 (tax included) for a hamburger or hot dog with the works, salad, soup and dessert. Ticket must be purchased in advance from Wagman Service Desk.

Boat tour, Thursday, July 29, 1½-hour boat tour of Kempefelt Bay on Lake Simcoe with a "bring your own" picnic at Barrie waterfront. Bus leaves 10 a.m. and returns 5 p.m. Members $35, nonmembers $45. Reservations must be made by Tuesday, July 20, at Wagman Service Desk.

Wellness Education group presents Toronto's Changing Waterfront with **Florence Lichtman**, senior volunteer, Seniors for Nature, Wednesday, July 21, 1:30-2:30 p.m. Register at Service desk or by calling ext. 2267.

Creative Writing Group weekly meetings Mondays 10 a.m. to noon.

Bridge, 2 hours of playing, Mondays, 10 a.m. to noon.

BATHURST JC

Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. 636-1880.

55 Plus, Department of Adult Services, is taking membership for the Discount Theatre Club 1999-2000 season. Membership is open to BJC members only and is $6.50 (GST included). For the first performance club will be going to four-time Tony Award winner *Cabaret*. **Janet** ext. 259.

Visit Cullen Gardens in full bloom and enjoy a delicious lunch, Aug. 26. Bus leaves BJC at 10:30 a.m. and returns approximately 4:30 p.m. Members $29, nonmembers $34. Price includes transportation, buffet lunch. Purchase tickets now! Trip is co-sponsored with Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living. **Teme** ext. 364 or **Janet** ext. 259.

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.

Festival on Bloor Sunday, July 4, noon to 7 p.m., Spadina to Bathurst, music,arts and crafts sales and displays, pony rides, kiddie cars, dunk tank. For details, check What's New under July 4 date.

ABOUT PEOPLE

B'YACHAD INAUGURAL

Olga Verrall and Newton Markus were all smiles following the recent inaugural meeting of B'Yachad, a new group for Jewish singles aged 55 to 70 they helped found. Over 150 people turned out for the first meeting of the group, which plans social events and outings. For details, call 736-6776.

[Ron Csillag photo]

ORDER OF MERIT

Rabbi Gunther Plaut was presented with the Officer's Cross of the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany in recognition of his contribution to the ongoing German-Jewish dialogue that began after the Holocaust. Rabbi Plaut (second from right) is pictured with his family at the recent ceremony held at the German consul general's residence. From left are Rabbi Plaut's daughter-in-law Carol and son Rabbi Jonathan Plaut; his wife, Elizabeth Plaut; and daughter, Judith Plaut.

TRANSNISTRIA SURVIVORS

A group of 20 members of the Toronto Transnistria Survivors Association recently attended a special ceremony which formally included Transnistria on the Wall of Remembrance at the Holocaust Museum in Washington. From left are Rose Buxbaum and her husband Arnold Buxbaum, who is treasurer of the Toronto association, and Osias Nadel, association president.

SINGLES EVENTS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 20

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Noa makes her Winnipeg debut at Negev gala concert

By MYRON LOVE
Prairies Correspondent

WINNIPEG — Achinoam Nini, or Noa as she is better known to her fans around the world, made her Winnipeg debut on June 15 as the star of the second annual Jewish National Fund of Canada, Manitoba and Saskatchewan region, Negev Gala Concert.

In front of an audience of about 1,300 at Centennial Concert Hall, Noa sang in English and Hebrew, and played drums and other smaller instruments accompanied by back-up musicians, Yaaki Levy (drums), Yorai Oron (bass), Gil Zohar (keyboard) and her longtime musical partner Gil Dor (guitars).

Noa

Noa, born in Israel into a Yemenite family, grew up in the Bronx. She returned to Israel at 17 to join the army. She met Dor at university, where he was one of her teachers.

"My life has been filled with rays of light since I have known Gil," she said.

Their collaboration over the past 10 years has resulted in international stardom for her. She has toured Europe with Sting, appeared on television with Stevie Wonder, and played to sold-out audiences at Carnegie Hall and other concert halls throughout the United States.

Noa sang a new song for her audience in celebration of Ehud Barak's victory in the recent Israeli election. "For the last three years, we Israelis have been intensely miserable," she said in introducing the new song. "Now there is a positive attitude in the air. We don't expect perfection, but things will be better."

Other highlights of the evening included the introduction of Avner Regev, new executive vice-president of the Jewish National Fund of Canada, and Mickey Haclay, JNF's new shaliach in Winnipeg. Screened for the first time was *From Winnipeg to Israel With Love: The Work of JNF Canada*, produced with the assistance of former JNF Winnipeg shaliach Ze'ev Kedem. It is the first JNF video to highlight the projects of a specific Jewish community.

Winnipeg teenager a debating champ

By MYRON LOVE
Prairies Correspondent

WINNIPEG — International teen debating sensation Michael Kives is about to conquer new worlds.

Fresh from becoming the first person ever to win the World Public Speaking and Debating Championship two years in a row, the Winnipeg teen is slated for his first appearance jousting with words on ABC Television's *Politically Incorrect*, a show hosted by Bill Maher, where participants debate current events and world issues.

The 18-year-old, who is graduating from high school this year, took the initiative in approaching the American TV show. "I can debate any side of an issue," he says.

He is scheduled to appear on the show for the first time on June 24.

"The producers have told me that they want me on the show as a repeat guest from time to time," he says. "Since I will be going to Stanford University in California in the fall [in a liberal Arts program], that will work out well."

Kives is a graduate of St. John's Ravenscourt, a school noted internationally for its debating program. Kives began his debating activities in Grade 8, the first year students are eligible.

By the end of that year, he qualified for the national competition in Halifax. He was the youngest competitor, and he finished first in his category.

In Grade 9, he won the National Championship again, making him the first person to win championships two years in a row.

In Grade 10, he placed first in the Western Canada National Debating Seminars. He also represented Manitoba in the National High School Debating Seminars in Halifax, where he qualified for the World Debating Seminars scheduled for Jerusalem in January 1998.

Last year, he won the World Public Speaking and Debating Championship, which was held in Buenos Aires March 18-25. This year, the competition was held in Botswana in southern Africa.

CORRECTION

There was an error in the article, "New Village Shul to Open" (*CJN*, May 6). When the shul began, its first home, Beth Lida Congregation, provided the facilities at no cost. *The CJN* apologizes for the error.

OMISSION

HAMILTON — In the article "JNF pays tribute to Loewith family," in the July 17 issue, the name of Cantor Ben Silverberg of Beth Jacob Synagogue was omitted. Cantor Silverberg took part in the JNF Negev Tribute Dinner, leading the benching. *The CJN* regrets the omission.

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DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION Lucy Cohen

LIFELONG LEARNERS: USDS AWARD WINNERS

United Synagogue Day School is proud to announce three major award winners, who represent USDS' commitment to lifelong learning.

"The National Bible Contest" first place award for grades 7 and 8 has been presented to **Michael Kurin**, grade 7 student at the USDS Richmond Hill Campus.

"The Dr. Aaron N. Nussbaum Award" for graduates of USDS who have demonstrated commitment to leadership, Jewish education and the community has been presented to USDS alumnus **Randal F. Schnoor**.

"The Schechter Scholar in Israel" award for professional development in Israel has been presented to **Merav Anafi**, USDS computer specialist at the Bathurst Campus.

The Board of Directors, Administration and Staff of USDS wish all of our award winners a *Yishar Koach!*

SINGLES EVENTS
Singles Events is an advertising feature of *The Canadian Jewish News*
Deadline is Wednesday, 4pm, 8 days preceding issue date.
For rates or to place an ad, call:
Tanya at (416) 391-1836
The CJN encourages readers to direct any queries they may have on an upcoming event to the event's organizers.

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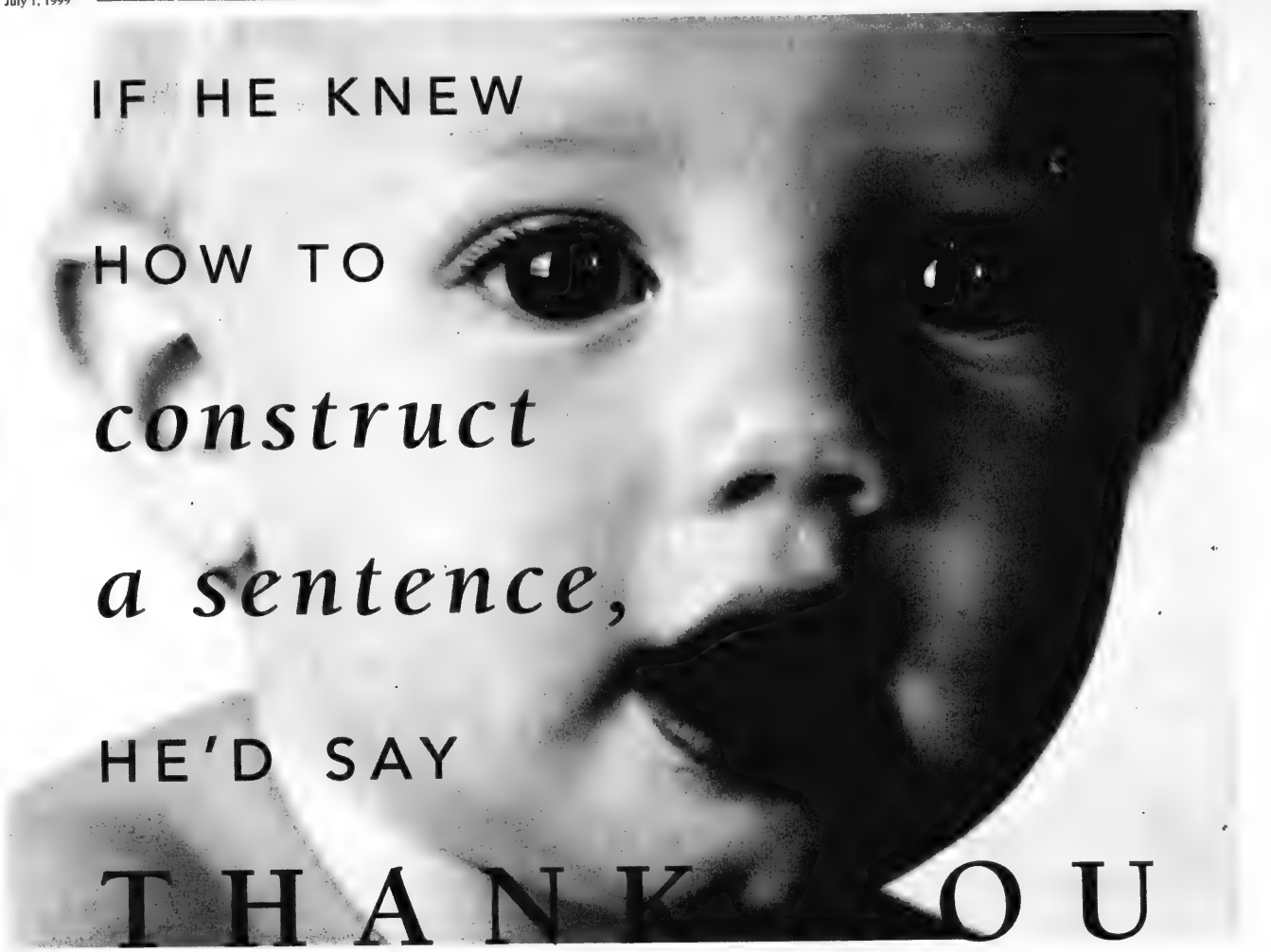
www.jewishintroductions.com or call **604-857-7880.**

www.jmatch.com Free to register, free profile page, free to browse.

Yonge Frank'N'Stein. Come to our 1st annual roof top BBQ and enjoy a frank & a stein of beer. Thurs., July 8 @ 7:30pm. 1072 Eglinton Ave. W. $8-adv, $10-door. Rain or shine. Bring a friend. A Yonge Shul Event. RSVP at 416-785-1107.



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Rallies for Iranian Jews

Continued from page 1

Canada does not consider the case a purely internal matter, Peterson added. Quoting Czech Republic president Vaclav Havel, Peterson said human rights are more important than national sovereignty.

Canada's embassy in Tehran has already expressed its concerns to the Iranian Foreign Ministry, and it has been assured that the 13 would receive fair trials under Iranian law. "We insist that the trials take place quickly and in accord with all norms of international law," Peterson said.

Rabbi Amram Assayag, chief rabbi of the Sephardi Kehilla Centre, took a different approach to developments in Iran, likening them to ancient Persia and events described in the biblical book of Esther.

In ancient times, Haman tried to convince the Persian king, Achashverosh, that there would be few repercussions if he ordered the murder of all of Persia's Jews.

"I believe history is repeating itself," Rabbi Assayag said. None of the arguments advanced by Haman was accurate, and today Jews must use every resource they can muster to oppose Iran's anti-Semitic attack on its Jews, he said.

The world today is not anti-Semitic, he continued. "Today, there is great sensitivity to Jewish issues." Even in other Muslim countries, like his native Morocco, "there is great respect for Jews... [Iran] will have to learn that anti-Semitism is out. There is no room for it in our world.

"We must send a strong message to Khatami. We are no longer passive. We will not go to the slaughterhouse like sheep," Rabbi Assayag said.

In sweltering weather, 400 Montreal Jews and non-Jews of all ages called on Iran last Sunday to release the 13 Jews held under threat of execution on "trumped up" charges of spying, and to urge the Canadian government to impose sanctions on the "renegade" state until they are freed.

"Today, I am an Iranian Jew," said Dorothy Zalcman Howard, chair of Canadian Jewish Congress, Quebec region (CJC-Q), the main organizer of the rally held at Cote St. Luc's Centennial Park.

Similar rallies organized by CJC were being held the same day in Vancouver, Ottawa and Calgary, and the next day in Winnipeg, as part of a nationwide and international campaign to free the Iranian Jews, who include a 16-year-old boy, a rabbi and a mohel.

The hour-long event in the park's Butler Building featured placards bearing the prisoners' names and ages, and was electric in intensity and sense of urgency.

Rabbi Martin Penn, who was in the vanguard of CJC's activism on behalf of Soviet Jews, led 13 young, blindfolded people dressed in black across the stage, as speaker after speaker called for the prisoners' release.

The speakers included Zakki Ghavitian, an Iranian Jew and president of the Montreal Jewish-Iranian Association, who read from a letter sent to Khatami that referred to the "profound anxiety" of Iranian Jewry in light of the arrests.

Ghavitian announced that there would be a July 5 prayer vigil organized by local Iranian Jews, to be held at the Young Israel of Montreal synagogue.

The rally also included remarks by a Montreal Iranian Jew who, out of fear for the safety of his family members still in Iran, had his comments relayed to the crowd by CJC's Frank Schlesinger.

Two of the accused spies – Nasser Levi Haim and Shahrockh Paknachad – were respectively a teacher and classmate of the anonymous Montreal man. Both are devout and moral men, whose arrests are "outrageous, absurd and tragic," he said through Schlesinger.

CJC president Moshe Ronen said the Canadian government's position that the 13 Iranian Jews should be tried in Iranian courts is "unsatisfactory" to the CJC

"Canada wants due process to be followed, but we think it would be 'kangaroo courts' and not justice as we know it," Ronen told a recent meeting of the Ontario region executive.

The CJC position is that the Jewish prisoners should be freed and released to Israel, Ronen said.

"It is important that this be recognized as a human rights issue."

The well-attended executive meeting unanimously approved a motion that the Canadian government do all in its power to effect the speedy release of Jews and others imprisoned "under false and fabricated charges."

B'nai Brith Canada also held a noontime prayer vigil in downtown Toronto last Friday in support of the 13 imprisoned Jews.

Canadian role sought

OTTAWA — Syria has asked Canada to assume a central peacekeeping role should a peace deal with Israel over the Golan Heights be reached.

Farouk al-Shara, Syria's foreign minister, held talks last week here with Prime Minister Jean Chrétien, and requested that Canada play an important position if a deal is made on the Golan Heights' return.

Shara was in Ottawa to open Syria's first embassy in Canada. He said he had good talks with Chrétien, and hoped that Israel would return all of the Golan Heights.

Sophie Galarneau, a spokesperson for the prime minister's office, told *The CJN* that "until such time as a peace deal is reached [between Israel and Syria], any proposal is purely theoretical."

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Syria believed softening its negotiation stance

By ALUF BENN
Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

JERUSALEM — Syria has softened its stance on the conditions it views as necessary for the renewal of peace talks with Israel, according to messages Damascus has sent Washington in recent weeks. But Damascus remains insistent that the basis for negotiations must be an Israeli withdrawal from the Golan Heights to pre-1967 borders.

Prime Minister-elect Ehud Barak is expected to discuss ways to restart the talks during an upcoming visit to Washington.

In a message he communicated to the United States before the Israeli elections were held last month, Syrian President Hafez al-Assad declared his desire to renew talks with a Barak-headed government.

Assad spoke by telephone with U.S. President Bill Clinton after Barak was elected, and has met with western leaders in Damascus.

The Syrians want an American seal of approval for the offer they got from the late prime minister Yitzhak Rabin – a full withdrawal from the Golan Heights, right down to the border that was in effect at the start of the Six Day War, in return for security arrangements and normalized relations.

During the tenure of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Assad demanded that he be given a letter from the United States outlining the withdrawal offer, as a condition for renewing talks. This time, the Syrians say they will be content to have Clinton outline the situation verbally.

Damascus has also asked Washington to make clear whether the U.S. administration has the necessary political drive to see the talks through to fulfilment.

The administration has promised that Clinton will work toward the attainment of peace until the last day of his term in January 2001.

The international border between Mandatory Palestine and Syria was set in 1923. But the 1949 armistice lines zigzagged across the 1923 border, creating a demilitarized zone over which sovereignty was to be determined in future territorial negotiations.

Given those territorial irregularities, a withdrawal to the pre-June '67 lines now would give the Syrians Hamat Gader and the cliffs above Lake Kinneret, allowing them access to the lakeshore and the eastern bank of the Jordan River where it passes through the mountains north of the Kinneret.

Hamat Gader is the only piece of the territory Syria is demanding that was part of Mandatory Palestine. Israeli sources say they believe Damascus will agree to a deal in which Syria gets Hamat Gader, and in return consents to stay away from the Kinneret's shore.

At the heart of the dispute over the renewal of talks lies the question of what Rabin offered Syria. American sources familiar with the details of Israeli-Syrian negotiations say former secretary of state Warren Christopher told Assad in July 1994 that "if Israel's demands on security arrangements and normalization are met, then it will agree to withdraw from the Golan Heights down to the line of June 4, 1967."

The Syrians claimed, after the fact, that they received an Israeli "commitment" to pull back to the pre-June '67 lines. But the American sources say there was no commitment, only a conditional offer which was an item on the agenda of the talks.

The demands Israel posed as a condition for withdrawal were not met by March 1996, when the talks broke off. According to the Israeli version, published by former U.S. ambassador to Israel Itamar Rabinovitch – who took part in the Rabin-Christopher talks and headed Israel's delegation to the talks with Syria – Rabin told Christopher in July '94 that he could tell Assad that he "got the impression" that Rabin would agree to withdraw to the pre-June '67 border if Israel's demands were met.

Life in the Iranian minefield

By ZE'EV SCHIFF
Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

Anyone who has thought about the arrest of a group of Jews in Iran on charges of spying for Israel and the United States can't help but wonder why Jews who live in a place where the ayatollahs determine how minorities shall be treated, and hand out death sentences to suit their religious and political purposes, would elect to put themselves at risk.

Analysis

For a Jew, living in today's Iran is like wandering in an unmarked minefield. President Mohammad Khatami's declaration that Iranian Jews enjoy full rights is worthless. Khatami has not managed to grant protection even to his close associates who have been put on trial.

One would have to be an idiot to believe that Israel would put the lives of 20,000 Iranian Jews – whose access to the Iranian government is nonexistent – at risk by recruiting them for espionage activity. At first, the Iranians arrested a larger group of Jews from Shiraz.

Israel was made aware of this, but it was decided not to make a big stir, in order to give reason a chance to prevail.

The silence did not help, and now, those arrested are being accused of spying and their lives are in danger. In Iran, where torture is common, any type of confession can be extracted in an interrogation.

All the facts attest that the Jews fell victim to the struggle going on in Iran between supporters of Khatami, who seek closer ties with the west, and their opponents from the camp of Iran's religious leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei.

It's a characteristic occurrence in despotic regimes, like those of Stalin and Saddam Hussein, for Jews to fall prey to a government's internal political struggles.

In Iran, they well know that harming Jews constitutes more than an offence to Israel. They know it will arouse Jewish communities around the world, as well as many people in the U.S. Congress and in various foreign ministries, to take action against Tehran.

This will, of course, foil Iran's rapprochement with the west, to the satisfaction of Khatami's adversaries. One might be tempted to conclude from this that the Iranian president is devoted to making peace with Israel. During his recent visit to Damascus, however, he did not neglect to tell Hezbollah leaders that the military struggle against Israel must continue.

When pressure to release the Jews mounted, Iran responded in typical fashion with a step meant to push the spotlight off of the Jews' arrest: It leaked that Tehran is interested in a special regional accord that would prevent the use of surface-to-surface missiles in the Middle East. More than actually talking about missiles, the Iranians accused Israel of every possible evil and misdoing, including missile production. Even though the chances for such an accord are quite slim, it was deserving of real discussion, but not merely as a move designed to divert attention from the bogus plot cooked up by the Iranians.

Even before the Jews were arrested on espionage charges, two conflicting phenomena were apparent among Iranians with respect to their attitudes toward Israel.

On the one hand, Iranian leaders held nothing back when it came to hurling accusations, such as one that Israel was meddling in the production of oil in the Caspian Sea with the aim of causing damage to Iran.

The other side of the coin is that various Iranians are now more willing than ever before to hold a dialogue with Israel on different topics.

The arrest of the Jews in Iran and the danger that their lives have been put in, could very well throw a wrench into this trend.

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California rallies against hate after shul arsons

By TOM TUGEND
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

LOS ANGELES — Under a giant banner reading Sacramento United Against Hate, some 4,000 citizens of all faiths and colors dedicated themselves to the fight against bigotry as their answer to arson attacks on three Sacramento-area synagogues.

More than 2,500 people crammed into the Community Centre Theatre last week, while 1,500 more listened in an overflow auditorium during a 2½-hour rally that many participants described as electric, and some called "the most emotional experience of my life."

The audience rose to its feet when California Lt.-Gov. Cruz Bustamante declared, "Tonight all of us belong to the three synagogues," and again when Sacramento Mayor Joe Serna said, "When I hear of synagogues burning, then I am a Jew."

Not far from the emotional scene, more than 100 federal agents from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms and the FBI were painstakingly combing the three synagogue sites for evidence to link the hate crimes to their perpetrators.

The predawn attacks on June 18 targeted Congregation B'nai Israel and Congregation Beth Shalom, both Reform temples, and the Kenesset Israel Torah Centre, an Orthodox synagogue. Total damage was estimated at close to $1 million.

At two of the sites, arsonists left leaflets that blamed the "International Jew World Order" and the "International Jews media" for the war in Kosovo.

"We are Slavs, we will never allow the International Jew World Order to take our Land," read one flier. "We fight to keep Serbia free forever."

Hardest hit was B'nai Israel in downtown Sacramento, whose library was gutted, ruining 5,000 books, some of them hundreds of years old. Also destroyed were 300 videotapes on Jewish history, which the congregation had been collecting for its 150th anniversary celebration in October.

B'nai Israel is believed to be the oldest American synagogue west of the Mississippi River.

At Beth Shalom, vandals broke in through a side window and started a fire on the bimah. Earlier this year, the temple's walls had been defaced by painted swastikas.

Kenesset Israel was the target of a Molotov cocktail, which had been lobbed through a sliding glass door.

Politicians swiftly condemned the attacks. The California State Assembly unanimously approved a resolution calling the fires one of the worst acts of anti-Semitism in American history. Vice-President Al Gore condemned the arsons as "cowardly."

To help meet the immediate needs of the three synagogues, more than $10,000 has been donated by organizations representing the Japanese and Chinese communities, Buddhist and Christian churches, political leaders and private citizens, the *Sacramento Bee* reported.

The federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has offered low-interest loans to help the synagogues repair the damage, under the 1996 Church Arson Prevention Act. Andrew Cuomo, HUD's secretary, visited B'nai Israel with California governor Gray Davis and called it, "an attack against all Americans."

Other offers of help have arrived from all parts of the country. "We've been overwhelmed by offers of moral and financial support from as far away as New York and Florida," said a spokesperson at the Sacramento Jewish Federation.

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Jews play significant role at South African inauguration

By SUZANNE BELLING
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JOHANNESBURG — Representatives of South Africa's Jewish community played prominent parts in the nation's recent peaceful transition of power.

Constitutional court president Judge Arthur Chaskalson administered the oath of office to President Thabo Mbeki, while Chief Rabbi Cyril Harris was one of five religious leaders to offer a prayer at the June 16 inauguration.

At the start of the ceremony, attended by 4,500 dignitaries – including kings, presidents and prime ministers from 130 countries – prayers were also said by clergy of the Christian, Muslim, Hindu and African traditional faiths.

In his benediction, Rabbi Harris asked for forgiveness for the failings of all South Africans.

"Instead of coming closer together as brothers and sisters of one land, we carry old hatreds in our hearts," he said, adding that "our country, at this time, has too much violence and too much crime, too little love and laughter."

In his inaugural address, Mbeki referred to Genesis 4:9, in which Cain gives his reply to God's question about his brother's whereabouts.

" I am my brother's keeper. I am my sister's keeper," Mbeki said. "And because we are one another's keepers, we surely must be haunted by the humiliating suffering which continues to afflict millions of our people.

"What the new light over our land must show is a palpable process of the comprehensive renewal of our country – its rebirth – driven by the enormous talents of all our people, both black and white."

Among those attending the inauguration were Libyan leader Muammar Khadafi and Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat.

Israel was represented by its ambassador to South Africa, Uri Oren, who said there was no higher representation because the new Israeli government had not yet been formed.

"It is a very hectic time in Israel," Oren said. "It was bad coincidence that no high government official was able to represent the country. We made this clear to the Mbeki administration and they were very understanding."

South Africa's Jewish community was represented at the inauguration by three officials of its leading umbrella group, the South African Jewish Board of Deputies: national president Mervyn Smith, national chair Marlene Bethlehem and national director Seymour Kopelowitz.

Shortly after the inauguration, the Jewish board announced that Mbeki will open its national congress in Johannesburg on August 21.

Mbeki's new cabinet includes one Jewish minister, Ronnie Kasrils. As deputy minister of defence in the government of outgoing President Nelson Mandela, Kasrils was promoted to minister of water affairs and forestry.

Kasrils, former head of military intelligence of Umkhonto weSizwe, the armed wing of the African National Congress, was in exile for 27 years during the apartheid era.

On his return in 1990, he was one of the country's most wanted people before finally being granted amnesty.

He is the author of the book *Armed and Dangerous*, the story of the undercover struggle against apartheid.

Controversial letter by Cousteau found

By DOUGLAS DAVIS
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

LONDON — The biographer of Jacques Cousteau has uncovered evidence that the late underwater explorer harbored anti-Semitic attitudes.

A letter written 58 years ago by Cousteau during the wartime rule of the pro-Nazi Vichy government was published last week in the French daily *Le Monde*, after it was found by the biographer.

The letter was published on the day Cousteau was eulogized at the Académie Française and immortalized in French cultural history.

Cousteau, then a 31-year-old naval officer, wrote to a friend on May 1, 1941, to say that he and his family could find nowhere suitable to live in Marseilles.

"There will be no decent apartment available until we have kicked out all these ignoble Yids who are burdening us," wrote Cousteau, who died two years ago.

Biographer Bernard Violet noted that Cousteau often made racist remarks in private, while writer Erik Orsenna, who delivered the Académie Française eulogy, told *Le Monde* that while the letter was "clearly ignoble," it reflected its times.

If all French correspondence from the era were to be re-read today, he said, "one would find a great deal of anti-Semitism of this kind."

The Week in Israel

June 21

• Scientists said they have developed a new way to accelerate tree and plant growth. The scientists, working at a branch of the Hebrew University in Rehovot, use gene splicing techniques to speed up plant growth by as much as 50 percent.

• Arab delegates refused to sit down with Israel at a UN meeting about the Y2K computer problem. The meeting was part of two days of sessions attended by representatives from more than 170 countries.

June 22

• The High Court rejected Mordechai Vanunu's request to be released from prison. Vanunu is serving an 18-year sentence for leaking Israeli nuclear secrets.

June 23

• Archeologists discovered a 2,000-year-old factory underneath Jerusalem that made tools for the Second Temple. An archeologist was quoted by Israel Television as saying the factory, in which tables and cups were also reportedly made, was located at the edge of the Old City.

June 24

• Attorney General Elyakim Rubinstein and State Attorney Edna Arbel decided to close the investigation against Foreign Minister Ariel Sharon, who was being investigated for alleged bribery charges.

• The air force attacked a power station on a hill above Beirut in retaliation for Hezbollah attacks on northern Israel in which five civilians were killed. At least three Lebanese civilians were killed in the retaliatory attacks. It was the first time the Lebanese capital had been targeted by Israel since 1996. The air attacks were seen as a signal to Beirut and to Damascus that they had to rein in Hezbollah.

June 25

• More than 700 lawyers filed for unemployment benefits during the first five months of this year, an increase of 40 percent over last year.

Files from JTA and Ha'aretz

Ties with U.S. high on Barak's agenda

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

Mideast Analysis

Once Prime Minister-elect Ehud Barak forms a government, one of his first priorities will be to travel to Washington to improve relations with Israel's chief ally, the United States.

His predecessor, Benjamin Netanyahu, strained Israel's relationship with the United States to such a degree that Bill Clinton refused to invite him to the White House in the last year.

Netanyahu slammed Clinton's snub, describing it as conduct "unbecoming" a president. And while Clinton gave Netanyahu the cold shoulder, he received Palestinian Authority President Yasser Arafat no less than twice in the same period.

Looking back, one cannot but conclude that Netanyahu had only himself to blame for mismanaging Israel's pivotal friendship with the United States.

From the outset, he seemed to take it for granted. Within three months of assuming the premiership, he said that he would rather strain Israel's ties with the United States than give up too much territory to the Palestinians. The statement turned out to be a self-fulfilling prophecy.

Netanyahu clashed with Clinton on a number of separate but related issues integral to the Oslo peace process.

Israel's settlements beyond the Green Line, particularly those in the West Bank, were a chronic source of tension, and the issue constantly boiled over. Clinton called the settlements an absolute obstacle to peace. But Netanyahu, in deference to his core beliefs and his political survival, resisted pressure for a "time-out" on expanding the settlements.

As West Bank settlers established unauthorized new settlements on the eve of the May 17 Israeli election, the United States escalated its criticism. Dennis Ross, Clinton's special envoy to the Middle East, declared unequivocally that increased settlement activity was "very destructive to the pursuit of peace."

In a similarly harsh vein, the U.S. State Department publicly accused Netanyahu of reneging on a promise not to accelerate the pace of construction in the territories.

Openly defying Clinton's admonition to desist from "unilateral actions" which prejudge the outcome of talks with the Palestinians, Netanyahu took steps to build a new Jewish neighborhood in eastern Jerusalem's Har Choma district.

Israel's mounting differences with the United States were subsequently accentuated by Netanyahu's decision to extend Jerusalem's boundaries, demolish illegally built Arab residences in east Jerusalem, and close four Palestinian Authority offices there.

Despite the seriousness of these disagreements, the greatest problems were touched off by Washington's efforts to secure a further Israeli pullout from the West Bank.

The United States suggested a 13 percent withdrawal, prompting two sharp responses from Israel. Netanyahu said that he would not kowtow to an American "diktat," while his communications advisor, David Bar-Ilan, completely ruled out a redeployment of this scope on security grounds.

In the end, Netanyahu accepted Washington's demand, as embodied in the October 1998 Wye memorandum. But no sooner had Israel made the first of three phased withdrawals than Netanyahu charged the Palestinians with failing to abide by the accord, and froze the process.

Pointedly enough, the United States rejected Israel's argument that the Palestinian Authority was not in compliance with Wye. Washington not only urged Israel to implement it, but held up the transfer of $1.2 billion in special aid Israel had been promised if the agreement was fully implemented.

Israel's running disputes with the United States, however bitter, did not affect the close partnership the two countries enjoy and have enjoyed for decades now.

At the United Nations, the United States continued to veto Security Council resolutions critical of Israel. Last November, Israel and the United States signed a memorandum of agreement which further strengthens their strategic relationship. Nevertheless, Barak has some important fence mending to do in Washington.

Israeli envoy creates furor in Lithuania

BY LEV KRICHEVSKY
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

MOSCOW — Once again, Israel's ambassador to Lithuania has managed to raise the hackles of many of that Baltic nation's politicians.

And once again, he touched on the same hot-button accusation: that Lithuania's poor record of prosecuting suspected Nazi war criminals proves that the country has turned into a haven for Nazi collaborators.

Oded Ben Hur, who is based in the Latvian capital of Riga and serves as Israel's envoy to the three Baltic nations, said Lithuania – as well as Latvia and Estonia – would find it difficult to integrate into the new Europe if they fail to cope with their wartime past and publicly acknowledge their roles in the Holocaust.

His comments, made this week at a dinner organized by the Lithuanian Jewish community for a visiting U.S. Jewish delegation, prompted some Lithuanian politicians to call for his removal.

The vice chair of the Lithuanian Parliament, Romualdas Ozolas, later told reporters that Ben Hur was attempting "to pit Jews and Lithuanians against each other and to discredit the Lithuanian state."

Ben Hur's accusation echoed a statement made last week by the Simon Wiesenthal Centre, which charged that Lithuania has become Europe's leading haven for Nazi collaborators.

The accusations against Lithuania are far from new.

In September 1997, when Ben Hur made a similar call for Lithuania to stop dragging its feet on war crimes prosecutions, a comparable furor erupted.

At that time, Lithuania's Parliament delayed action on amendments to the country's criminal code that would have facilitated the investigation of alleged World War II criminals.

Prominent Lithuanian politicians issued calls not to cave into pressure from international Jewish organizations, and also demanded that Ben Hur be stripped of his diplomatic credentials.

During the Nazi occupation of Lithuania from 1941 to 1944, approximately 94 percent of Lithuania's prewar Jewish community of 240,000 died in the Holocaust.

Historians say the scale of the tragedy could have been smaller had ordinary Lithuanians not helped with the killings.

Since Lithuania regained independence from the Soviet Union in 1991, it has not prosecuted any of the alleged Nazi collaborators living there.

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by Barry Grossman & Stan Goldberg

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I'M NOT AFRAID OF HIM, RIVKIE, IT'S HIS DRILL I'M SCARED OF!
DR. MARVIN FRIEDMAN
GOOD LUCK IN THERE!
YEAH! I'LL NEED IT!
HI, MENDY! HAVE A SEAT AND DR. FRIEDMAN WILL BE RIGHT WITH YOU!
OKAY, GULP!
THAT GUY WAS MY LAST VICTIM! HE WAS A REAL TOUGH CUSTOMER!
AND DELICIOUS, TOO!
LAST VICTIM?!?
I SNUCK UP ON HIM FROM BEHIND...
OH, NO!!!
HE PUT UP QUITE A FIGHT!
BUT I HELD ONTO HIM...
OY...
HE ALMOST GOT FREE, BUT I PULLED AND PULLED...
MENDY
I YANKED...
AND YANKED AND FINALLY I PULLED HIM OUT!
WELL, I HAVE TO SEE MY NEXT PATIENT, BE WELL, RABBI MILGRIM!
SHALOM!
BE RIGHT THERE, MENDY!
GOOD NEWS, MENDY! NO CAVITIES!!! ER, MENDY... WHERE'D HE GO?
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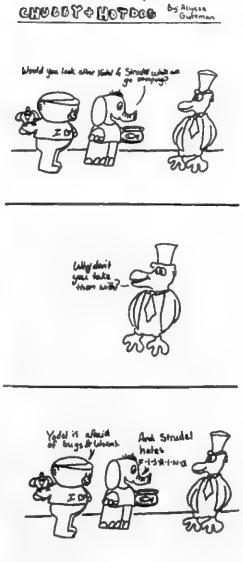
CHUBBY + HOTDOG by Alyssa Gutman


Would you look other kids & Strudel what we go through?
Lilly don't you hate "mom day"?
Yuck! is afraid of bugs & worms
And Strudel hates Pigeons

AHAVAT YISRAEL'S TORAH FAIR

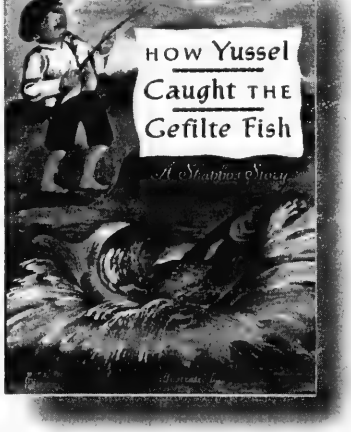
Students in grades 4 to 7 at Ahavat Yisrael Hebrew School took part in the school's recent Torah Fair.. The students worked in groups at home and at school, on Torah themes such as Shabbat, Israel, the synagogue and holidays. Some of the students used wood, clay or Lego to build their projects. Parents and students were invited to the fair. Seen (from left) are Brian Tobe, Kyle Traves and Jason Floyd, all in Grade 4, who made a model of the Splitting of the Red Sea and the Jews passing through on dry land.

Little Yussel went fishing, and look what he caught

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

Do you like gefilte fish? Most people do. Before there were food processors, people used to grind their own fish, add eggs, bread crumbs or matzah meal, spices, and sometimes sugar, and form them into patties or balls. Boy, were they yummy!

Yussel, the little boy in *How Yussel Caught the Gefilte Fish; a Shabbos Story,* by Charlotte Herman, illustrated by Katya Krenina (Duttons Childrens Books, 1999) really really loved the gefilte fish his mother used to make for Shabbat. What made the dish even more special, was that Yussel's father used to catch the fish in the river.



Yussel couldn't wait until he was old enough to go with his father to catch the fish. Finally, one Friday morning, his father woke him up very early, and took him to the river.

Father showed Yussel how to put bait on the fishing pole. The best kind of bait, he said, was challah, cheese and (yuck!) worms. Then he showed him how to sit patiently until a fish came to eat the bait.

Well, they had very good luck. At least, Yussel did – he caught a carp, a trout and a pike. But there was a problem. They didn't look at all like gefilte fish. They had heads, and fins, and scales. Some even had spots. Yussel was very upset.

Even though his parents told him that the fish would become gefilte fish, Yussel kept worrying.

Do you know how the fish turned into gefilte fish? Do you know the special spice Yussel's mother used to make the gefilte fish even more special?

Katya Krenina's pictures are lovely. She uses a lot of soft colors – blues, greens and yellows to show the countryside and the river. When it comes time for the Shabbat part of the story, brighter colors, especially purples and oranges, are used to show the difference between Shabbat and the rest of the week.

LUCKY WINNER

Naftali Zweig, 7, has won a trip for two to Israel. Naftali entered a contest, sponsored by Sabra Tours, on Israel Bonds' CD-ROM. The CD-ROM allows children and adults to play games, while they learn about Israel. Naftali's name was drawn from thousands of entries.

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Health

Jewish medical ethics explored at symposium

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Jewish medical ethics take a somewhat different approach to prolonging life than that represented by the professional or secular view.

This was the summation of Dr. Michael Gordon, ethics committee chair, and Rabbi Norman Berlat, both of the Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care, at a symposium on Controversies in Medical Ethics for health professionals at the Baycrest's Wagman Centre.

"The issue of quality has lower value than the sanctity of life within Judaism," said Gordon, who chaired the symposium. "Autonomy is not paramount. Physician-assisted suicide and euthanasia are completely forbidden."

Gordon told of a 79-year-old non-observant Hungarian woman who refused kidney dialysis, even though she was at death's door. When all other arguments failed, Gordon said he asked the woman to accept dialysis "for me," since he cared what happened to her. She agreed on a three-month trial basis, and went on to live another four years.

"I was lambasted severely at the time for interfering with her autonomy," Gordon said.

Another case reported to a symposium workshop by Gordon and Rabbi Berlat involved an observant 75-year-old man with a chronic psychiatric history. His sister, who had decision-making authority, asked the hospital staff not to let him know that his brother, whom he had met in the Baycrest shul every Saturday and who was a resident at Baycrest, had died. She based her request on advice from a rabbi.

Though the staff demurred, Rabbi Berlat said the sister's request was in accordance with Jewish medical ethics. Most of the workshop members, however, disagreed with the decision.

If family members include doctors and lawyers, especially those from out of town, there are additional complications when considering life-saving measures, Gordon said.

He told of a seriously ill 82-year-old woman suffering from dementia who needed to be fed through a tube. Her daughter refused to permit the insertion of a new tube to replace the leaking one, citing her mother's wishes. The brother, a lawyer, disagreed with his sister, but they agreed to take time to think it over. In the meantime, Gordon said, a way to repair the leaking tube was found, and they agreed that the woman would be transferred to Mount Sinai Hospital for a new tube and quickly brought back to Baycrest. However, just before the transfer, the woman died.

Doctors who face opposition from family members on their treatment plans should remove themselves from the case and seek the services of a bioethicist, lawyer William Carter, of Borden and Elliot, told a symposium plenary.

"You will find yourself in the middle of a fight between siblings," he advised.

When Gordon said he is often faced with the threat of "I'll sue you" from a family member, Carter said it was "an empty threat" that the family member could not carry out quickly.

"Dangerous" was the term used by Dr. Paul Root Wolpe in the plenary to describe the actions taken by a hospital staff to remove a dying patient to make room for another patient. "That is an inappropriate mechanism," he said.

An associate at the Centre for Bioethics, University of Pennsylvania, Wolpe said it is necessary for Jewish medical halachic ethics to be clearly spelled out in secular terms for family members and hospital staff.

"Patient consent is the gold standard of bioethics," he said.

If physician-assisted suicide ever becomes law in Ontario, as it is in Oregon, it will pose a great problem for Baycrest staff, Gordon said.

Six other states are considering such legislation, he said, adding that all the proposals have some protection against involuntary use.

Dr. Amitai S. Oberman of Israel was presented with the Nicholas M. and Hedy J. Munk Award for physicians under age 40 who demonstrate special merit in geriatrics. Currently studying at Harvard, Oberman plans to return to Israel to develop geriatric services at the Ha'emek Medical Centre.

Climbers raising funds for neuro-degenerative diseases

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — In a bid to raise $50,000 for research on neurodegenerative diseases, four amateur climbers from Toronto recently set out to climb one of the highest peaks in North America.

They prepared for their assault on Mount Ranier, south of Seattle, through a rigorous training schedule that called for them to climb 53 storeys in the Toronto-Dominion Centre four times in a row (212 storeys), loaded with 50-pound packs and ankle weights. With great determination, they did this twice a week.

Half the amount raised for research will go to the Hospital for Sick Children.

Some of the funds will be used to devise a system for delivery to certain parts of the brain of synthetic molecules thought to be useful in attacking certain neurodegenerative disorders.

Canavan disease, which has high carrier rate (about one in 33) in the Ashkenazi Jewish population, will be one of those targeted.

Other neurodegenerative diseases that will benefit from the funds raised are Parkinson, Alzheimer, Huntingtons and epilepsy.

The four men, Jeff Fisher, Dave Fowler, Eddie Carolan and Kent Sheppard, undertook a rigorous nine-month physical and technical training program. They have children of their own and say they want to protect them from these diseases.

The men range in age from 37 to 47 and got their inspiration when they read *Into Thin Air*, a book about climbing Mount Everest.

An experienced team of climbers from Vancouver volunteered to partner and guide the Toronto men on their three-day expedition.

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Business Profile

Love of maps a tradition in the Perly family

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

What do taxi drivers, ambulance drivers, police officers, real estate agents, salespeople and motorists have in common?

Perly street guides.

They're especially useful if you're directionally challenged.

Perly International Inc., which marks its 50th anniversary this year, is something of a household name in Ontario and Quebec, where its publications are widely sold and appreciated.

Headed by 25-year-old James Perly, who inherited it from his father in 1997, the company publishes an array of street guides, customized map books and CD-ROMs of greater Toronto, Montreal and Quebec City.

In the future, Perly may yet expand to the rest of Canada. "But our current focus is the Golden Horseshoe," said Perly, referring to the heavily populated region from Toronto to Niagara Falls.

Perly's most successful and enduring guide, the wire-bound book of Toronto and vicinity, graced by a red leatherette cover with gold-stamped lettering, is now in its 41st edition.

It's a meticulously produced work of the mapmaker's craft. Every street is fully indexed with map co-ordinates, postal areas and municipalities, and there is information on schools, hospitals, hotels and shopping centres. In the back of the book is a fold-out map of Toronto and environs and a highly detailed blowup of Toronto's downtown core.

Spinoff products include the large print, easy-to-read version, as well as the handy pocket-size edition with its orange cover that fits snugly into a glove compartment.

In 1995, Perly's father, Gary, who died 2½ years ago, introduced CD-ROMs. "He was originally a system analyst at IBM, and had a strong leaning for digital mapping."

CD-ROMs, Perly said, are typically used by salesmen and real estate agents to chart territory. "They're very useful. With a click of the mouse, they can locate any street in Toronto. And you can print maps of your choice off the computer."

By popular demand, Perly plans soon to unveil its newest products, 3 x 4 and 5 x7 wall maps of Toronto. The smaller map provides an overview of the city, while the bigger one is far more detailed.

"Maps," said Perly, "should be legible and pleasing to the eye, to be used functionally and decoratively."

James Perly, president of Perly International Inc.

It's a credo that his grandparents, Al and Belle, the founders of Perly, clearly understood.

They started the business in 1949 by publishing maps of Ontario's cottage country. A year later, the Perlys published the *Bluemap Atlas*, supposedly the first road atlas of Toronto.

"It was a good business to get into," said Perly, whose family name was originally Pearlstein. "There has always been a love of maps in the family."

Al and Belle worked out of a house on Eglinton Avenue West, where Perly's is still located. The store was on the ground level, the living quarters above.

"My grandparents' master bedroom is now my office," said Perly, a friendly, casually dressed man, who started working for the company when he was 12 and continued to do so during summer breaks.

"My grandfather used to make the deals and brainstorm in the back room. He was more of a businessman than a mapmaker. My grandmother handled the finances and the marketing. In those days, they used to ride around in cabs checking the streets every night. Today, we do it in pairs in our own cars."

Al died when Perly was very young, but Belle stayed on for many more years, helping her son Gary, who took over in 1981.

In December 1996, while on a business trip to China, Gary was stricken with pneumonia. He immediately returned home, only to discover that he had inoperable cancer. He died about a month later at the age of 53.

Before he died, he asked James, his only child, to succeed him. James was then a third-year psychology student at York University, who looked forward to finishing his degree and doing "my own thing" for a few years after graduation.

"Father's death was a terrible shock and extremely stressful, to say the least. I had to go through a transition from student to company president.

"I had no time to adjust. I went right to the top, though I had a good knowledge of how to work. I really enjoyed my university studies, but I always knew I'd eventually go into business."

He credits Perly's employees with helping him through this traumatic period of grief and adjustment.

"We have good management here. They kept things running, and have been training me for the past two years."

His mother Caroline, who is not in the business, was also supportive. "She helped by being motherly, I guess."

Perly, a bachelor, has no plans at present to complete his degree in psychology. However, he has attended night classes in business administration.

As president, he fulfils two major roles. "I provide a vision and make sure we're sticking to it, and I keep everything working. I'm a jack-of-all-trades here, and I can pretty much do any job."

Perly's employs 25 workers in sales, administration and production. Five are cartographers.

They have their hands full, since there are always more streets, avenues and roads to be added. In the 1999 guides, for example, Toronto has 13 new streets; Oakville, 54; Vaughan, 90, Richmond Hill, 100; Scarborough, 10; Markham, 73; Brampton, 51; Mississauga, 65; Whitby, 35; North York, nine.

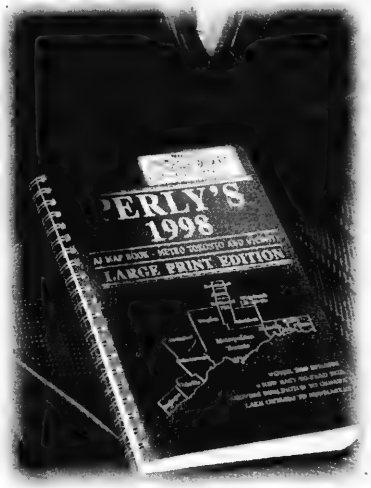
"The better the economy, the greater number of new streets there are to be added," said Perly.

Not surprisingly, Perly has competitors breathing down its neck. Indeed, by his reckoning, Toronto has the most competitive map market in the world.

Rand McNally, an American firm, sells *Allmaps* in Canada, while an Oshawa firm publishes *Mapart*.

The competition, though, doesn't worry Perly in the slightest.

"We're number 1 by far," he claimed. "Ours is the book of choice, the industry standard."



[photo by Edward Dunbar]

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Multi-talented singer offers audience eclectic repertoire

Singer Lenka Lichtenberg

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Lenka Lichtenberg had the capacity audience clapping and singing at her recent concert, sponsored by Friends of Yiddish.

Singing in Yiddish, English, Russian, Ladino and Hebrew, the Toronto singer, songwriter, musician and teacher, performed Middle Eastern rhythms, Yiddish folk music, klezmer tunes, jazz improvisations and contemporary music.

Accompanied by a seven-piece band, Lichtenberg presented original songs in English, and Jewish songs including *Tum-Balalayka* and *Vu Is Dos Gesele*.

The concert, held at the Studio Theatre of the Ford Centre for the Performing Arts, marked the release of Lichtenberg's first CD, *Deep Inside*, a collection of five Yiddish songs, one Ladino/Hebrew song and six of her original compositions in English.

Her recording was produced by Juno award-winning producer and musician, Ken Whiteley, and the CD showcases three arrangements by David Buchbinder of the Flying Bulgar Klezmer Band.

Lichtenberg was born and raised in Prague, Czechoslovakia, and became a recording artist, working in television and theatre.

She came to Canada in 1981, and in Vancouver, she continued to perform and study music. Ten years ago, she met and married Rubin Cohen and came to live in Toronto. They have three children who attend Bialik Hebrew Day School.

In Toronto, she received a master's degree at York University where the topic of her thesis was Yiddish folk music. She currently teaches music at Ryerson Polytechnic University.

She sang with Zalmen Mlotek at the Yiddish Festival in Queens, N.Y., performed at the Ashkenaz Festival last year, and will be featured again this year. She has presented several solo performances in Prague.

Speaking of her mother, who was a Holocaust survivor, she said that her composition, *Child of Survivors*, is an interpretation of what a child ponders as a survivor of the Holocaust.

A song entitled, *One Day A Conversation*, is about her craving for understanding between secular and religious Jews.

She played the piano as well as the guitar for several songs.

CJN Rosh Hashanah Photo Contest

The CJN announces its fifth annual Rosh Hashanah photo contest. We are asking readers to submit their own original photographs either of Israel or on any Jewish theme in their community.

Anyone can enter except *CJN* employees or members of their families.

A maximum of three photos per entrant may be submitted. Please write your name, address and phone number on the back of each photo. We can only return the photos if you provide a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

You may mail or deliver your photos to: *The CJN* Rosh Hashanah Contest, The Canadian Jewish News, 1500 Don Mills Road, Suite 205, Toronto, Ont., M3B 3K4.

The contest closes at 5 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 16, 1999.

The judges will choose three photographs which, in their opinion, are the most expressive and evocative. These three photos will be published in *The CJN* Rosh Hashanah issue, Sept. 9, 1999. Each of the "winning" photographers will receive a cheque for $100.

We will undoubtedly receive many worthy submissions. But only three will be selected as the "winners." The decisions of the judges will be final. The odds of winning depend upon the number and the quality of submissions received.

Winning entrants will be notified by telephone before Shabbat on Aug. 27, 1999.

Any litigation respecting the conduct and awarding of a prize in this contest may be submitted to the Régie des Loteries et courses du Québec.

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Musician incorporates Torah ideals

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Singer/songwriter Laurence Kosoy recently released his second CD, *Return*, based on the journey in search of his Jewish roots.

Kosoy says the nine songs in the album are on one basic theme: "Calling to young and old people to see life, not just as a place for pleasures, but as an opportunity to commit ourselves to inner growth and spiritual development."

He questions, he says, whether "we really and truly have given our Jewish past an honest and thorough exploration."

Kosoy, born in Toronto, attended Forest Hill Collegiate Institute, and studied history and music at Concordia University. Now an observant Jew, he says he began the search for his roots by travelling to eastern countries, "because it is more appealing to go outside yourself in your search."

In India, Kosoy says, he spoke to a non-Jewish social worker, who was interested in helping the poor and doing meditation, and the social worker told him about his four month visit to Israel.

"His interest in Israel made me think that I should go to Israel to explore my Judaism." In 1998, he spent 2½ months there.

"I discovered that Judaism was a good balance between the spiritual and physical/material world."

Music, he says, became an expression of where he was, and where he was heading. "Torah observant Judaism is the culmination of my searching and discovery."

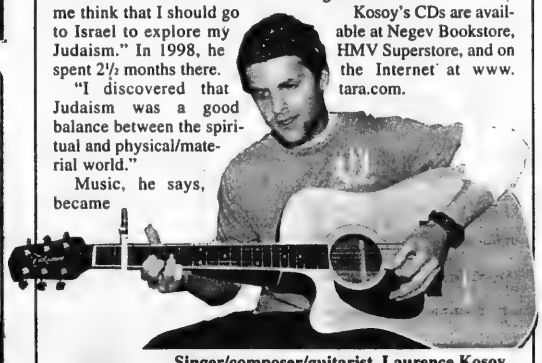
Music, he adds, incorporates Torah ideals, and expresses to others the beauty and richness of authentic Judaism. "I believe that if people were presented with a true and authentic living Judaism, perhaps they would also be drawn to what I consider the ultimate lifestyle."

Return has songs related to spirituality, personal growth and healing. Some song titles are, *Know Yourself, Stop Looking Down the Road, Rise Above It, Fearless People* and *Thank You*.

Kosoy, who will be returning to Israel to continue his studies, has performed at many Toronto bars and clubs, and makes regular appearances at the Free Times Cafe. He has given concerts in Japan and Indonesia, and most recently he performed to a sell-out crowd at England's oldest acoustic coffee house, Bunjies in London.

His 1996 CD, *Patience with The Ordinary* was well received, and one of his compositions placed in the top 300 selections out of more than 3,000 entries from some 20 countries in the Unisong International Song Contest.

Kosoy's CDs are available at Negev Bookstore, HMV Superstore, and on the Internet at www.tara.com.



Singer/composer/guitarist, Laurence Kosoy.

Arts & Travel

Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

The Klezmer Conservatory Band is one of many bands participating in this years Ashkenaz Festival.

EXPLOSION OF KLEZMER CULTURE

Over 175 artists from 10 countries are coming to Toronto to perform at this year's Ashkenaz Festival of New Yiddish Culture, set to take over Harbourfront Centre from Aug. 30 to Sep. 6.

Although most of the 110 scheduled events are free, tickets are already on sale for a host of cultural events, including what is being billed as the "musical centrepiece" of the festival, two performances by the 20-piece **Ashkenaz Orchestra Project** (AOP).

In seven new compositions, the ensemble will explore the dynamic fusion of klezmer, new music, jazz, Middle Eastern and Roma music. (The AOP performs Sept. 1 at 10 p.m. and Sept. 2 at 8 p.m.; tickets are $15.)

Under the direction of Toronto musician **David Buchbinder**, this third biennial incarnation of Ashkenaz is the most ambitious ever. It's being called the "largest Jewish cultural festival in the world."

Boston's **Klezmer Conservatory Band** launches the musical excitement on Aug. 30, 8 p.m. (tickets $20 in advance).

Other ticketed musical events are headlined by trumpeter **Dave Douglas**, *Downbeat's* 1998 artist of the year, with a special ensemble; **Brave Old World**, performing songs from the Lodz ghetto; the **Ashkenaz Fidl Kapelye**, a troupe of klezmer fiddlers "whose sizzling dance sounds and mystical meditations haven't been heard [in this world] in 100 years;" the **New Jewish Chorale/Toronto Jewish Folk Choir**, presenting the musical legacy of the Bund; and **Marty Ehrlich and the Dark Woods Ensemble**, combining klezmer and John Coltrane.

A major literary event entitled Re-Imagining the Shtetl features writers **Yehuda Elberg**, novelist **Lilian Nattel** and **Yaffa Eliach** (Sept. 1, 8 p.m., $8.) The Reel Ashkenaz film programme, meanwhile, presents treasures from the golden age of Yiddish cinema.

Regrettably, only a small part of Ashkenaz' astonishing line-up of talent can be mentioned here. But look for the ultra-colorful Ashkenaz parade, late-night cabaret, numerous children's events, display of Judaic treasures, many workshops and forums, theatre events, and the Fresser's Paradise Food Tent, which will offer some kosher products.

For more information, call 973-3000; for tickets, 973-4000. Or visit the Web sites at www.ashkenaz.org or www.harbourfront.on.ca.

* * *

Winning Playwright: The Jewish Theatre Committee of Toronto has awarded **Vern Thiessen**, a drama instructor at the University of Alberta, first prize in this year's Canadian Jewish Playwriting Contest.

The winning play, *Einstein's Gift*, looks at the life of the Nobel Prize-winning chemist and Nazi victim, **Fritz Haber**.

The prodigiously talented Haber, who was Jewish, converted to Christianity and became one of Germany's best-known chemists. Eventually, confronted with Hitler's anti-Jewish decrees, he was forced to make some wrenching choices.

"I was fascinated by the moral and religious dilemmas that Haber confronted," said Thiessen, who added that his own background as a Mennonite on the Canadian Prairies gave him a special insight into religious prejudice and discrimination.

Einstein's Gift is slated to premiere during the committee's 1999-2000 season of staged readings, which will also include two former contest winners. "The submissions are always of a very high calibre, and this year is no exception," said committee chair, **Ralph Wintrob**.

* * *

War Orphans Wanted: Between 1947 and 1949, the Canadian Jewish Congress brought 1,123 boys and girls, orphans and survivors, to new lives in Canada. Now one of the orphans, **Jack Kuper**, filmmaker and author of the renowned memoir *Child of the Holocaust*, is preparing to make *Children of the Storm*, a television documentary about this fragment of Canadian history.

Kuper is seeking other war orphans, foster parents, government works, social workers, Congress volunteers, teachers, community members, and others who can shed light on the subject and wish to be interviewed. Contact Kuper Productions Ltd., 301 Forest Hill Rd., Toronto M5P 2N7. Fax 782-4425; e-mail kuper@ican.net.

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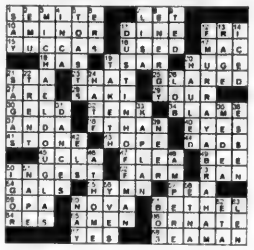

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KENSINGTON CABARET

Joel Grey was the headliner at the Ashkenaz fundraiser, Kensington Cabaret on June 17. Funds raised were in support of the Ashkenaz festival taking place Aug.30 to Sept. 6. Pictured from left are artistic director David Buchbinder; board of directors president Rosalie Sharp; Joel Grey and gala committee chair Hinda Silber. [Jesse Rosensweet photo]

Ryerson grad eyes career as TV personality

By DAVID SILVERBERG
Student Intern

TORONTO — Adam Schachter has never abandoned his dream of becoming a TV personality in entertainment journalism.

"I've learned to be patient and persistent," says Schachter, 23, who is still looking for his big break in the business.

The Toronto native has worked for the Toronto Raptors and rock radio station Q107, and did an internship will *Hard Copy*, an American tabloid journalism show.

Schachter says he first thought about a summer internship when a visitor came to speak to his Radio and Television Arts (RTA) class at Ryerson Polytechnic University.

"She spoke about working for CNN Jerusalem," says Schachter, "which would be an ideal job."

After his first year of university, he applied to various shows to become an intern, and landed a position at *Hard Copy* in Los Angeles. At 19, he flew to Paramount Studios for several memorable months, working without pay.

Schachter first chased story leads. He investigated some that were as ludicrous as "a dog flying out a window," he says.

Then a producer took a liking to him, and Schachter became an assistant producer. His experiences included shooting footage on the *Baywatch* beach and covering the O.J. Simpson trial.

"I'll never forget having breakfast with some dismissed jurors at the heart of the trial," he recalls.

Schachter also worked for the Toronto Raptors as an attendant at the visiting locker room, where he smoked cigars with Michael Jordan and sneaked hamburgers to Shaquille O'Neal before a game.

Schachter thinks Toronto is the city for him. "Right here, it's great. Next to L.A. and New York, Toronto is the place to be for entertainment."

Schachter graduated from the RTA program at Ryerson last April.

"Ryerson rounded me out," he says. "In TV, it's important to know everything and Ryerson gave me the technical skills. Although I'm not on the technical side, I know about audio, lighting and camera work."

Music video

Schachter has had a varied career to date. He acted in an amateur film, appeared in a Liza Minelli music video and was a DJ for a Toronto entertainment company for eight years. He worked as an entertainer and assistant cruise director for Princess Cruises, where, he says, he got paid to travel from Alaska to the Caribbean over to Hawaii, Tahiti and Bora Bora.

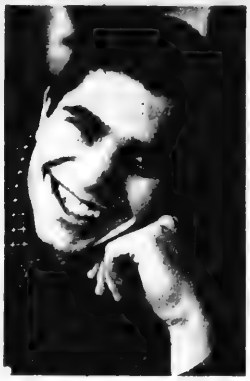
Schachter remembers the wonderful Pesach seder he attended during a cruise from Hawaii to Tahiti. "Here we are, in the middle of the Pacific," he says, smiling. "There were 45 people and even a rabbi on board."

Schachter is currently working for his father's marketing company, but an agent is trying to land him TV or commercial roles. However, he says it's not easy.

"Entertainment is a tough business to break into." You need to follow up on every phone call without being obnoxious, he says.

The reality of show business is that people look out for themselves, but people are also out there to help you, says Schachter.

"You have to have confidence and personality or else you'll get stepped on."



Adam Schachter.

Studio 2 to feature Zukerman profile

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

Pinchas Zukerman has proven himself as a great violin soloist. Now, as music director of the National Arts Centre Orchestra in Ottawa, he is being challenged to prove his mettle as a conductor.

On Tuesday, July 6 at 8 p.m., the reincarnated Zukerman is the subject of a profile by TVOntario's *Studio 2*, hosted by Steve Paikin and Paula Todd.

Born in Israel, Zukerman, 50, is one of the stellar musicians of our time. A two-time Grammy-Award winner who has recorded 100 albums, he has a cadre of faithful fans stretching from Australia to Zimbabwe.

As he reminisces, he recalls that his parents wanted him to pursue "a tangible profession" in law or medicine. He obviously disappointed them, but they are doubtless proud Jewish parents today. "I'm doing OK," he says in an understatement.

Unfortunately, we learn substantially little about his life and career in this sketchy segment.

We're told that he went to the United States at age 14 to hone his skills, but nothing more is said about his development as a world-class artist.

Pianist Mark Niekrug suggests that Zukerman is not rigid in his musical tastes. But he does not elaborate.

The *Ottawa Citizen* critic expresses disappointment with Zukerman's supposed neglect of "new Canadian music." Yet details are sorely lacking.

Zukerman is portrayed as a person with an amazing ability to focus. But the point goes unillustrated.

As he talks, Zukerman voices admiration for the soaring talents of the great classical music composers. But he does not flesh out this important theme.

What does come across clearly and unambiguously is Zukerman's joie de vivre.

The man is bubbly, alive and vital. He clearly loves to hold forth in lively conversations.

Regrettably, however, he is given insufficient scope for the rhetorical flights of fancy that could have enriched this profile considerably.

Ashkenaz ticketed events

Tickets are now on sale (973-4000)for the following events for Ashkenaz '99.

Music

Klezmer Conservatory Band. Aug.30. 8 p.m.$20.

David Douglas and Charms of the Night Sky. Sept.1. 8p.m.Sept.2. 10p.m. $15.

Ashkenaz Orchestra Project. Sept.1. 10p.m. Sept.2. 8p.m. $15.

Brave Old World's *Song of the Lodz Ghetto*.Sept.5. 7p.m. $8, $12.

Ashkenaz Fidl Kapelye. Sept.6. 2p.m.$8.

New Yiddish Chorale/Toronto Jewish Folk choir, *In Love and Struggle*.Sept.6. 4p.m. $8.

Marty Ehrlich and the Dark Woods Ensemble featuring Marc Ribot. Sept.6. 4:30p.m. $10.

Theatre & Dance

Holocaust Stories, inspired by the writings of Bertolt Brecht and Cynthia Ozick. Aug.30. 8:30 p.m. Aug.31. 8:30 p.m. $15, $20.

O Wholly Night and Other Jewish Solecisms,by Deb Margolin. Aug.30. 8:30 p.m.Aug.31. 8p.m. $12.

Diamonds in the Dark from San Francisco's A Traveling Jewish Theatre. Sept.1. 9p.m. Sept.2 9p.m. $15, $20.

Shtick! A Queer Play on Jewish Vaudeville by Sara Felder. Sept. 4. 8:30 p.m. Sept.5 at 9 p.m.$15. $20.

The Kabbalistic Psychoanalysis of Adam R. Tzaddik by Anton Piatigorsky. Sept. 4. 10 p.m. Sept. 5. 7 p.m. $10. $14.

Film

The Golem with score by Alan Bern. Aug. 31. 9:30 p.m. $8.

The Golem with score by Daniel Hoffman. Sept. 5. 8:30 p.m. $8.

Literary

Re-imagining the Shtetl. Readings by Yehuda Elberg, Lilian Nattel and Yaffa Eliach. Sept 1. 7p.m. $8.

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"The Pachters"

Tutankhamen exhibit featured at Cairo museum

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

CAIRO – Cairo's Egyptian Museum is a one-of-a-kind repository, a treasure trove of antiquities which summons up the glories of ancient Egypt.

In this dusty, dimly-lit museum, the quantity as well as the quality of the exhibits – approximately 140,000 – inspire awe.

The piece de resistance, of course, is the Tutankhamen exhibit, spread throughout 12 rooms on the second floor.

But one is also impressed by the elegant jewelry, the alabaster vases and bowls, the clay tablets adorned with hieroglyphics, the life-like statuettes, the eerie funerary masks, the weathered mummies, and the caskets in which they rested for thousands of years.

The steles, the upright stone slabs and pillars bearing inscriptions or designs which commemorate stellar events, command much interest. One that particularly caught my eye chronicles the persecution of the Hebrews by the Pharaoh Ramses II. His mummy can be seen in the special mummy room.

Housed in a neo-classical building in bustling central Cairo, the museum traces Egypt's history from pharaonic times (3000-341 BCE) and Greek rule (332 to 30 BCE) to the Roman and Byzantine eras (30 BCE to 638 CE).

Its collection of pharaonic artifacts is far and away the greatest in the world.

All but one are authentic – the famous black basalt Rosetta Stone, discovered by the French in 1799 and deciphered by Jean-Francois Champollion. The original is in London's British Museum.

The contents of Tutankhamen's tomb, uncovered by the British archeologist Howard Carter in 1922 in Luxor's Valley of the Kings, are nothing short of splendid.

In the pantheon of pharaohs, Tutankhamen was an insignificant king. But because he was the only pharaoh whose tomb was not raided by grave robbers, the glittering artifacts Carter found created a universal sensation which has yet to subside.

Tutankhamen's beaten gold mask, his golden sandals, rings and bracelets, and the coffins which bore his remains are simply spellbinding.

The Cairo Museum. [Sheldon Kirshner photo]

But so, too, are his chariot (fashioned from wood, bronze and ivory), his intricately-carved ceremonial shields, his wooden household chest, his ostrich-feather fan, his gold-coated throne decorated with semi-precious stones, glass and silver, his oil-burning lamps, his miniature boats and his bed (supported by the elongated bodies of two stylistic cows).

Beyond Tutankhamen, the museum offers a kaleidoscopic array of fantastic relics. They range from a stele of the legendary Nefertiti posing informally with her husband and daughters to an assemblage of mummified animals, biscuits and loaves of bread.

In another corner, I saw small boxes of dried juniper berries, melon and barley seeds and dessicated dates.

There was still more as I wandered through the halls – funerary masks and papyri from the Greco-Roman period, the sarcophagus of a royal scribe, an ensemble of kitchen ware, arrows and arrow heads, axes and hoes, the discolored linen of an unwrapped mummy, clay tablets of official correspondence between Egypt and neighboring states, and a limestone latrine seat.

As I rounded a bend, I came face to face with a granite stele dedicated by Ptolemy to Alexander II, the son of Alexander the Great.

Although the museum is extraordinary by any yardstick, it is not without its deficiencies.

Labels are sometimes hard to read due to poor lighting and positioning. And some exhibits are not even labelled. Occasionally, you're left with the feeling that this is a warehouse and not a museum.

Cognizant of these drawbacks, the Ministry of Culture wants to build a new Egyptian Museum near the pyramids, but lacks the funds to do so.

Security around the museum is tight, following a spate of Islamic fundamentalist terrorist attacks which targeted tourists between 1992 and 1997. In fact, the museum was the site of an incident in which nine Germans and their Egyptian driver were killed.

The sight of soldiers cradling AK-47 Kalashnikov machine-guns can be unsettling. But once you step inside the museum, leaving the grime and grit and everyday problems of Egypt behind, you're transported into a realm of unsurpassed beauty.

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Single female, 36, 5'4", attractive, slim brunette, enjoy cottage life, theater, country. Seeking a professional male, 35-44, who is intelligent, interesting, attractive, inside and out. AD#1561

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Single female, 40, 5'3", professional, attractive, medium build, enjoy movies, travelling, tennis, dining out. Seeking a sincere male, 36-50, attractive and successful. AD#1195

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Divorced female, 44, pretty, slender, Jewish, employed, dark brown hair and eyes, enjoy sports, art, theater, swimming. Seeking a Jewish male, 40-49, non smoker, healthy in body, soul and mind, independent, sensible. AD#1094

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Single male, 40, slim, 5'11", 165lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, sincere, hopeless romantic, enjoy walking on the beach, bowling, tennis, swimming, sports, 60's music. Seeking a slim, attractive female, with a great sense of humour. AD#1610

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Single white male, 57, romantic, self employed, businessman, enjoy travelling, movies, quiet times, good conversation. Seeking a female with similar interests. AD#2044

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Single Jewish male, 40, bright, witty, kind hearted, enjoy long walks, theater, hiking, travelling, table tennis and other games. Seeking a female with similar interests. AD#1086

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The Canadian Jewish news

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Reno'd., 4 bdrms., 4 baths, mn. flr. fam. F. Sversky** 488-2875

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Yonge S./Sheppard! Prime 42.6 x 100' lot on dead end street! Develop/build New! Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

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3 unit income property, $279,900. David Manuel* 488-2875

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225 KINGSDALE AVENUE! $659,888!
Bayview/Sheppard! Exquisite cust. res.! 4+2 bdrms., 5 baths, w/o bsmnt.! Gorgeous 50x122' lot! Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

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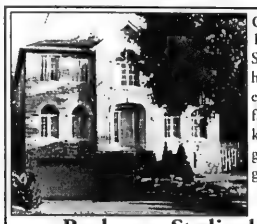

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30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

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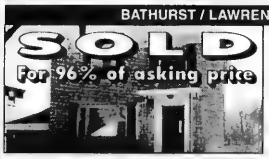
BATHURST / LAWRENCE



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SOLD

BATHURST / LAWRENCE

Spacious 3 bedroom side-split, family room, renovated & decorated, gorgeous 67 x 150 ft. south lot, fabulous location, private serene setting, only $549,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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Spacious 3 + 2 bedroom bung., hardwood floors, eat-in kitchen, sep. entry to two in-law suites, fabulous location close to all amenities. Only $269,000 — **ACT NOW!** Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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Newly renovated & decorated 2 storey home, breakfast room walks out to garden, fin. bsmt., only $329,900. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

REAL ESTATE Section

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

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Bathurst/Glencairn - $209,000. 2 bedroom condo, shabat elevator, 24 hr. security, parking.

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35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

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Bath./Steeles - Townsgate, lux. 2 bdrm, 2 bth., 5 appl., huge PH terrace, 2 pkg. 905-882-1534.

40 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE/ RENT

131 Torresdale - 2 bdrm., den, Florida rm., 1600 sq. ft., lots of extras & uprg. Private sale. 905-660-7982 or 416-588-6771.

60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

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$1,900/month.
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240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

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BESCA, Beatriz - on June 18, 1999, late of 525 Lawrence Ave. W.
CHAJAT, Ruwin - on June 18, 1999.
DANIELS, Esther George - on June 18, 1999.
MOSES, Naji Solomon - on June 20, 1999.
CORIAT, Suzanne - on June 21, 1999, late of 3 Aberfeldy Cres.
DELMAR, Mercedes - on June 21, 1999, late of 4979 Bathurst St.
ROSENBERG, Louis - on June 21, 1999, late of 33 Wilmington Ave.
WINTER, Maria - on June 21, 1999, late of 64 Blue Forest Dr.
SAND, Alexander- on June 22, 1999, late of Los Angeles.
SHEYMAN, Raisa - on June 22, 1999, late of 55 Ameer Ave.
ZAGORSKI, Lena - on June 23, 1999, late of 82 Buttonwood Dr.
ZEIDENBERG, Jack - on June 23, 1999, late of 1 Clark Ave. W.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

BIRNBAUM, Moe - on May 26, 1999, late of 2515 Bathurst St., #710.
DUNN, David - on May 28, 1999, late of 119 Braemar Ave.
KAUFMAN, Lou - on May 28, 1999, late of 260 Heath St. W., #402.
KOHN, Edwarad - on May 29, 1999, late of 28 Harlock Blvd.
YOLLECK, Bess - on May 29, 1999, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
ANDREANSKY, Margaret - on May 30, 1999, late of 38 Baycrest Ave.
SLATER, Julia - on May 30, 1999, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
UJHEGYI, Frida - on May 31, 1999, late of 55 Ameer Ave.
KREEPS, Elsie - on June 1, 1999, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
FRIEDLANDER, Margaret - on June 2, 1999, late of 1575 Steeles Ave. E.
SIMCHA, Dora - on June 2, 1999, late of 86 McAllister Rd.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

BOBROW, Chona - on June 3, 1999, late of 400 Walmer Rd., #1530.
GROSBEIN, Joseph - on June 3, 1999, late of 81 Townsgate Dr., #103.
PIAFSKY, Donna - on June 3, 1999, late of 32A Oriole Rd.
NAHMAN, Esther Sultan - on June 5, 1999, late of 513 Walkers Line, #109.
NEWMAN, Esther - on June 5, 1999, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
PANCER, Stanley - on June 5, 1999, late of 345 Pleasant Ave.
GIRLING, Zoe - on June 7, 1999, late of 75 Garfield Ave.
ALTER, Shirley - on June 8, 1999, late of 35 Foxwarren Dr.
BARRON, Esther - on June 8, 1999, late of 1201 Steeles Ave. E., #303.
KAMIN, Albert - on June 8, 1999, late of 1555 Finch Ave. E., #904.
KRUGER, Shirley - on June 8, 1999, late of 9 Kingsbridge Crt., #403.
BUDD, Beatty - on June 9, 1999, late of 188 Margaret Ave., #711.
LESTER, Rose - on June 9, 1999, late of 1035 Eglinton Ave. W.
BERLIN, Norda - on June 10, 1999, late of 141 Strathearn Rd.
RUDERMAN, Ida - on June 12, 1999, late of 8 Peveril Hill N.
SIMMONS, Jerry - on June 12, 1999, late of 65 Skymark Dr., #1903.
BERCHARD, Sam - on June 14, 1999, late of 7440 Bathurst St., #1104.
RIGHTER, Nicholas - on June 14, 1999, late of 570 Eglinton Ave. W., #203.
SCHWARTZ, Rachel - on June 14, 1999, late of 55 Skymark Dr., #1804.
RAITBLAT, David - on June 16, 1999, late of 625 Avenue Rd., #703.
RAPPAPORT, Gertrude - on June 16, 1999, late of 85 Lyndhurst Ave.
SZENDE, Michael - on June 16, 1999, late of 440 Glencairn Ave.
BERG, Mark - on June 17, 1999, late of 1955 Steeles Ave. E.
GOLDMAN, Merle - on June 17, 1999, late of 3560 Bathurst St.

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ADELKIND, Bessie - on May 28, 1999, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
BANNER, Mac - on May 28, 1999, late of 89 Shelborne Ave.
ROSENBERG, David - on May 31, 1999, late of 33 Crown Hgts. Cres.
NADLER, Tamara - on June 2, 1999, late of 25 Rockport Rd.
LEVINE, Bertha Brandel - on June 4, 1999, late of 15 Rockford Rd.,#608.
PAUL, Charlotte - on June 4, 1999, late of 537 Glengrove Ave.
JAFFE, Malka - on June 8, 1999, late of 429 Walmer Rd.
HABER, Monel - on June 11, 1999, late of 44 Charles St., #1215.

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The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
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will take place
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Mount Sinai Memorial Park
Independent Friendly Workers Circle Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
NORMAN JAEGER ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, July 4th, 11:00 a.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
Jewish War Veterans Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

Israel & the Jewish World

TWIN FORMATION
Reli and Mor Lukatch, both 19 years old, are serving together in the IDF. "The guys get us mixed up all the time and it creates some very comic situations, but it is great to serve together," said Reli (top). [Israel Sun photo]

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
TOBY STEIMAN ז"ל
will take place
Thursday, July 8th, 11:30 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
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Relatives and friends are invited to attend

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The Canadian Jewish news

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Deadline
Monday, July 5th, noon

The Classified office of The Canadian Jewish News will be closed July 1st for Canada Day and for the week of July 12–July 16

* * * * * * * * * * * * *

There will be no issue of the CJN for the week of July 22/99

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Sports

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Israel on verge of qualifying for European Championship

By ELLIOT HOOL and ASHER GOLDBERG
Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

TEL AVIV — Israel's national soccer team stands at the dawn of the most glorious chapter in its history after a 5-0 crushing of visiting Austria in a Group 6 European Championship qualifier in Ramat Gan recently.

The result – undoubtedly the best ever by the national side in an official game – takes Israel into second place in Group 6 and gives national team head coach Shlomo Sharf and his players a golden opportunity to qualify for the European Championships (Euro 2000) in Holland and Belgium next summer. Israel's on-field performance even hints at the possibility of slipping past Spain to take the group outright and qualify automatically.

Eyal Berkovic scored two goals and set up another, but the statistics are only a small part of the story of his contribution. The West Ham midfielder has never played better in a blue shirt, and was a constant nightmare for the Austrians, who apart from kicking him, had no weapon to deal with his genius.

At the same time, only yards away, Haim Revivo, reportedly linked to Barcelona in a possible $13 million move, showed the Spanish team's coach, Louis van Gal, that it would be money well spent as he broke from constantly tormenting the right side of the Austrian defence, only to score a first-half injury time free-kick.

Israel led 2-0 at half time and put Austria away in the second half with another Berkovic goal and two more from Alon Mizrahi and Najwan Grayeb.

Berkovic was not surprised by his own, or his team's performance. Admitting it was "one of his finest displays for the national team," he said he had always believed it would happen. "I said that I would lead the team to victory and that's just what I did."

Captain Tal Banin was visibly moved after the match. "I am proud to be captain of the national team ...with this team everything is possible," he said in the dressing room, adding, "now we must qualify for Euro 2000."

All those involved in the national team are talking openly about Israel's very realistic chances of qualifying, be it via the top spot in Group 6 or via a nerve-racking playoff.

The national squad now has three months to prepare itself for the next, vital game – in Nicosia, against Cyprus. Victory would ensure second place in the group, leaving Sharf and his men to gear up for the next two games: the 'little clash' against San Marino followed by the 'giant clash' against Spain.

Sharf was the recipient of hundreds of congratulatory telegrams, telephone calls and personal visits following the win over Austria. He spent almost the entire day granting interviews to every imaginable branch of the media.

It was as if Israel was celebrating Independence Day all over again.

It is clear that the day after such a huge victory over Austria was always meant to be one big party. Some of the players left Israel for a well-earned vacation in the United States, while others preferred to take their vacations in Israel. Some went straight back to work, fulfilling their league commitments to their various European club sides.

With a realistic chance of qualifying for Euro 2000, competition for a place on Israel's squad is expected to be stiffer than ever.

Action from Israel's recent win over Austria. [Ha'aretz photo]

For the Austria game, Jan Talesnikov and Shay Holtzman were not even required to don their kits. And now Avi Nimny, Ronen Harazi and Walid Badir look set to rejoin their national team colleagues. Sharf faces an unenviable selection headache, which will cause him many sleepless nights before he decides on his final line-up to face the Cypriots.

Sharf looks set to cancel the planned training camp, which was to be held in early August, because of Hapoel Haifa's participation in the qualifying rounds of the European Champions League (on July 28 and August 4).

Sharf was the model of patriotic optimism concerning Israel's chances of qualifying for Euro 2000, for the first time in its history.

"Currently," Sharf said, "Israel is one of the best teams in Europe. We can compete, without fear, against any other nation on the continent. Our goal is to qualify for Euro 2000 by taking first place in the group, but to do so, we will have to beat Spain on the road. I believe that, with just a little luck and with the same level of play we displayed [against Austria], we can beat any team in a playoff."

Sharf also gave his players a resounding vote of confidence. "I believe in my players. We need to be focused, serious minded, and for the time being, concentrate our thoughts on Cyprus. That is our utmost priority right now."

Sharf singled out Israel's European contingent – Berkovic, Banin, Revivo, Mizrachi and Alon Hazan – for special praise.

"They proved they have matured. They joined the national team and they made a difference. They drove the rest of the players forward with their will to win and the concentration. No one wanted to be left behind. These players put in a huge amount of work in training."

The national team coach, who has caused no end of raised eyebrows over his tactical decisions in the past, allowed himself to feel vindicated by the result against Austria.

"I am delighted that the calculated decision to play Yossi Abuksis in midfield, alongside Banin, paid off. This is a great day for Israeli soccer, especially as the entire country is caught up in the celebrations."

Banin also believes Israel won't be waving the white flag before the game against Spain. Against Austria, Banin was one of Israel's star performers. Throughout the 90 minutes, he was always in motion, snuffing out any Austrian offensive before it caught fire and helping out the forwards by ably aiding Berkovic and Revivo.

"We were very tense before the game," he said. "In the past, our nervousness would have made us jittery and [would] harm our play. But now go into the game very well prepared and self-assured."

"I am sure we will finish at least in second place," Banin said. "I hope we can do something in the game against Spain. It is true that we have progressed, but we will only have achieved something once we qualify for the finals."

"Everything in life starts with faith. Without faith we wouldn't have beaten Austria. The game in Spain depends on our results beforehand, and on Spain's results. If we go into the game with something to play for, anything is possible," he added.

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The Inside Back

Art by the linear foot

By JORDAN MAX

Last Laugh

Warning: This column is meant to be read only by parents of school-aged children. By the time you, dear parent, are reading this column, another school year will be over. No doubt you're more relieved than your kids are.

Around the Max household, the end of the school year also provides a unique opportunity to finally deal with the year's mountain of original artwork and assignments brought home by our children. Judging by the volume, you might easily think that the kids were being paid by the linear foot of material produced. The looming question, is just what exactly does one do with all this stuff?

Each year, our children manage to create yet another unique challah cover, candelabra, honey jar, chanukiah, havdalah set, matzah cover, seder plate, mezuzah, kiddush cup, not to mention parshah-related illustrations, etc. Naturally, each one is admired for its intrinsic artistic value and all the hard work that went into its creation. And naturally, like all artists, they expect that the object will be put to good use.

Sensitive egos being what they are, the younger child wants to feel that his version is just as special as the one done last year by his older brother. During the school year, this leads to frequent competition over whose kiddush cup gets used on Shabbat, whose havdalah set, etc.

Sure, you can rotate them, you can give them to bubbies and zaydes, aunts, uncles, the mailman, even total strangers. Still, the supply exceeds the demand as you eventually run out of lucky recipients, and so we end up holding onto most of these beloved tchatchkes.

As if that wasn't enough, there's all the paper, the assignments, the mini-books of first numbers, letters, animals, science projects, spelling, writing, you name it, all lovingly prepared and presented weekly for parental admiration. Oy, such nachas! A virtual smorgasbord of learning, plastered on every available square inch of wall and fridge space, and crammed into every possible nook and cranny, shelf and drawer throughout the house. I even had to move my antique prime minister-shaped lint collection (a complete set!) to make room.

Now, my anecdotal research indicates that most couples are usually composed of pack rats and thrower-outers (can't think of a more scientific name). This tension gets heightened when it comes to our children's prolific output. Who knows, maybe the stick figures drawings that Bubbie says are just like Chagall would be worth millions if sold as modern art (It's hard to tell the difference, anyway.)

Or, maybe that math or science assignment is worth submitting in about 10 years' time, along with their medical/law school application, clearly demonstrating their early aptitude or abstract conceptual prowess.

So every July, in our effort to deal with The Mountain, as I affectionately call it, we have our annual discussion about what gets saved for posterity, and what gets euphemistically known as "lost."

It's usually a pretty ugly contest, which leaves both the pack rat and the thrower-outer with only two real choices. Sure, you can regain some living and storage space at the cost of parental guilt on throwing out your children's creations (paid for by hard-earned tuition). Or, you can keep absolutely everything, just because, well, you never know when you'll want to revisit it in 30 years' time when the kids have (hopefully) moved away and you want to take a trip down Nostalgia Boulevard. But to do this, you have to rent out a warehouse to store it all. And if you keep some and toss some, how do you know you haven't accidentally thrown out their future doctoral thesis or billion-dollar invention idea? So this year we've compromised, deciding to alternate years; this year is the keep-it-all, next year it's throw-it-all-out. Unless, of course, there's something that's really unique...

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BROCCOLI & APPLE SALAD

1 cup cooked fresh broccoli, chopped into florets
1/2 medium red onion, chopped
2 small Granny Smith apples, unpeeled, cored and cut up
4-5 medium strawberries, washed and sliced
2 tblsp. raspberry or cider vinegar
2 tblsp. olive oil
black pepper to taste

Mix broccoli, onions, apples and strawberries together in a large bowl. Toss with the vinegar, add the oil and toss again., Sprinkle with black pepper to taste.

Serves 4.

About Teens

Dear Karilani:

I'm going to sleepover camp for the first time this year. For the past couple of years I've gone to day camp, but this summer I thought I wanted to change and asked to go away. But now, as the summer is approaching, I'm starting to get really scared. I've heard a lot of stories, and camp sounds like a lot of fun, but I'm still nervous about being in a foreign atmosphere surrounded by people I don't know. I'm going with one of my best friends from school, but he has been going there for the past four summers, and he already has many friends I don't know. I'm worried that as soon as we step off the bus, he will forget about me and become absorbed in his camp life.

Scared to sleep over

Dear Scared to sleep over,

It is totally normal for you to feel apprehensive about going to sleepover camp for the first time. The issues that you are worrying about have the potential to cause problems; however, it is important for you to not obsess about the "what ifs" and focus on the wonderful things summer holds for you.

Think of the different stories that you have heard about sleepover camp. Camp is such a unique and wonderful place. It offers so many opportunities that you don't necessarily have at a regular day camp.

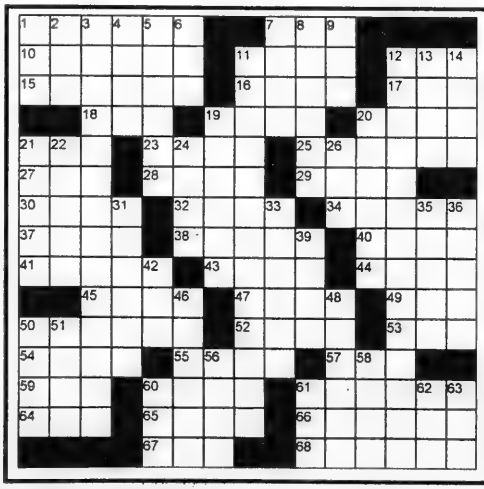
It sounds as though your biggest fear is that your best friend will not spend time with you at camp and he will be too focused on his camp friends. Here are some things you must keep in mind.

You and your friend agreed to go to camp together, so he is also looking forward to sharing his summer life with you. Seeing as you called him your best friend, we are assuming that you share a unique and special relationship. When two people are so close, it is not natural for one to dump the other in a new situation. You should have confidence in the relationship you share with your friend, for a true friend would not leave his best friend feeling sad and alone.

Something else you must remember, is that you will have the opportunity to make friends of your own. Once you have adjusted to camp life, you may find that you will have your own group of friends, and in that case you won't have to rely on your best friend as much. Even if friends you become close with are not close with your best friend, it is okay. Remember, you do always have your best friend there for additional support.

Have a great time at camp. Don't worry about problems that may possibly develop. Rather, think about the great experiences and memories you will have to cherish.

Karilani is a composite name for three girls, who are close friends and in Grade 11 in Toronto.



The Canadian Jewish News

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

And the Oscar Goes To...

By Matt Gaffney and David Bianco
(QSyndicate@aol.com)

Across

1 Descendant of Shem
7 Tennis takeover
10 Grieg's *Concerto in _____ for Piano*
11 Nosh classily
12 Day after Thu.
15 Western plants
16 Took advantage of
17 Apple product
18 Will soon defeat
19 Pogrom perpetrator
20 Golem-like
21 Victoria or Grand Central, for short
23 "Take _____!"
25 Showed wordless anger
27 Exist
28 Munro's pen name
29 Irving Berlin's *Annie Get _____ Gun*
30 Singer's money
32 6.2-mile race
34 Point the finger at
37 Time _____ half
38 *Blue River* author Canin
40 Windows to the soul
41 Grave visitor's leaving
43 Viktor Frankl subject
44 June honorees
45 Bruins' home
47 Dog trouble
49 Competition type
50 Devour
52 Toil on a kibbutz, often
53 Sought a Knesset seat
54 Guys' partners
55 Glorification of a sort
57 Pod dweller
59 _____-Locka, Florida
60 Carl Sagan concern
61 Common temple name
64 Matter for Benjamin Cardozo
65 Hebrew for "truly"
66 Highly decorative
67 Exultant cry
68 Mariner

Down

1 Give or take
2 Aussie non-flyer
3 Best Actor, 1987
4 Peruvian of old
5 Says "L' chaim!"
6 Places for M.D.'s and R.N.'s
7 Pop singer Loeb
8 Part of Einstein's equation
9 ABC News name
11 Best Actor, 1979 & 1988
12 Best Actor, 1984
13 Uncontrollable wrath
14 Clinched
19 Borrows, Biblically
20 Carted
21 Norse tales
22 Senator Lott
24 ADL foe
26 Court tactic
31 The Hora and cousins
33 "Welcome Back, Kotter" star
35 Jason deserted her
36 To eat, to Aleichem
39 _____-do-well
42 Chicago trains
46 In
48 Electric current unit
50 Marty Feldman's "Young Frankenstein" role
51 Neck part
56 Fashion's St. Laurent
58 Sicilian danger
60 Barbara Boxer vote
61 Jackson and Derek
62 Zeta follower
63 Spy novelist Deighton

(This week's answers are on page 31.)

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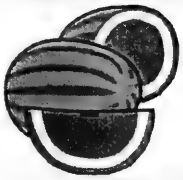

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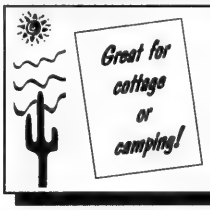

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This Week

National

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Teacher reprimanded for taking day off to prepare for Passover. *Page 5*

Survivor has over 100 paintings of the Holocaust. *Page 17*

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JEWISH AGENCY SENDS RELIEF

These children in Yugoslavia hold supplies they received from the Jewish Agency. The agency's future is currently being debated in Israel. ***Please see page 9.*** ***[Douglas Guthrie photo]***

Barak forges coalition

Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — Prime Minister-elect Ehud Barak forged a coalition government of 75 Knesset members last week. He was to officially present it to the Knesset this week on Tuesday, three days before the deadline for doing so expires.

As required under law, Barak sent a letter to the acting speaker of the Knesset, former prime minister Shimon Peres, informing him that he had formed his government, which he would present this week, according to Barak spokesperson Merav Parsi Tzadok.

75 members

Barak intends to expand the size of the cabinet from 18 to 24 ministers in the coming weeks.

He sent the letter to Peres hours after reaching agreement with the Shas party.

As part of that agreement, Shas is to receive authority over four ministries: Health, Infrastructure, Labor and Religious Affairs.

Shas, which increased its Knesset representation to 17 seats from 10 in the outgoing legislature, takes a relatively dovish stance on ceding land for peace.

Along with Shas, Barak has signed agreements with Yisrael b'Aliyah, Meretz, the National Religious Party (NRP), the United Torah Judaism (UTJ) bloc, the Centre party and One Nation.

With UTJ, Shas and the NRP in the coalition, it appears unlikely that the Knesset will enact legislation instituting pluralism in the administration of marriage and divorce.

Though Barak had initially said he hoped to form a government that also includes the Likud party, coalition talks with acting Likud leader Ariel Sharon broke down.

The Likud had sought an equal voice in deciding policy, particularly on the political process.

Negotiating teams began discussing a coalition package for Shas after it met Barak's key demands to oust its corruption-tainted leader, Aryeh Deri, and forgo its demand for control of the interior ministry.

Meretz, a champion of secular rights, had initially said it would refuse to participate in a government with Shas, citing Deri's bribery and fraud conviction.

But Shas' willingness to give up control of the Interior Ministry, which it has held for 15 years, persuaded Meretz to remain in Barak's coalition.

In addition to the ministries going to Shas, the following portfolios have been parceled out :

Continued on page 24

Son missing 17 years

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Although his anguish runs deep, Yona Baumel shows a father's pain for a lost son only briefly during a one-hour interview. Most of the time, he's all business, pulling no punches in discussing the diplomatic duplicity and political lassitude that have stymied efforts to free his son from captivity in Lebanon.

But asked to describe how he and his wife Miriam, are coping knowing that their son, Zachary, an IDF soldier, has been missing in action (MiA) for 17 of his 39 years, his cool demeanor gives way as he tries to fight back bitter emotion.

"We have a lot of good friends," he explains, struggling to maintain his composure. "As we have gotten weaker, they have undertaken part of the burden." He then quickly switches topics to focus on the process of finding his son.

Today, the Baumels enjoy the benefits of a network of contacts around the world, who are opening all sorts of doors for them in their quest to free Zachary. According to the best information Yona has received, Zachary, who was born in the United States, and two other Israeli MiAs are being held in relatively good conditions by Lebanese "moderates, not Hezbollah," near the Syrian border. They are being held as negotiating "assets" pending a final deal between Israel and Syria on the Golan Heights, he believes.

Yona Baumel

Despite Syrian claims of ignorance as to his fate, Baumel believes his son will be "found," if and when a deal with Israel is close.

While serving in the Israeli army, Zachary, along with Yehuda Katz and Zvi Feldman, were captured following a tank battle with Syrian and Palestinian forces at Sultan Ya'akub in Lebanon. Navigator Ron Arad, is the fourth Israeli MiA. Since their capture, the MiAs have been traded among Palestinian and Lebanese factions like so much merchandise, Baumel said.

To effect their return, the Baumels have taken their cause outside regular government channels, which have proven of limited

Continued on page 25

'GONE FISHING'

The offices of *The CJN* will be closed the week of July 12, 1999.

Syria may drop support for Hezbollah — please see page 23

The News in Brief

CANADA

Online Petition

TORONTO — UJA Federation of Greater Toronto has started an online petition to protest Iran's arrest of 13 Jews charged with spying. Visitors to the site may sign their name and e-mail it to the Iranian Embassy in Ottawa. The site is at www.feduja.org/temp/iran/president.stm.

Protest For Iranian Jews

OTTAWA — Over 100 people attended a recent protest outside the Iranian Embassy here in support of the 13 Jews arrested in Iran. Prayers were recited, and five local rabbis were in attendance. As well, member of Parliament David Pratt delivered a message of support from the federal government.

Israeli Mayors Visit

CALGARY — Calgary Mayor Al Duerr welcomed five Israeli mayors on a cross-Canada tour of Canadian cities to strengthen relations with Diaspora communities. Duerr met with the leaders of the northern Galilee Panhandle, comprising Mevo'ot Hahermon, Yesod Hamaala, Metulla, Kiryat Shmonah and the Upper Galilee Regional Council. A few days later, the five officials met with Vancouver Mayor Philip Owen.

ISRAEL

Grave May Be Opened

JERUSALEM — Israel's High Court of Justice has ruled that the grave of a soldier killed along with 11 other soldiers in a raid in Lebanon more than two years ago should be opened in order to conduct DNA testing to identify the remains. The Israeli army buried the remains, returned to Israel along with those of two other soldiers received in a prisoner swap with Hezbollah, without the family's knowledge.

JNF Fights Drought

JERUSALEM — The Jewish National Fund says it is helping the government fight the worst drought in Israel's history. The organization notes that water levels in Lake Kinneret, which supplies 35 percent of the country's potable water, is one to two inches from the danger level.

Undersea Wreck Found

JERUSALEM — Undersea explorers off Israel's coast have found what they described as the oldest known deep-water wrecks. The explorers, who found a pair of Phoenician cargo ships they said were more than 2,500 years old, used the same underwater tracking equipment that was used to locate the Titanic.

WORLD

Meeting Disappoints

WASHINGTON — Some of the 20 U.S. Jewish leaders who met with Egypt's president late last month said they were disappointed with Hosni Mubarak's reluctance to take a firm stand on a number of issues raised. Topics included the 13 Iranian Jews accused of espionage, anti-Semitism in Egypt and a meeting of parties to the Geneva Convention to discuss Israeli settlements. Abraham Foxman of the Anti-Defamation League, described the meeting as "very unsatisfying."

Yeltsin Criticizes Minister

MOSCOW — Russian President Boris Yeltsin criticized his justice minister for not unearthing evidence that the Communist party broke the law when some of its top officials launched anti-Semitic attacks last year on the nation's Jewish community. According to Russia's Interfax news agency, Yeltsin said he had uncovered several legal violations by the communists, adding that he was upset the minister had not filed charges against the party.

Israeli Envoy Resigns

RIGA — Israel's ambassador to the Baltic countries has resigned after accusing Lithuania of a poor record in prosecuting suspected Nazi war criminals. Oded Ben Hur, who serves as Israel's envoy to Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia, announced he would quit in a few weeks. Earlier, Ben Hur said the Baltic nations, particularly Lithuania, would find it difficult to integrate into Europe if they fail to acknowledge their roles in the Holocaust.

No Damage in Fire

VENICE — Several families were evacuated after a fire broke out last month in Venice's Jewish district, called the New Ghetto. A spokesperson for the Jewish community said no communal property was damaged. The ghetto, the heart of the city's historic Jewish quarter, is the site of a museum, community offices and several centuries-old synagogues.

Kosovo Jewish Leader Evacuated

PRISTINA — International Jewish representatives last week entered Kosovo for the first time since the NATO air war against Yugoslavia began, and evacuated the leader of Pristina's Jewish community and his family.

Chedar Prlincevic, 61, his wife and his 81-year-old mother were brought to the Macedonian capital of Skopje by Viktor Mizrachi, president of the 186-member Jewish community of Macedonia.

Prlincevic and his family were reported to be in good health and spirits, but exhausted from the stress of the previous few months.

In late June, armed men visited their home in Pristina and ordered them to leave town. Prlincevic said the men were not members of the Kosovo Liberation Army, but appeared to be members of a rogue paramilitary group acting on their own.

He described the situation in Pristina as tense and unsettled.

Mizrachi came to Kosovo along with Eli Eliezri, the officer for special projects of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, the first time outside Jewish organizations have entered the province since NATO's bombing began in March.

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Cemetery bars burial of Christian minister

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The Vaad Harabonim forbade the burial at Pardes Shalom cemetery of a Jew who had become an ordained Christian minister.

Last week's decision by the Vaad Harabonim, the council of Orthodox rabbis, was endorsed by Rabbi Michael Stroh, the immediate past president of the Toronto Board of Rabbis, which represents Conservative and Reform rabbis.

"It was a last minute decision because until then we had no information about it," said Rabbi Moshe Stern, head of the Vaad Harabonim.

The bylaws of Pardes Shalom prevent the burial of a non-Jew, said Keith Landy, Ontario Region president of the Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC). The CJC spoke on behalf of Pardes Shalom on this matter.

Landy said on the morning of the funeral service, Bernie Farber, the region's executive director, got a call from a reporter of a Christian publication advising him of the background of the case.

Leslie Jacobs, 48, termed it a "scandal" that his father, Malvern Jacobs, 71, was not permitted burial in Pardes Shalom

Although the family decided against a court injunction to force their father to be buried in Pardes Shalom, Jacobs said they will now proceed with civil action.

The cortege had wound its way north from Steeles Memorial Chapel only to find the cemetery's gates locked.

The mourners and the hearse were left outside the gates of the cemetery on Dufferin Street, north of Maple, in Vaughan, for two hours.

Later the body was returned to Steeles chapel, where a second service was held the next day, followed by a burial at York Region Cemetery on Beecroft Avenue.

Both services were conducted by Rabbi Aaron Zimmerman of Beth Meyer Synagogue who was described as a "childhood friend."

One of the unanswered questions is how the family purchased a plot in Pardes Shalom for Jacobs and whether there was disclosure of his messianic activities, said Landy.

The decision to bar Jacobs' burial in Pardes Shalom was based on his acceptance of Jesus as his messiah and his proselytizing activities which targeted Jews for conversion to Christianity, Rabbi Stern said.

"On the surface it appears harsh and cruel, but we had no way of knowing beforehand what was taking place.

"There should have been some checking on his background before the service. There may be others buried in Pardes Shalom who should not be there, but if we don't know, we can't ask."

Landy said Jacobs' decision to accept Jesus as the Messiah "clearly left him outside the Jewish community."

He said Jacobs was not only active in proselytizing among Jews, but he was also a deacon at a Christian congregation, and for a time, a minister at a Japanese pastoral church.

In a press release, the CJC, which said it "regretted" the incident at the cemetery gates, noted that Jacobs was dean of the department of Jewish studies at Canada Christian College. The program was removed from the curriculum as a result of complaints from the Jewish community.

Congress backs conflict mediation

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The Ontario region executive of Canadian Jewish Congress recently voted to offer a mediation approach to settling arguments between Jews who don't want their difficulties made public.

Supporting the move into a new area for Congress, regional chair Keith Landy said the mediation process would be self-financing and not profit-making, and applicants would be asked to pay the administration costs.

"It's all a voluntary process. We're not out to supplant anyone," Landy said.

"We were surprised at how responsive the Vaad Harabonim were," said executive member Sharon Wolfe, who presented the motion. "Rabbi Philip Scheim, president of

Continued on page 20

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From the editor's desk

Israeli election studied

Last month, on behalf of *The Canadian Jewish News*, I attended the annual conference of the American Jewish Press Association (AJPA). This year's conference was held in Philadelphia, a city whose downtown is a juxtaposition between the habitual hallmarks of modern urban life – office workers surging along crowded sidewalks to and from their places in the eight-hour cadence of their office jobs – and the historic hallmarks of the country's founding constitution.

It was an opportunity for representatives from the diverse body of weekly and monthly Jewish newspapers and magazines to meet to exchange ideas and to discuss issues of mutual concern.

Over the years, of course, the annual contacts with colleagues from other communities have evolved into friendships, and these friendships serve as a support system, a helpful network of contacts for editors and reporters who must contend with similar journalistic problems and issues during the course of their daily work.

The conference planners arranged an intense three-day program of educational and working sessions, bringing together scholars and experts in fields that are relevant and important to the mandate of the Jewish media.

The educational sessions included panel discussions on the recent Israeli elections; what Jewish texts say about contemporary issues in Jewish journalism; whether the North American Jewish press is fair in its coverage of the Orthodox community; and a revisiting of the issues arising from the recent European restitution efforts for property stolen from Jews during World War II.

In light of the fact that Prime Minister-elect Ehud Barak, last week, finally announced the formation of his governing coalition, I shall share some of the highlights from the session on the Israeli election.

The panelists in the discussion were: Nitzan Horowitz, political analyst with *Ha'aretz*, Daniel Pipes, professor in Middle East studies at the University of Pennsylvania, and Mark Regev, the spokesman at the Israeli Embassy in

Ehud Barak

Washington.

Each shed different light on the subject; each had a unique perspective. Horowitz, the veteran Israeli journalist was emotional and impassioned. Pipes, the distinguished academic, was analytic and dispassionate. Regev, constrained by the responsibilities of his diplomatic office, spoke with circumspect politesse.

It was a treat listening to them.

Horowitz emphasized the point that domestic, rather than foreign, issues were the dominant theme during the election campaign. Barak was indeed elected to make peace with the Arabs, Horowitz stated. But he quickly added that Barak was also elected to make peace "within Israel."

The key, recurring campaign slogan among centre-left parties and among the political commentators was *chevrah mitukenet*, loosely translated to incorporate concepts of a civil, just and proper society.

"Expectations on Barak are very high. If he neglects the domestic issues for foreign policy, he will make a big mistake." According to Horowitz, between 70 and 80 percent of Israelis are in favor of proceeding with the peace process. The more pressing, more urgent task facing Barak was to address the "many social problems."

Pipes turned his attention to foreign policy. In his opinion, there is an increasing disparity between Israeli and Arab attitudes on peace.

Among Israelis, there is broad consensus (100 of 120 Knesset members) to try to resolve the conflict with the Palestinians. "Israelis have decided to get on with it," Pipes said, "as a function of their active political system, their dynamic economy and their strong military machine."

Among Arabs however, the discussion is still being conducted in terms of "victory."

"Victory, not peace," Pipes observed, "appears to be their goal."

He expressed concern that the asymmetry between the Israeli desire for a *resolution* of the conflict and the Arab desire for a *victory* from the conflict was a looming problem.

Since most of the people who voted for Barak as prime minister (56 percent of the votes cast) in fact, voted for parties other than Barak's party (26 seats), Regev suggested that Barak would avoid the mistake made by the Rabin/Peres government of trying to implement far-reaching, wholesale policy changes on the basis only of a narrow coalition. "Therefore," Regev continued, "Barak will want a coalition with at least a high-60's number of seats."

Last week, Barak forged a coalition of 74 members. This week he presented it to the Knesset.

MBD

SEE JN

STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN PROTEST

These Hillel students were among 13 who dressed in black and donned blindfolds to represent the 13 Iranian Jews charged with spying for Israel. The students were part of a rally sponsored by Canadian Jewish Congress, held last week in Montreal to protest the arrest of the Iranian Jews and to demand their release. [Howard Kay photo]

Teacher reprimanded for taking day off to prepare for Passover

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

VAUGHAN — A Jewish teacher has ended the school year with a black mark on her record for having taken a day off to prepare for Passover.

Lisa Wolfman, a Grade 8 teacher at German Mills Public School in Thornhill, admits she defied her boss, who refused to give her erev Passover off to help her aging mother and mother-in-law prepare for large seders. But she feels that an official reprimand that has been entered into her file is unfair.

Wolfman, 41, says she had to take the day off because preparing for the two seders involved so much work. She points out that teachers at Jewish day schools, especially female ones, either worked a half-day on March 31, or were given the day off entirely.

Wolfman and her union launched a grievance against the school board, saying the reprimand is unjust and seriously impedes her chances for advancement.

In March, Wolfman informed her principal in writing that she needed to take erev Passover, March 31, off to prepare for two seders, one at her mother's house for 33 people, and the other at her mother-in-law's for 15 people.

She explained the importance of the seder, and how much work was involved in the changing of dishes and cooking utensils, and in preparing.

Wolfman, who has taught for 18 years, volunteered to lose a day's pay.

She was told she could not take the day off, as it was not a religious holiday. But she took it off anyway, expecting to lose a day's salary.

On her return to school, she was handed a written reprimand.

"I expected to lose a day's pay, but I didn't expect [the reprimand]," she told *The CJN*. "But there was no way I could not take the day off."

Wolfman launched her grievance, and in a written presentation to the board, cited sources explaining that Passover begins at sundown and that preparing a seder means a lot of work. She also received letters of support from two Toronto rabbis.

In mid-May, a panel consisting of her principal, two board superintendents and her union representative upheld the reprimand as justified. The reprimand will stay in her file for three years.

The next hearing on the matter will take place in September.

Wolfman said she was simply trying to be honest.

"I could have called in sick. I could have lied. But that would go against what I teach." She said five other female Jewish teachers at her school phoned in sick that day.

Teachers are permitted five days off a year to observe religious festivals, but the board was told by Canadian Jewish Congress that the day of erev Passover is not a holy day.

Wolfman believes this is a gender issue, as it is generally women who prepare the Passover seder.

She concedes her employer was acting within prescribed guidelines, but could have easily complied with her request, and just docked her a day's pay. She said she never had a problem with Passover in previous years.

Chris Collins, the board's superintendent of schools, who had been involved in Wolfman's case, said she could only speak about general policy.

She said allowing teachers to take off any day they want is "too disruptive."

Days off above and beyond those allowed for religious observance are permitted "very rarely...once in a lifetime. We have to be consistent and fair. If you allow it for one person, you have to allow it for all."

She stressed that Canadian Jewish Congress informed the board that erev Passover is not a holiday, and, while not referring to Wolfman specifically, remarked that "insubordination is very serious."

CLARIFICATION

In the article about Yiddish poet Eliezer Steinbarg (*CJN* Perspectives, June 10), two acknowledgements were inadvertently omitted.

First, the author did not state that the introduction to the essay was taken from an earlier piece written by author/translator Curt Leviant, which appeared in the *Jewish Standard* of North Jersey, Dec. 19, 1997.

Second, the author wishes to thank Avrum Feigenbaum, an expert on the Yiddish language, who assisted with the article.

The CJN apologizes for the oversights.

JRCC provides support, guidance for Russian Jews

By MILA KLETSKY
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Everybody in the Russian Jewish community knows where to go when they want their needs to be met with care. This well-known place is the Jewish Russian Community Centre (JRCC).

Guest Voice

Russian Jews can usually find support and guidance at the JRCC when they first arrive in Toronto or later, when they are dealing with routine problems.

The most powerful arms of the centre are the educational institutes, which include the Centre for Judaic Studies (CJS). The institute provides the community, both Russian and English-speaking, with an extensive educational program for the whole year.

The new summer semester will deliver various topics on Jewish life, such as religion, philosophy, history and arts. Some aspects of healthy living will also be explored.

Rabbi Levi Jacobson, the director of the CJS, willingly shares his vision of the development of the centre. His hope is to help people better understand important issues, he says.

He deals with what it means to be a Jew, why Jews have been prosecuted for centuries, and how to lead a Jewish life.

People coming here from the former Soviet Union (FSU) are not usually aware of what Judaism is about, or how to pray, or even what to read. Many do not have any awareness about Judaism or Jewish values. Back in the FSU they learned to survive without it.

They long to learn more about Judaism, their own history and traditions as well as about Jews from other countries. In the centre, almost everyone finds something exciting and important to learn about.

The JRCC and CJS thought about everyone who might want to come to study. They offer courses of all types in all fields, delivered by rabbis, professors of Judaic studies and Russian scientists.

While the centre offers courses on many aspects of Jewish life, the intent is not to foist religious values on anybody.

As Rabbi Jacobson points out, "We just provide people with the information. They are free to make their own decisions on what they have learned."

Many people from the Russian Jewish community have a solid scientific background. They also have their own deeply rooted opinions on many aspect of the Torah.

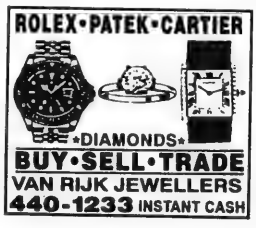
Rabbi Jacobson's experience and educational background help him to discuss many topics with such people. Other participants who make the seminars attractive for those with scientific backgrounds include Prof. Alexander Lakshin, a PhD from New York, and Dr. Mark Rothman.

Is the Torah relevant to modern-day man? This is a topic which is explored by the JRCC executive director, Rabbi Yoseph Zaltzman, in an effort to challenge people to think in new ways.

This semester's seminar on healthy homes aims at keeping bodies healthy and creating an appropriate environment for Jewish souls.

A surprising outcome at the CJS, is accidental job placements. Several times during the course of a seminar conducted by Rabbi Jacobson, people have shared their life plans. It so happened that Rabbi Jacobson was in a position to give them a hand, and he directed them to people who could provide real assistance.

The director of the CJS envisions the centre as a Jewish university, where immigrants can find educational programs, employment information, and help to develop their spiritual life in terms of real Jewish values.



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Reservist sounds alarm over possible attacks on settlements

By DAVID SILVERBERG
Student Intern

TORONTO — Jewish settlements in the West Bank may face an attack by Arabs that could wipe them out, according to an Israel Defence Force (IDF) reservist.

Mordechai Sones, 30, recently spoke at B'nai Torah Congregation, where he discussed the problems faced by the yishuvim (settlements) in the Yehuda and Shomron areas.

Citing facts taken from his own report published earlier by the Toronto Zionist Council, Sones described the Palestinian Authority's (PA) military threat to the West Bank settlements, and said the response of Benjamin Netanyahu's government was disappointing.

When yishuvim residents heard nighttime gunfire, they were told by the IDF that these were Arab "weddings," said Sones. However, a visiting military adviser travelling through the region analyzed the pattern of firing and concluded that the brief, intense bursts of shooting normally took place during assault training.

"The yishuvim are not psychologically prepared for what might happen," said Sones, an Orthodox Jew who lives in the settlement of Nachlieland and works as a tour guide.

An Arab force would crush the poorly equipped Jewish settlers, he said. The PA has 60,000 weapons of better quality than those owned by the settlers.

"We have old World War II guns," said Sones. "Few people know how to use them and they are prone to jamming and explosion. We've been promised better guns, but nothing has happened."

He expressed dissatisfaction that the IDF provides most yishuvim with only 20 minutes worth of ammunition, because, he said, it becomes impossible to respond to Arab fire, and this can enable Arab commandos to overrun the defensive perimeters.

Also, the 180,000 settlers don't stand a chance against armored PA vehicles like the BRDM-2, said Sones. This fully armored tank with two machines guns and a steel hull can easily smash through a yishuv gate. Over 50 tanks are stationed in the West Bank and Gaza.

"We are left vulnerable," he said, "and no one can stop the Arabs if they decide to attack us."

The IDF has held back information, he claimed. In a yishuv near Shechem, an IDF official admitted under intense questioning at a town meeting that a 300-man PA unit was nearby.

Sones said his report also highlights his worry that the yishuvim may not act together.

"The IDF's recurrent attempts to convince some yishuvim to be less concerned because the first strike threat is directed against other yishuvim could represent an attempt to plant false hopes among some of them," he said.

"We must speak in one voice and draw the line."

People assume officials will take care of it, he said. His current goal is to bring information to the yishuvim.

Sones, who was born in Boston, joined a youth organization on behalf of the Republican party at the age of 15. He was part of the team that assisted with the election of Ronald Reagan as president and George Bush as his vice-president.

He became a soldier in a mobile platoon in Israel, where he discovered how inadequate it was, he said, because it had meagre equipment, ineffective units and soldiers with poor training.

"We in the council of Jewish communities in Judea, Samaria and Gaza are meant to be strong and prepared," said Sones. But, he added, the yishuvim must be mentally prepared before beginning physical training.

To uncover more facts about PA preparations for war, Sones estimates $45,000 is needed.

The Internet is a great way to spread information, said Sones, but only 20,000 West Bank residents are on line. It will take approximately 20 weeks to compile their e-mail addresses, he noted.

If the 144 yishuvim in the West Bank are to be saved, Sones said, the residents must be heard.

"History has taught us that nothing can be gained by remaining silent."

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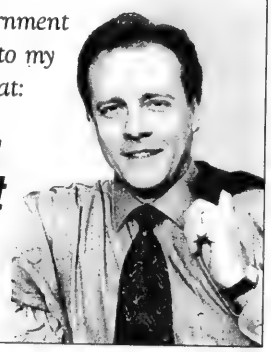

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National Academy of Science honors Toronto doctor

By DAVID SILVERBERG
Student Intern

TORONTO — A Toronto doctor has received one of the greatest honors in the medical world, an induction into the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) in Washington.

"Except for the Nobel Prize, this is the most prestigious award for scientists," says the honoree, Dr. Louis Siminovitch, director of research at the Samuel Lunenfeld Research Institute at Mount Sinai Hospital.

Dr. Louis Siminovitch

Montreal-born Siminovitch, 79, has acquired over 20 honors and awards during his 55 years as a geneticist.

His work has involved mainly the application and examination of somatic cell structure, the study of mammalian cells, the cells found in the human body.

He has also studied the spread of disease in genes. Everything is controlled through genes, he says. Disease occurs when something goes wrong in the genes. For example, cystic fibrosis is caused by a "mistake" in a single gene, he notes.

'It keeps my brain working'

Siminovitch received his PhD in chemistry from McGill University in 1944. He has since worked for the National Research Council of Canada, the subdivision of microbiology at the Ontario Cancer Institute, and the Hospital for Sick Children (as a geneticist-in-chief).

He stopped doing research in 1985 because he found it to be a "young man's game," he says. However, he is still active on 17 advisory boards, including those of the Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care, the University of Southern California, the Canadian Institute of Academic Medicine and the Montreal Neurological Institute. He is also a professor at the University of Toronto.

"I like what I do," Siminovitch says. "It's like a hobby, it keeps my brain working."

He considers genetic research essential to modern science.

Siminovitch says scientists can now identify women who have a specific gene that increases the chance of their developing breast cancer, and can then determine if an examination is needed every six months or every two years.

This type of research "can start preventing disease," notes Siminovitch.

The NAS, a non-profit organization established in 1863, advises the U.S. government on medical issues. Siminovitch says that only five Canadians in the medical field have been recognized by the NAS, which has some 4,000 members.

Siminovitch sees Toronto's strong medical community as internationally competitive in cancer research. "Many awards from the National Cancer Institute have been given to people in Toronto."

The geneticist has also lectured in synagogues and is a member of Temple Sinai.

Siminovitch espouses strong humanist values. "It is important to be concerned for our fellow human beings."

As technology and science work together to increase advancements in the medical field, Siminovitch says he is excited about the future of genetics.

"In three or four years, scientists will know the complete constitution of DNA. That's an absolute guarantee."

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Truth was absent

Because death is so searingly painful a confrontation with the ultimate question of human existence, every religion attaches special sanctity to the rites of bereavement. In the case of Judaism, there are precise religious procedures surrounding death, interment and mourning.

In keeping with Judaism's heightened attentiveness to the needs of the mourners, the procedures are designed to confer final dignity upon the deceased and, at the same time, a system of communal comfort upon the grieving family. The ancient rabbis decreed it a high obligation to accompany a deceased person to his or her final resting place. Indeed, they referred to this obligation as *chesed shel emet*, loving kindness of truth, no doubt as a reminder to us all of the common, final inescapability of our fates.

Truth, however, seemed sorely and sorrowfully absent last week among the leaders of the group that attempted to bury Malvern Jacobs at the Pardes Shalom Cemetery in Vaughan near Toronto.

Jacobs was born a Jew. But some 40 years ago, he converted to Christianity and was ordained a minister, eventually becoming a deacon in the Anglican Church. For a time, he was also the dean of the Canada Christian College in Toronto. More than 25 years ago, according to one newspaper, Jacobs started the largest Christian missionary congregation in North York. The core tenet of Jacobs' religious belief, and the central feature of his religious behavior, it would be fair to say, was proselytizing among other Jews to have them accept Christianity. No reasonable person therefore, could quarrel with the statement by Keith Landy, president of the Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC), Ontario region, that Jacobs, during his life, "had placed himself outside the Jewish community."

When the appropriate Jewish religious authorities were made aware of the fact that the body of Malvern Jacobs was being carried to a Jewish cemetery for interment, they had but sparse few moments to decide upon the acceptability *under Jewish law* of burying a Christian missionary in a Jewish cemetery.

We commend Rabbi Moshe Stern, the chair of Toronto's Vaad Harabonim for deciding that Jewish law could not sanction Jacobs' burial in a Jewish cemetery. We commend Rabbi Michael Stroh, on behalf of the Toronto Board of Rabbis for supporting Rabbi Stern.

There was no alternative in the circumstances but to bar the body from being buried in the cemetery. Thus the gates were locked.

What ensued was an emotional melee of accusation and recrimination at the very gates of the cemetery, directed against Toronto's Jewish authorities.

The CJC explained the reasons for the Jewish community's decision to a hungrily inquiring print and electronic media, conveniently apprised of the situation moments after it occurred.

In one of the network newscasts that evening, the spokesperson for the Jacobs family was Jeffery Forman. He was identified on the newscast as "Rabbi" Jeffery Forman. But, of course, he is not a rabbi. He is, rather, the minister at the Christian missionary City of David in Thornhill. Regrettably, the reporter made no attempt to inform the television viewers of Forman's rabbinic "credentials."

This mischaracterization typified the entire incident.

The Jewish community was cast in a harsh, negative light for ostensibly refusing to bury one of its own. But every fair-minded, sentient Canadian can understand and would agree that it is the right of every faith community, including the Jewish faith, to determine its own religious doctrine on matters of burial and of religious identity. One would think the missionary group of which Jacobs was a member for the last 40 years of his life and who, it appears, was in charge of the funeral arrangements, would have understood this as well.

The incident at the gates of Pardes Shalom last week was indeed regrettable. But it was caused by the missionaries who tried to bury an ordained Christian minister in a Jewish cemetery, and not by the decision of Toronto's rabbinate.

WISDOM OF THE AGES
If a man makes a vow or swears an oath, he shall not break his word.
(Parshat Mattot)

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Suggests hidden agenda in NATO bombing

In the Kosovo situation, the issue is one of repatriation. Albania should repatriate those Albanian Muslims who are in Kosovo illegally. What is being ignored, is that during World War II, with the help of Hitler's Nazi army and their Croatian Nazi allies, the Muslim Albanians moved into the Serbian province of Kosovo, which had a Serbian majority, threw the Serbs out of their homes and massacred many of them. The Muslim Albanians and the Nazi forces, who together were fighting to dominate Yugoslavia, launched a holocaust against the Serbs, and massacred two million of them. There is no comparison between the two million Serbs who were massacred by the Muslim Albanians and the German and Croatian Nazis, and the 20,000 Albanians killed by the Serbs in Kosovo. Can any people with any pride not try to retaliate against such diabolical and dastardly deeds?

What the Serbs did to the ethnic Albanians in Kosovo pales into insignificance when compared to the far, far greater atrocities committed against the Kurds, the southern Christian Sudanese by the Muslim Sudanese government of the north, the Tibetans, and Tutsis in Rwanda.

The world has been misled by the misinformation of President Bill Clinton, the U.S. State Department, NATO and much of the media, which obligingly perform the State Department's bidding. Repeat a big lie often enough until it is believed.

It is imperative that Clinton, the U.S. State Department and their NATO stooges reveal their hidden agenda (their true motive).

Herb Landis
Toronto

Judy Feld Carr rescued Syrian Jews

Surely, there is another word that could be substituted for "gushed" referring to Judy Feld Carr's praise for her husband's support. (*CJN*, June 3)

I looked up the word in the dictionary, and it confirms my first impression that she was speaking extravagantly, emotionally or effusively. Until I reached that word, I believed that this article was complimentary to the remarkable work Feld Carr had achieved in Syria. It should have been complimentary. She deserves a lot of praise. Gush is out. Save gush for a geyser.

Many thanks for an otherwise extremely satisfying newspaper.

Nomi Kaplan
Vancouver

Publishing book on mother-child bond

My mother died when I was six, leaving me with deep regrets and empty places. I wish I had a clear recollection of her. It hurts that I cannot remember the sound of her voice, the shape of her hands, the ring of her laugh, the strength of her arms.

I am compiling an anthology of combined voices trying to make sense of the mystery of the mother-child bond. I hope to publish this collection, which will be a gift to me and to those who wonder in their quietest moments, "What is it like to have a mother?"

Rita Barris
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Two faces of society: opera and beggars

Recently I attended a TSO concert on a very pleasant Saturday evening. At the front doors of Roy Thomson Hall stood a beggar with a sign around his neck. It read, "I am homeless. Can you spare some change?" Symbolism? He looked dirty and wore soiled, torn clothes.

In this mornings paper I read: "Curtain rises on city's opera house design, $130 million project."

If the house is built, who will attend the operas? Beggars?

Ben Sokoloff
Toronto

Looking for cousins of writer Rachel Korn

I am trying to locate cousins of mine who emigrated from Poland to Montreal or Toronto around 1948-51. The mother, Rachel Haring Korn (1898-1982) wrote Jewish poetry, some of which was translated into English.

She wrote in Polish until 1918. She had a daughter, Rena Korn, who would be in her 70s. Her married name is Kupershmidt, Kupersmith or Coopersmith. Rena had two sons; one or both are doctors.

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Perspectives

Jewish Agency outlines new vision

By JULIA GOLDMAN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

NEW YORK — Just as the Jewish Agency for Israel was outlining a new vision for its future, Israeli legislators were offering motions in the Knesset questioning whether the agency should have a future at all.

The Jewish Agency's annual assembly closed on June 23, having ratified in principle a strategic plan that broadens its traditional mission of aliyah, rescue, absorption and Zionist education to include broader engagement in Jewish identity, Jewish unity and "strengthening the State of Israel as the state for all Jews."

But the following day, Knesset members Reuven Rivlin of Likud and Yossi Beilin of One Israel introduced separate motions in the Knesset that envision vastly different relationships between the Diaspora and Israel.

According to a report in the Israeli daily *Ha'aretz*, Beilin called for the agency's total dissolution, to be replaced by a "parliament of the Jewish people."

Rivlin, on the other hand, suggested that the agency's areas of activity be scaled back to cover only Jewish education in the Diaspora and immigration from countries where Israel's direct involvement would have precarious political consequences.

The Jewish Agency, traditionally the main recipient of North American Jewish dollars for Israel, has periodically had to justify its existence over its 70 years. In those cases, as now, critics have charged that it is a bloated bureaucracy whose work could be done more efficiently by the Israeli government itself.

But advocates stress the agency's critical role in having patriated millions of olim to Israel, and in serving as a link between Israel and the rest of the Jewish world.

The agency was founded in 1929 by Chaim Weizmann – then president of the World Zionist Organization (WZO), and later, Israel's first president – as a partnership between the WZO and Diaspora Jews who wanted to take part in the establishment of the State of Israel.

Since then, the Jewish Agency has become a quasi-governmental body responsible primarily for bringing new immigrants to Israel and resettling them.

Most of the agency's funding has come from the United Jewish Appeal (UJA) and local Jewish federations in North America, and from Keren Hayesod in other countries.

Now that relationship is changing, too.

This year, UJA and the Council of Jewish Federations merged with the United Israel Appeal (UIA) to create the United Jewish Communities (UJC). Funding for Israel and global Jewish causes will be determined by the newly formed Overseas Needs Assessment and Distributions (ONAD) Committee of the UJC.

Its 25 members will include representatives from federations, and for the first time, three members each from the Jewish Agency and the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee.

While this arrangement gives the Jewish Agency a direct voice in funding allocations, it will also force the agency to defend all of its funding needs at a time when federations are demanding greater control over how collective moneys are spent.

David Goldstein, president of UIA Federations Canada, recently took part in a Jewish Agency/Keren Hayesod relief flight to Macedonia to aid refugees from Kosovo. The Jewish Agency, thus far, has sent 10 planeloads of relief supplies to Albania and Macedonia. Jewish communities in North America and Israel have raised more than $4 million for refugee relief in Kosovo. [M. Finkelstein photo]

Moreover, the contract between UIA and the Jewish Agency, which designates the agency as the exclusive recipient of Jewish communal philanthropy in Israel, has been extended only until December 2000.

In May, Ami Uliel, deputy chair of the Praesidium of the Zionist Council in Israel, called for the Jewish Agency to disband.

He suggested instead, the creation of an independent, worldwide Zionist organization with its own sources of funding.

But defenders of the Jewish Agency strongly dispute the proposals of Uliel and the Knesset members.

"If the remarks made about the irrelevance of the Jewish Agency come from the mouths of imbeciles or cynics, they are not worthy of a response," said Sallai Meridor, the new chair of the Jewish Agency and WZO.

"If they come from the mouths of those who do not know how to ask, then we have to explain to them about the Zionist idea," he said in a June 14 address to Zionist leaders in Israel.

"We are a movement of the Jewish people, not a movement of the elite. We are a democratic movement," said Meridor.

Many Jewish community federations have also criticized the Jewish Agency in recent years, going so far as to reduce their annual campaign allocations to Israel.

But Stephen Solender, UJC's acting president and the executive vice president of UJA-Federation of New York, said in a telephone interview with JTA that the apparent downturn in allocations is deceptive.

"Almost $200 million continues to come to the Jewish Agency from the American federations," he said, calling that "a significant amount of money."

In addition, he said, "more and more federations want to direct some of their funds to specific projects, and one of the reasons that the overall allocations to the agency have diminished, is because more and more federations are directing funds to these particular projects."

Yossi Beilin

The agency's strategic plan, he noted, provides for greater opportunity for federations to direct their funds to specific projects through the agency itself.

Steven Ain, the outgoing executive vice-president of UIA Federations Canada, and recently appointed interim chief operating officer of the UJC believes that the ONAD committee process "is going to show that the vast majority of the Agency's spending is and will be in areas of the highest priority, namely: aliyah and absorption, and development of Israel's north and south."

Ain noted that "anyone who has seen the work that the Jewish Agency performs in the former Soviet Union, or more recently with the Kosovo refugees would think twice before making any suggestion of disbanding the agency."

Canadian federations contributed $23 million (CAD) last year to the Jewish Agency.

Alex Grass of Harrisburg, Pa., the new chair of the agency's Board of Governors, conceded that allocations from the UJA and federations "have gone down somewhat," but affirmed that they remain "very substantial."

Asked about Beilin's Knesset motion, Grass said, "If he had better knowledge as to what the agency has accomplished and continues to accomplish, and if he recognized fully the bond that the agency helps to create between Israel and world Jewry, I think he would recognize his position is totally wrong."

According to the *Ha'aretz* report, Beilin – who has long called for revolutionary changes in Israel-Diaspora relations – believes the agency has a damaging "monopoly" over the involvement of "Diaspora Jews in Israel and Israelis in Jewish affairs."

A proponent of greater intellectual exchange between the communities, Beilin reportedly proposed the "parliament," which would bring together Jewish luminaries from the humanities, politics and economics.

Solender said, however, that the Jewish Agency is already moving in that direction through its strategic plan.

A refined version of the strategic plan is expected to be approved at the Jewish Agency's board of governors meeting in October.

Rabbi Daniel Allen, the executive vice-chair of UIA, said the agency is "much leaner" than in the past and "partisan politics-free," following bureaucratic reforms during the past decade.

In an interview, he also noted that with the new strategic plan in place, the agency will work with other agencies to deliver services and administer programs, rather than maintaining central control.

Opinions

Rise for the aged

The other day I took the subway to attend a downtown function. The train was crowded – it was the morning rush hour – and I was lucky to get through the door.

Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

Then an amazing thing happened: A youngster, probably in his teens and on his way to high school, got up and offered me his seat.

I was very grateful to him and engaged him in conversation. He told me that he and his family were fairly recent immigrants, and that he had been taught to respect older people. I would have liked to have talked more to him, but he had reached his destination and was gone, leaving me with very special memories that go back to my own youth.

From the earliest days, I was taught a verse from the Torah – and it was repeated often enough that I could not forget: "Get up before an old person and respect the aged." It is found in the 19th chapter of the Book of Leviticus. For people of my generation – at least in the Old Country – following this command was not only easy, it became second nature.

When I first came to the United States, I was, therefore, greatly astonished that this teaching was widely disregarded; it reminded me that I was in a different environment. For me, somehow, this became an obvious watershed of recognition. The old were respected in the Old Country, but not in the New World.

Since those days, I have not observed any perceptible change. Youngsters will rush through a door ahead of me without a thought of holding it open, revealing that they have not even been taught the ordinary courtesies vis-a-vis other people, let alone to treat the old with special regard and consideration.

While my own age makes me sensitive to matters of this kind, it is not the only factor in assessing our present educational environment. It happens that I have a reserved parking place at Holy Blossom, and I am happy to report that on the whole, people are respectful of keeping it open for me. The only recurrent situation when this courtesy is disregarded is, to me, puzzling and worrisome.

It takes place from time to time when parents take their children to school for some affair and use the open parking space. What happens when the child says to the father or mother: "Isn't this where the rabbi parks?" What does the parent reply? In one case, the offender was the grandfather, which was, in a way, even more puzzling.

It bothers me to think about the example these parents are setting for their children. Holding a door open for someone else, or getting up for the aged does not seem to be a standard teaching. Too bad – being respectful is an important character trait.

It seems that in our youth-oriented culture, it is the young who are teaching the oldsters rather than the other way around.

Golan too valuable to relinquish

I'm puzzled. In the torrent of post-election analysis, assorted politicians, pundits and pollsters weighed in on what Ehud Barak's victory supposedly means for the country. One of the apparent truths of the election results is that Israelis are now ready to give the Golan Heights to Syria in exchange for a peace treaty.

Robert Sarner in Jerusalem

Former prime minister Shimon Peres went so far as to tell an Arab newspaper, almost gleefully, that Barak's triumph at the polls proves that Israelis now recognize that the Golan Heights belongs to Syria. I don't get it.

In recent weeks, the press has often reported on what is now depicted as an almost inevitable Israeli withdrawal from the Golan. According to the media, it's as if, with the election of Barak, many people have crossed some psychological threshold vis-a-vis the Golan, which has been under Israeli control since 1967. An increasing number of Israelis are now allegedly ready to abdicate Israeli sovereignty over the Golan for a possible diplomatic breakthrough with Syria and see the process leading to a retreat from the disputed plateau as irreversible. From such thinking are self-fulfilling prophesies hatched.

This premise of an Israeli change of mind is predicated largely on the recent electoral defeat of the Third Way, the only party that championed the Golan as vital to Israel's future. While it lost its four seats in the Knesset, the Third Way's demise can be attributed to many factors other than a drop in public support of the Golan, especially as the Golan was barely an issue during the campaign.

The peace issue was clearly part of the campaign. And in the interest of peace, mutual compromise is fine. But that shouldn't mean yielding more of the Golan to Damascus. Most people seem to have forgotten that in 1974, Israel already surrendered territory on the Golan to Syria. This despite Syria's major attacks on Israel during the 1973 Yom Kippur War and the 1967 Six Day War, preceded by decades of Syrian shelling from the Golan of Jewish settlements down below.

There is, of course, a price to pay for retaining the Golan but it's smaller than the cost of relinquishing it. Syria plays a dominant role in Lebanon, where Israel loses 25 to 30 young men every year defending its northern border against Syrian-backed Hezbollah forces. And the Golan dispute obviously does little to enhance Israel's stature in the Arab world and in the international arena.

Holding on to the Golan indefinitely is not simple. Indeed, the prospects for a long-term Israeli presence on the Golan are undermined by the precedent of the 1979 Camp David peace accord under which Israel returned the entire Sinai to Egypt. And whether on the left or the right, few are the Israelis not weary of living in a perpetual state of war with Syria and other neighbors.

Still, Israel should keep the Golan. It is vital to the country's security and water supply. It is home to almost 20,000 Jews who for decades have been encouraged by both Labor and Likud governments to settle the land, a land already rich in ancient Jewish roots. But unlike in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, the Jews and the relatively small Arab population on the Golan live together without tension and violence.

It's true the Golan was once under Syria's control – until it invaded Israel in 1967. Six years later during the Yom Kippur War, Syria attacked Israel again. Syria was defeated both times, and as with similar examples throughout history, borders shifted as territory changed hands.

As a tiny, arid country, Israel can ill afford to divest itself of a strategic plateau that's also the source of more than a third of its water. Especially for an agreement with a ruthless dictator notorious for sponsoring terrorism and massive drug dealing.

The Golan's fate is but one of many major issues facing Barak as he takes office as prime minister. His electoral victory, while impressive, did not represent a massive movement toward the left by Israelis. Nor were the election results a blank cheque for him to make major concessions to the Arabs in the peace process. If anything, Barak's win was more of a movement against Benjamin Netanyahu. Many people simply had had enough of the incumbent, and wanted him out.

Barak has promised to hold a national referendum before carrying out a peace deal with Syria that involves any major territorial concession. I hope he keeps his word – so that the people can have the last word.

Freedom for Iranian Jews

The international response to the arrest of the Iranian Jewish leaders is an important test of the moral fibre of the world's leaders and institutions. For centuries, demagogues and dictators have used Jews as hostages and scapegoats. Even after the horrors of the Holocaust, the United Nations, which pretended to be the world's moral authority, did not consider anti-Semitism to be a hate crime. The infamous resolution labeling Zionism as Racism served to encourage and legitimize harassment of Jews. Belatedly, this resolution was repealed, but in some countries, Jews still make a convenient scapegoat.

Gerald Steinberg in Jerusalem

In Iran, up to 22 Jews from Shiraz and Ishfahan, including a 16-year-old boy, are to be tried for treason and espionage on behalf of "the Zionist regime" and the "Little Satan" (the standard Iranian references for Israel). Iran is a radical Islamic state, run by Ayatollahs who use hatred of Israel to justify their hold on power. Jews who teach their children Hebrew or have any ties with Israel are considered spies. In some areas, they are forced to keep their businesses open on Saturday, and to celebrate the Islamic Sabbath on Friday. Jews are legally not allowed to leave Iran, although since the Islamic fundamentalists came to power, thousands have escaped.

The remaining Jews (estimated to number 20,000) survive through obsequious fealty, in the hope that this will protect them. On Passover, the community leaders issued a statement praying for the "success and prosperity of the Islamic Republic of Iran." For months after the arrests but before they became public, the Jewish community and Israel tried secret diplomacy in order to obtain their release.

This tactic failed (as has happened throughout Jewish history) when the Jews of Iran became caught in the internal power struggle between two factions. While the faction led by President Mohammad Khatami (also an ayatollah) is attempting to increase contacts and trade with the outside world, they are opposed by the stronger ultra-conservatives, led by the Ayatollah Khamenei, the supreme Islamic leader.

For the Jews, and for the rest of the world, the internal squabbles in Iran are irrelevant. In order to save these Iranian Jews from death, the "international community" must demonstrate that Iran will pay very heavily if they are not released, and if the restrictions on immigration and religious practices are not lifted. This approach was successful in winning the release of the Soviet Jews, such as Anatoly (now Natan) Sharansky. The struggle for Soviet Jewry eventually forced open the gates of the Iron Curtain, allowing hundreds of thousands to leave, and also contributed to the collapse of the communist dictatorship.

In contrast, a number of western countries have maintained diplomatic and economic links with the Iranian government, despite the support for terrorism, the denunciation of Israel and the peace process, and the effort to acquire missiles and weapons of mass destruction to threaten Israel.

These links are often justified in terms of a "critical dialogue," claiming that by engaging the Islamic leaders in Iran in a discussion of human rights and terrorism, their positions can be moderated. Furthermore, in the struggle between the "moderates" and "hard liners," trade and dialogue are seen as a means of strengthening the former, led by Khatami.

The evidence to support this theory has never been strong, and now, with the arrest of the Iranian Jews, it is clear that the radicals are dominant in the most crucial policy areas. Economic aid, trade, and invitations to Iranian government leaders strengthen their power and increase the threats to their own citizens (not only the Jews), to Israel, and to the other countries in the region. A dialogue of the deaf is useless.

In this context, the initial response of the world leaders has been encouraging. The Canadian government has been particularly strong in its support for the Iranian Jews. Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy was one of the first to express concerns, demanding assurances from the Iranian government "that the judicial process will be fair, and will conform to the norms of international human rights law."

However, to be effective, these statements need to be supported by deeds.

Canada must also be prepared to sever all links with Iran, despite the costs to Canadian economic interests. As one of the world's leading "moral powers," such clear actions by Canada can play an important role in leading Western Europe and the United Nations in a campaign to free the Jewish hostages.

As in the fight for the freedom of Soviet Jews, the Jewish communities around the world also have an essential role to play. Canadian Jews have already organized demonstrations of support for the Iranian Jews, and similar events have taken place in the United States, France and Israel. Without the active involvement of the supporters of human rights and morality around the world, the Islamic courts of Iran are likely to order the deaths of the new "prisoners of Zion."

The Kirshner File

Trailblazer Marsha Hanen steps down

Marsha Hanen, probably the first Jewish woman to be president of a Canadian university, retired last month after a distinguished career in academia.

Sheldon Kirshner in Toronto

Hanen, whose Russian-born father was instrumental in founding Calgary's I.L. Peretz School, stepped down from the presidency of the University of Winnipeg after a decade in office.

"Universities need renewal as much as people do," explained the University of Winnipeg's first female president.

She and her second husband, Robert Weyant, former dean of arts, science and general studies at the University of Calgary, are moving to their summer home in Victoria, B.C.

In retirement, Hanen, 62, plans to unwind, travel, cook, visit her children and grandchildren and indulge her interest in the piano.

"I do not plan to take on further regular academic appointments, though I may do some consulting. I am also considering another interesting opportunity, but have not yet made a decision."

As she prepares to enjoy her autumnal years, Hanen can rest securely in the knowledge that she was a trailblazer.

"I don't know whether I was the first Jewish, female president of a Canadian university," said Hanen. "I never thought about it in those terms. But probably so.

"When I arrived at the University of Winnipeg, there were few women presidents at all. There was certainly talk about my being a woman.

"As to my being Jewish, I'm sure there were questions in the minds of people who believe that, given the strong historical ties of the University of Winnipeg to the United Church, a president should be from that denomination. But if there were fears, they were not expressed to me."

As far as she can ascertain, anti-Semitism was never a factor in her career. "I was much more conscious of the ways in which being a woman challenged people's stereotypes."

As an academic, Hanen juggled the rigors of scholarship with the responsibilities of motherhood. When she arrived at the University of Calgary's philosophy department in 1966, she had two daughters, aged one and 10, to care for.

"It was difficult," said Hanen, whose first husband was an aspiring architect. "There was a lot of criticism in those days of women working when they had children, and that has changed somewhat. But the logistics, organization and demands are still there."

"I was certainly interested in my academic career," she added. "But my role as a mother was my most important one."

Margaret Osler, a University of Calgary historian who knows Hanen, said of her: "She learned early to pack vast amounts of time left to her between studies and her domestic responsibilities, a skill that has served her well as she travelled down the road to academic administration."

Hanen was born in Calgary on Sept. 18, 1936 to Ben and Rowena Pearlman, who had settled in the city in the 1920s. Her only sibling, Ron Pearlman, is a professor of biology at York University in Toronto.

"My father was a bottler of beverages – 7-Up principally. My mother was a teacher, and was very active in the Jewish community.

"My parents, like many Jewish people who immigrated to Canada in the early part of this century, believed that education was the most important thing. They both were actively involved in education. My father was one of the founders of the Peretz School in 1928, and remained active there for over 50 years.

"My mother was the first kindergarten teacher at the school, taught off and on for many years, chaired the Peretz School board of education and contributed her expertise in a variety of ways. She was active in a great many organizations and venues, and set a kind of example as a strong and committed woman, supportive of other women."

And during World War II, she noted, her parents helped refugees from Nazi-occupied Europe to settle in Canada.

Not surprisingly, they had a formative influence on Hanen. "Marsha's own life," observed Osler, "embodies the values underlying these activities: a strong commitment to education and a deep concern for community problems. She expresses these values in her devotion to higher education and feminism."

Marsha Hanen

After high school, Hanen studied at the University of Toronto and Boston University, finishing her BA (high honors in philosophy) at Brown University, where she also she completed her MA. Her PhD is from Brandeis University.

Yet music was always an integral component of her life. At six, she started playing the piano, a pastime that has sustained her since. She might have become a professional pianist had she been convinced she had the temperament to be one.

Before being offered the presidency of the University of Winnipeg, which has 4,345 full-time and 2,175 part-time students, Hanen held academic positions at the University of Pennsylvania, Harvard, Brandeis, Dalhousie and Calgary universities.

At Calgary, she began as an assistant professor. A full professor by 1980, she was subsequently promoted to associate dean (curriculum and staff) of the faculty of general studies. In 1986, she was named dean.

Hanen's work in philosophy of law and of science, feminist theory and epistemology has yielded three published books and numerous articles and reviews.

Her books, co-authored or co-edited with colleagues, include *Science, Pseudo-Science and Society*; *Science, Morality and Feminist Theory;* and *Archaeology and the Methodology of Science.*

The University of Winnipeg hired her because she was the logical choice for the job. "She seemed to personify all the qualities we were looking for," said Gordon McKinnon, who headed the presidential search committee. "She had solid academic credentials, proven administrative and managerial experience, people skills and a willingness to develop external relationships."

Clearly, Hanen lived up to expectations. "It is difficult to speak about my single most important achievement. But I suppose I am most pleased by the increased recognition and respect that has come to the university, by some interesting curriculum development, by an improvement in our funding after more than 30 years of trying, and by some significant improvements to the campus."

During her presidency, Hanen also initiated exchange programs with the Hebrew University and Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, and served on their advisory councils.

Asked how she wants to be remembered, she replied, "As someone who listened and tried to make good things happen."

By all accounts, Hanen was a feminist administrator, having been inclusive, democratic and consultative.

A recipient of the Order of Canada, Hanen was for years chair of the board of the Peretz School (which eventually amalgamated with the Talmud Torah). As a child, she attended the school, as did her daughters, Sharon (who recently recently wrote her doctorate thesis for Leeds University) and Amy (director of learning systems at the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce in Toronto).

Thanks to her parents, Hanen can speak and read Yiddish. But, as she pointed out, her Yiddish is "very rusty" due to the fact that she rarely uses it these days.

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Scrutinizing censorship

Books
Bernard Baskin

***The New Anti-Liberals*, by A. Alan Borovoy (Canadian Scholar's Press, $18.95).**

Should Ernst Zundel be legally prohibited from spreading falsehoods about the Holocaust? Are you in favor of anti-hate laws, even if they run counter to the democratic tradition of free speech? Has the time come for pornography, in its various forms, to be outlawed? Should universities introduce speech codes to protect the rights of students – especially those from minority groups? Should a man accused of rape have no right to probe the sexual background of his accuser? Are you in favor of special rights (affirmative action) in employment and university admission for those who traditionally are victims of discrimination? Do you approve of mandatory minimum jail sentences?

If you answer these questions in the affirmative, then, suggests the author of this controversial book, you are part of a new group of anti-liberals, "promoters of equality who have gone off the deep end."

For the past 30 years, Alan Borovoy has been general counsel of the Canadian Civil Liberties Association. Previously, he directed the anti-racist Labor Committee for Human Rights. He is a well known and hard fighting egalitarian who has always opposed discrimination based on race, creed, ethnicity, gender and sexual orientation.

Now, the author reluctantly opposes his erstwhile liberal allies, those who want to promote their objectives in contravention of values that he asserts are the very essence of the democratic system. Among his targets are extremist feminists, the Canadian Jewish Congress, irresponsible black leaders, radical peace activists, and many provincial and federal government agencies.

Borovoy criticizes the Canadian Jewish Congress for advocating anti-hate laws and similar pro-censorship positions in order to silence anti-Semites. He believes that democracies should seek "not to muzzle racists, but to marginalize them. It's too dangerous for the law to censor; it's appropriate for citizens to censure. Instead of trying to stop racists from speaking, it's usually better to focus on reducing their impact. It would also help to improve the administration and enforcement of our anti-discrimination laws that deal with the serious racial and ethnic problems – in areas such as jobs and housing."

At this stage of history and in the foreseeable future, Canadians, he feels, have more to fear from the censorship powers of their governments than from the racism of extremists.

Unhappily, anti-hate laws can be used against proper and legitimate dissenters. This has happened to anti-American protesters, French Canadian Nationalists, a pro-Zionist book, and a Jewish leader. What are we afraid of, wonders the author. The neo-Nazi movement in Canada is so small and so universally denounced as to be powerless.

Misguided feminists are faulted for a number of their actions: accusing Harry Arthurs of York University – probably the country's most liberal and pro-feminist university president – of sexist discrimination; accusing June Callwood, a compassionate feminist leader, of sexism; and accusing the Canadian Civil Liberties Association, for being a "macho, male-focused organization with no sensitivity to women."

Feminist attempts to outlaw pornography are understandable but misplaced. "To whatever extent pornography is seen as producing sexist attitudes, there is a range of activity that could help to produce anti-sexist attitudes – these measures would very likely produce much greater benefits for the women of our society than could ever be achieved by these dangerous and dubious attempts to restrict pornography."

The New Anti-Liberals deserves a wide readership. It is well reasoned, informed, deeply felt and courageous. It should stimulate thought and discussion on a variety of contentious and pertinent issues.

Ask the Rabbi – on line

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

Nothing can compare to the personal and trusting relationship that someone can establish with a rabbi. However, there are times when people have a question that's nagging them, and they have no one to turn to. That's when they might want to ask the rabbi – on line.

There are dozens of rabbis on the Internet who welcome your most basic, advanced or outrageous questions. Don't worry. They're pretty hard to shock.

But before you dash off your question, a couple of thoughts. Make sure that the rabbi you question is reputable. Anyone with a keyboard can call himself or herself a "rabbi," so check them out before you put any stock in their answer. And, as most online rabbis make very clear on their Web sites, their service is meant only to address general questions. All complicated problems should be directed to a reliable authority.

So let's start with a sampling of sites. The Union of American Hebrew Congregations has put together a large site which welcomes questions and addresses some common queries about Reform Judaism **[http://uahcweb.org/askunion.html]**. A typical question: Is it true you can't be buried in a Jewish cemetery if you have a tattoo. The response: Judaism teaches us that our bodies belong, as do all parts of nature, to God. Any sort of mutilation of the body is, therefore, prohibited. Tattooing is prohibited, as are some forms of elective cosmetic surgery. Although there are offences that are so heinous as to bar someone from being buried in the Jewish cemetery, a tattoo is not one of them.

Temple Shaaray Tefila of New York also welcomes questions and has posted explanations about some common inquiries about wearing kippot, the details of Yizkor and the proper time to leave the sanctuary. (Quietly, and never while the Ark is open.) **[http://shamash.org./reform/uahc/congs/ny/ny039/askrab2.htm]** If you'd like to pose questions to the Conservative movement, there is the Masorti Web site in the U.K. **[http://www.masorti.org.uk/amasorti.htm]** which also includes a summary of major practices. Rabbi Vernon Kurtz of Chicago's Conservative Synagogue Beth El welcomes your questions **[http://www.nssbethel.org/ask.htm]** as does Rabbi Joseph Amsterdam of Adat Ari Synagogue in North Orange County, Calif. **[http://www.uscj.org/pacsw/anaheimhills/askus.htm]**.

Over at Project Genesis, you can pose a question to their resident CyberSage **[http://www.torah.org/info/asktherabbi.html]**. Project Genesis is one of the few sites where questioners are asked to supply background about themselves because responding in a vacuum is a difficult task. Theirs is intended to be a private, confidential service for people who do not have access to a rabbi.

If you don't mind going public, then try out Project Genesis' interactive Torah-Forum **[http://www.torah.org/learning/torah-forum/]**.

You'll find discussions on such varied topics as women wearing pants, Judaism and extra-terrestrials, and even kashrut and grasshoppers.

(Although most insects are treif, did you know that according to the Torah, some grasshoppers and locusts are actually kosher? However since most Jews do not have a continuous tradition of eating them, we refrain from indulging. Yemenite Jews, however, do have that tradition. So unless you are a Yemeni, you're out of luck.)

Next week, we'll meet some more rabbis who answer questions on line, including Rabbi Shmuley Boteach, author of *Kosher Sex*.

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a Toronto-based television producer who writes, lectures and teaches about the Jewish Internet. He can be contacted at {mdm@inforamp.net}.

JEWISH EDUCATION
The Next Generation

The nature of leadership

By ELLIOTT MALAMET

Since the present mantra in Jewish education is not actually continuity, but leadership, it is instructive to review the career of Moshe, the prophet who stands above all others.

Moshe is described as "very humble, more than any man on earth." (Numbers 12:3) The description is noteworthy for what it *leaves out* – there is no mention that Moshe is the smartest or strongest or even the most righteous man. Rather, his overriding quality is humility, a trait that we may not ordinarily associate with leadership.

The Torah seeks to draw special attention to his embodiment of this quality precisely because Moshe would have the most reason to boast. The Talmud comments that Moshe's perception of God was clearer than that of any other human being, past or future, that he achieved the highest level of spiritual awareness possible in our mortal vale of tears.

Yet Moshe's attitude is not that of arrogance resulting from superior knowledge. Instead, the very ability to access God in this way produced in the prophet a profound sense of his own limitations, as though in coming close to God, he realized better than anyone else the boundaries of human knowledge and human abilities.

Moshe was not a person who secretly yearned to be the only one to speak to God, as he tells Joshua: "Would that all the Lord's people were prophets, and that God would put His spirit upon them." (Numbers 11:29) Far from jealously guarding his own unique access to the divine, he sincerely desired that others could share in that spiritual glory.

Anachronistic though it may be to apply contemporary psychological categories to historical figures, we might venture that with all of his humility, Moshe did not suffer from a lack of "self-esteem."

His approach is exemplified in the aftermath of the golden calf incident, where he makes it clear that he will have nothing to do with any "substitute" Jewish people in the wake of God's proposed destruction of the present flock. Uninterested in the glory that he can gain from being immortalized in the Torah, his actions bespeak the first rule of leadership – one's allegiance must be to ensuring that the people be given an opportunity to redeem themselves.

Yet it is this same Moshe who, upon actually witnessing the golden calf with his own eyes, takes the two tablets containing the Ten Commandments and smashes them to the ground without the slightest hesitation.

Commenting on this incident, Rabbi Meir Simcha of Dvinsk (Germany, 18th century), illuminates a central point in Judaism. He writes: "Even the tablets, with the writing of God, are not holy in themselves, but are so only because of you, if you observe them. [But if not, then the tablets] are considered as base pottery, for they have no sanctity in themselves, but only become such when you observe them. In conclusion, there is nothing in the world that is holy [unless you endow it with holy actions prescribed by the Torah].

Rabbi Meir Simcha delivers a profound statement on the nature of religious objects. The Torah, the land of Israel, the Temple – all are sacred only if we do not make a mockery of religion. The Jewish leader must guide us into the rich grove of Jewish observance, but then direct our vision to the great clearing beyond the trees – the promised land where the spiritual core of Judaism lies waiting.

This generation of students wants its meanings to be authentic, and in rejecting pat answers, they have thrown down the gauntlet to the Jewish leaders of our time. They await a response.

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The family wishes to express its appreciation to the countless relatives and friends who have given us comfort during these trying times. We also wish to thank all those who have made contributions in RUTH KELMAN'S memory, as well as to those who expressed to us their warm feelings of sympathy and support.

May her memory continue to be a source of inspiration and strength to all.

Volunteers make a difference

By WILLIAM ROSENTHAL

I would like to share with you some of my experiences and the knowledge I have gained since joining the volunteer brigade at the Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care in 1991.

Guest Voices

I have found that no matter how limited they appeared to be, the elderly people with whom I came into contact, seemed to have an underlying reservoir of energy and spirituality.

This was first made evident to me some years ago during a daily prayer service. Some of the participants complained that the baal tfillah who was leading the services that day did not know how to daven.

Some complained about his accent; some did not like his "Polish *nusach*" (liturgical style).

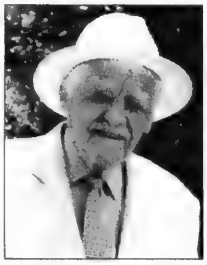
Despite their age and obvious physical disabilities, a lively, energetic and spirited discussion ensued among the group members.

This experience convinced me that there is a dormant reservoir of vitality in many residents that can be tapped to improve their well-being.

How, I asked myself, can we activate and stimulate their awareness, despite their apparent withdrawal?

The answer, I believe, is to win their friendship and trust – a challenging, educational and rewarding experience.

To do this, we need to use words and action. By words, I mean talking with them – inquiring, for example, about their families, their shtetls, their occupations or professions, their religious views, or the kinds of music they like. Compliment them on their appearance.



William Rosenthal

Action refers to physical contact. Make the residents feel they are wanted by putting your arm around their shoulders or holding their hand.

Once you have captured their interest and attention, you can maintain it and stimulate it by continuing to offer your companionship.

In addition to feeling that you are helping make life more worthwhile for another human being, you will find volunteering an eye-opening experience that will help bring into focus the realities of your own life.

You will see people enjoying life even though they are incapacitated to some degree, and in comparison, your own ailments will appear less serious. You may then be better able to appreciate your own physical and mental abilities and that may make you a happier person.

Volunteers come from different backgrounds and have different talents. But, regardless of which department you choose to participate in, you will note at some point that you have put a twinkle in the eye of a resident, or you will see his or her face light up with a smile.

Then you will feel a great inner satisfaction and sense of accomplishment. You will realize that we as volunteers can and do make a difference.

And you will be performing a great mitzvah, *v'hadarta pnai zaken* (paying respect to an elderly person).

Get involved, because somebody out there is waiting for you.

William Rosenthal recently received a certificate for more than 1,000 hours of volunteer work at the Baycrest Centre.

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Centenarian doesn't look his age

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
CJN Staff

TORONTO — A stranger attending a meeting of the Yiddish cultural club at the Borochov Centre would be hard-pressed to identify the centenarian in the group.

That's because William Katz, 101, a regular contributor at the Borochov cultural club, looks at least 15 years younger than his chronological age.

He is dapper in a beige suit and red tie, as he dons his glasses to read a poem by I.L. Peretz.

He also participates in the weekly Yiddish literature club at the Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, and on Thursday mornings he co-leads the Yiddish book club at the Morris Winchevsky Centre.

In an interview in the apartment he has occupied for some 30 years – he lives there independently – Katz eagerly discusses some of the literary works he has recently presented at the literary groups he attends.

He pores over an essay by Chaim Greenberg about Jonah and the whale, and he eagerly explains the author's view as to why this story is read on Yom Kippur.

"This is a very interesting article," he says, translating and summarizing it as he speaks. "It shows God's pity for people. He doesn't want them to be sinners."

Several well-worn Yiddish books sit in neat piles on the dining room table next to a large picture of Katz' two great-grandchildren, Daniel and Emily. More Yiddish books are on the bookcase in the living room.

Katz' love affair with Yiddish literature began after he immigrated to Canada in 1920, he says.

Growing up in a chassidic community in the Polish shtetl of Dzialochic, the only reading materials available to him were the Talmud and the Bible. In Canada, however, he could obtain Yiddish books on every subject imaginable, he says. "It was an open world."

William Katz

His great-grandfather, a rabbi, came from a long line of rabbis, and one of his grandmothers also came from a rabbinical family, he says.

Katz left Poland in 1919 to avoid the draft. He worked in Germany for a year and by chance was able to get free passage to Canada in 1920. His ticket was paid for by his cousin's American uncle.

He arrived in Canada with $25, borrowed from a friend. He had been given the Toronto address of the Shidlowsky family, relatives of a friend.

He says it was love at first sight when he met the Shidlowsky's daughter, Bluma. They married in 1922 and had one daughter, Ida Abrams, who has five children. Bluma died in 1972.

In the mid-'20s, Katz was able to sponsor his brother and two sisters. He says he maintains a close relationship with his two surviving siblings, both of whom are in their 90s. "We're a very close-knit family. We speak very often."

He worked at a number of jobs in the apparel industry, from hatmaking to embroidery, and he helped found the embroidery local of the International Ladies' Garment Workers Union.

He says that because of his union work, he became known as a "lefty" and had some difficulty finding work. In the mid-'20s he couldn't get a job in Canada, and he had to work in Chicago to support his wife and daughter.

Katz is a charter member of the Labor League Mutual Benefit Society, now the United Jewish People's Order (UJPO). He has served in many executive positions at UJPO and continues to be active, attending a lodge brunch and executive meeting monthly.

He says that until about 1950, he championed socialism because it offered the possibility of equality for the socially and economically disadvantaged. However, he became disillusioned with the movement after Jewish poets and intellectuals in the former Soviet Union were murdered by the state in the early '50s.

In 1930, Katz became a partner in a small embroidery shop on Adelaide Street, where he worked until his retirement in 1972.

Until he was in his late 90s, he used to go folkdancing regularly with a group of friends, but he says he had to give that up because he is not as steady on his legs now.

However, Katz still manages to stay busy. He keeps up to date with current events and is in regular contact with family members. He cooks and cleans, and he makes time for his beloved Yiddish books.

Katz believes that he has had good health and a long life because he does not let himself get aggravated. "I'm not an envious person. I look on the brighter side of the world."

His daughter agrees wholeheartedly, noting that her father always accepted his lot in life. "He lived modestly, but he was always happy with what he had."

MINYANIM IN THE GTA
WEEK OF JULY 9-15/'99

Synagogue	Address & Tel.	Fri. Night	Shabbat	Sun. A.M.	Daily A.M.	Daily P.M.
Beth Jacob V'Anshei Dridz (O)	147 Overbrook Pl. (416) 638-5955	7:00 PM	9:00 AM	6:45 & 7:30 AM	Mon. Thurs. 6:40, 7:30 Tues. Wed. Fri. 6:45, 7:30	8:45 PM
Beth Tzedec (C)	1700 Bathurst St. (416) 781-3511	6:00 PM	8:45 AM	9:00 AM	7:45 AM	6:00 PM
B'nai Torah (O)	465 Patricia Ave. (416) 226-3700	7:00 PM	8:45 AM	7:00 & 8:00 AM	Mon. Thurs. 6:45, 7:10 Tues. Wed. Fri. 7:00, 7:20	8:45 PM
Chabad Lubavitch Community Centre (O)	770 Chabad Gate (905) 731-7000	7:00 PM	9:30 AM	8:00 & 9:00 AM	Mon. Thurs. 6:50, 7:30 Tues. Wed. Fri. 7:00, 7:30	8:45 PM
Clanton Park Synagogue (O)	11 Lowesmoor Ave. (416)633-4193	7:00 PM	9:00 AM	7:30 AM & 8:15 AM	Mon. Thurs. 6:50, 7:15 Tues. Wed. Fri. 7:00, 7:25	8:45 PM
Darchei Noam (Rec.)	15 Hove St. (416) 638-4783	----------	10:00 AM	----------	----------	----------
Pride of Israel (C)	59 Lissom Cres. (416) 226-0111	7:00 PM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	7:30 & 8:30 AM	7:00 PM
Shomrei Shabbos (O)	583 Glengrove Ave. W (416) 787-1631	7:00 PM	9:15 AM	7:30 & 8:30 AM	6:45 & 7:30 AM	8:45 PM
Soleil Congregation (R)	2399 Folkway Dr. (905) 820-5915	7:30 PM	10:00 AM	----------	Tuesday 7:00 AM	----------
Temple Sinai (R)	210 Wilson Ave. (416) 487-4161	8:15 PM	10:00 AM	9:30 AM	7:30 AM	----------

This is not a comprehensive listing of the synagogues in the Greater Toronto area. The information is provided by the Vaad Harabonim of Toronto and the Toronto Board of Rabbis. The Vaad and the Board will periodically revise the listings. For statutory holidays, please call the Synagogue for any changes in times.

Greater Toronto Area

Go-cart drivers hit the track for Hebrew University

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — On a recent Sunday morning 125 amateur go-cart drivers of all ages donned their helmets to compete in the first Playdium 200 Charity Go-Cart Challenge, a 200 km race, that raised more than $64,000 for cancer research at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Cheered on by family and friends, the drivers whirled around the track at Playdium, a large indoor/outdoor family recreation complex in Mississauga, for three hours.

This event, organized by Steven Warsh, 43, president of Playdium, and his three bothers, twins Neil and Robin, 45, and Brian, 40, was a unique way to raise funds for cancer research while honoring the memory of their mother Fay Warshafsky, who died of cancer.

Robin told *The CJN* that he and his brothers thought, "what better way to honor our mother's spirit than to hold a charitable event that raised money for cancer research, one where the whole family can give and have a fun day together."

The money raised will be directed to the newly established Fay Warshafsky Endowment Fund for Cancer Research at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

In presenting a cheque to Jack Frieberg, past president of the Toronto Chapter of the Hebrew University, Steven Warsh said, "the fundraising, which was an overwhelming success, will help one of the top cancer research facilities in the world.

"We may see many forms of cancer curable in our lifetime. The funds raised today will bring us a little closer to that day."

He added that "next year we hope to expand the activities for this annual fundraising event by including more individual and family participation. It will raise additional funds for cancer research and everyone will have a great time."

Throughout the morning, which began with breakfast and ended with a barbecue lunch, both participants and supporters enjoyed the many activities at Playdium – miniature golf, rock climbing, baseball batting, and interactive games.

Others danced to the music of the Mandell Entertainment Group while MC Michael Landsberg kept the momentum at a high level with his witty quips.

The funds were raised through corporate and individual sponsorships of teams and individual donations.

The Warshafsky family are seen at the Playdium fundraiser for cancer research at the Hebrew University. From left, Brian, Robin, their father Max, Neil and Steven.

Trophies, racers' shirts, briefcases, team photos and prizes, including a day at the Bridgestone High Performance Racing Academy in Shannonville and tickets for the Molson Indy, enhanced the excitement of the day.

Top winners of the go-cart team event were Smith Barney Asset Management team and the Michael Jordan & The Bulls 99 team. There was even a Chicken Award.

Committee members of the first annual event included Jay Waks, Michael Konikoff and Charles Taerk.

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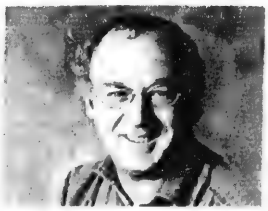


על הסכין:

חזרתי משהות קצרה בארץ. הבאתי איתי את "מעריב" של יום א' ה- 13 ליוני. והינה הכותרות: "המשטרה: צריך לחפש כלי נשק בבתי הספר". "מת הילד שהוצת על ידי אביו". "נחשפה כנופיה אלימה ביותר של בני 17 שסחטה בני נוער". "אשדוד: אב נורה ונפצע בבטנו על ידי אב אחר בעקבות קטטה בין ילדיהם". " עמק האלכוהול בחיפה: 12 סכינים נתפסו אצל בני נוער". "נער בירושלים רצח נער אחר בדקירת סכין בעקבות סיכסוך קצר". היו עוד כותרות בנושא, אבל יש לי הרגשה שהבנתם את הרעיון.: קורה משהו חמור ביותר בארץ הקודש. בראיון טלביזיה דיווח פרופ. בנבנישתי מהאוניברסיטה העברית שכתשעים אחוז מהתלמידים בארץ מדווחים שהרביצו להם מכות בבית הספר וכשנים עשר אחוזים נושאים איתם "נשק קר" להגנה אישית (סכינים שונות). לדברי החוקר, אחוזים אלה גבוהים יותר מאשר נשיאת הסכינים על ידי ילדי לטינו בקליפורניה! מה הסיבה? ללא כל ספק - לגיטימציה מאסיבית לאלימות בכל הרמות: ברמה המילולית, ברמת סרטים וסרטי הטלביזיה שילדים יכולים לראות, וכמובן - ברמה הלאומית: כל ישראלי בר גיוס נושא עימו נשק שיכול להרוג אנשים אחרים. מי שנמצא בצבא - ממילא האלימות הופכת עבורו לנושא מרכזי: איך להרוג ביעילות, איך לפגוע, איך להוציא מפעילות. רמת האלימות המילולית ממש מדהימה לישראלי שבא לבקר מצפון אמריקה ושאוזנו כבר התרגלה לנימוס ולמתינות הקנדית: הצורה שאנשים מדברים זה לזה בכנסת, ברחוב, בעיתונות - פשוט לא תיאמן!

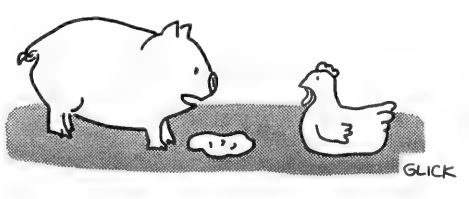
כותבת אישה מרמת-גן ב"מכתבים למערכת": איננו מאפשרים לבננו בן העשר לצפות בתוכנית של יצפן ביום שישי בערב, כי הוא משתמש במושגים כמו "אשתך המזדרגגת", "לך חפש את אחותך המתפמפמת" (ביטוי חדש לקיום יחסי מין"). וכל זה בשעות פריים טיים! ביום שישי בערב במדינת היהודים.. ילד ישראלי שפותח את "ידיעות אחרונות" בימים המתאימים, יכול למצוא מודעות סקס בשפה שהיתה נורמת גם לתגרנים של שוק הכרמל להסמיק. מסתבר שבבתי ספר עממיים רבים (עד כיתה ו'), וכמובן -יותר בחטיבת הביניים ובתיכון - פועלות כנופיות של ילדים אלימים שלוקחות מילדים אחרים את ארוחת העשר שלהם, כסף, או כל דבר אחר, ללא הגנה ממשית של בית הספר. אתה שומע הורים מדברים בתוכניות רדיו ואיך מאמין שזה קורה בבתי ספר יהודיים -ישראליים במדינת ישראל. מתברר שבתי ספר רבים פוחדים "מהשם הרע" שיצא להם, ואינם מעוניינים לערב את המשטרה. והפיתרון הראשוני הרי הוא פשוט מאין כמותו: בבוקר, ללא הכנה מיוחדת , צריך לבקש מכל הילדים לרוקן את תיקיהם ובגדיהם, וכל ילד שיש ברשותו סכין או כל כלי אחר נזרק מבית הספר, מזמינים את הוריו לאזהרה, ובתקרית הבאה פותחים נגדו ונגד הילד תיק פלילי. זה כמובן רעיון פשטני ושטחי - אבל גם אותו לא עשו עדיין. ולמרות כל הדיבורים - ממשיכים הסכינאים לאיים על ילדים החל מכיתה דלת והיא. ממש לא יאומן!

מי שלח אוחך?

בדיחה חדשה ששמעתי בארץ, שמעידה על הלך הרוח לאחר הבחירות האחרונות : הקב"ה שולח את מלאך המוות להביא את אבינדור ליברמן, ח"כ מטעם "ישראל ביתינו", אחת המפלגות הרוסיות, ששמו נקשר (ללא הוכחה) בפשע המאורגן הרוסי. מבקש ממנו ליברמן מספר דקות להתארגן. בינתיים נכנסים לחדר מספר גברתנים ומכניסים למלאך המוות מכות רצח, והוא מצליח בקושי לחזור לשמיים.

"הבאת את ליברמן?" שואל הקב"ה. "איפה הבאתי ! הם גמרו אותי במכות," עונה המלאך. מחוויר הקב"ה ואומר למלאך: " תשמע, אני מקווה שלא אמרת להם מי שלח אותך!"

SHMOOZIN



"Contrary to popular opinion, I'm really not much of a fresser."

Carleton political economist explores trade with the U.S.

Academia

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

In terms of size and magnitude, there is no trading relationship like it anywhere else in the world.

Close to $1.5 billion worth of goods and service flow across Canada's border into the United States every day. Canada, in turn, is the United States' most important customer.

Carleton University political economist Maureen Appel Molot has made a career of studying and clarifying this integral aspect of Canada's relations with its powerful southern neighbor.

Currently on a year's leave as director of Carleton's Norman Paterson School of International Affairs, Molot is an authority on two of the strongest components of Canada's economic partnership with the United States: the Canada-U.S. auto industry and the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), an outgrowth of the Free Trade Agreement.

During her current sabbatical, Molot has been working on several projects related to her specialties: Canada's auto tariff policy, Canadian and Mexican auto parts manufacturers, and NAFTA.

A graduate of McGill University and the University of California (Berkeley), she is a respected scholar in her field. She is the editor of *Driving Continentally: National Policies and the North American Auto Industry*.

And she is the author of numerous papers on free trade and Canadian foreign economic policy, which have appeared in journals such as *Canadian Business Economics*, *Canadian Public Policy* and *Jerusalem Journal of International Relations*.

"I've long been interested in the politics of economic decisions," said Molot, a faculty member of Carleton's political science department. "Our economic well-being is so closely tied to the United States. But too few Canadians pay close attention to what is happening in the United States."

How many Canadians, for instance, know that the United States purchases 83 percent of Canada's exports, and that 68 percent of Canadian imports are from the United States?

"Figures recently released indicate that the dollar value of Canadian exports to the United States has doubled over the past five years," she said.

What is more, the United States remains the biggest source of direct investment coming into Canada.

Molot's fascination with the auto industry is hardly surprising, since it is critical to Canada's continued prosperity. "It accounts for 12 percent of Canada's manufacturing gross domestic product. It is our most important manufacturing industry by far."

Although consumers in Canada buy less than 10 percent of North American cars, vans and trucks, Canadian plants churn out about 16 percent of North America's vehicles. "The auto industry," she explained, "drives Ontario's economy."

Maureen Appel Molot

In her view NAFTA is good for Canada. "I support agreements that reduce the barriers to trade and investment. Small open economies like Canada benefit from well-established rules of international economic exchange."

Since NAFTA's enactment, there has been an enormous increase in Canadian trade with the United States and Mexico. "We are exporting and importing a great deal more than we did before 1989."

Exports, imports have increased

And under the rules of the game, most trade disputes are resolved before they escalate, she added.

Molot realizes that some Canadians are unhappy with NAFTA. "At one level, I understand the critics. For the most part, they worry about job losses. Yet the record shows otherwise."

Its detractors, she argued, have not succeeded in demonstrating a link between NAFTA and, for example, plant closures. "The economy is simply too complex to be able to single out one causal factor."

In line with her interest in Canada's political economy, Molot tracks Canadian foreign policy.

"There are probably more constants than changes in our foreign policy," she said. "We remain a staunch supporter of international organizations, both security and economic.

"We have maintained close ties with the United States and our other major allies. We continue to be concerned with the plight of the less fortunate."

The end of the Cold War, however, has brought changes, some of which are reflected in Foreign Minister Lloyd Axworthy's emphasis on "human security" issues and his search for a land mines treaty.

Asked if Canada's foreign policy is really independent, she replied, "This is a somewhat tired question. We certainly have acted and continue to act differently from the United States."

Molot cited three examples: Canada's friendly conduct toward Cuba, Canada's early recognition of the People's Republic of China (her MA thesis topic), and Canada's trail-blazing position vis-a-vis land mines.

Molot, whose PhD dissertation was entitled *A Common Market for Capital: Indicator of Canada-U.S. Integration*, has been teaching at Carleton since 1968, having risen from sessional lecturer to full professor. She has taught courses ranging from comparative politics to Canada's political economy.

Before Carleton hired her, she was a research assistant on the Royal Commission on Bilingualism and Biculturalism.

Born in Ottawa, Molot comes from an east European family that settled in Canada before World War I. Her father Toby – he recently celebrated his 87th birthday – owned a small business. Her mother, Rebecca Morris, who raised four children and helped her husband in his business, died in 1967.

Molot has been married to Henry, a senior general counsel in the federal Department of Justice, since 1967.

They have two children, a son, Alex, who is pursuing a doctorate degree in Judaic studies and European history at New York University, and a daughter, Edie, who majors in history and has just completed her third year at Brandeis University.

Molot is proud of her activities as a volunteer in Ottawa's Jewish community.

From 1991-93, she was president of the Vaad Ha'Ir. She has also been a member of the Vaad's executive and chair of its community relations committee, as well as chair of the Council of Jewish Federations' campus services and Jewish Immigrant Aid Services committees.

Survivor seeking a home for paintings of the Holocaust

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Sara Kogan Rabinovitch, 71, a Holocaust survivor, has more than 100 large paintings of the Holocaust, which have no permanent home.

She is hoping that some generous patron of the arts will establish a gallery to house the paintings of Yelfin Cimkin, a one-armed 81-year-old Russian Yiddish painter who resides in Moscow.

The large canvasses, are now lying unframed, piled one on top of the other, in two bedrooms in Rabinovitch's apartment on Sheppard Avenue.

"I want people to realize what happened to Jews and that not only Jews were killed," said Rabinovitch.

A Canadian resident for nine years, she made six separate trips to Moscow to collect the paintings, paying all the expenses of transporting them herself.

The paintings are realistic depictions of Holocaust victims, including some at Babi Yar, which the artist visited. They have an ethereal, haunting quality and are well preserved.

Rabinovitch, who was born in the Ukraine, is related to Shalom Aleichem on her father's side. Her maternal ancestors were members of the Breslove academy of rabbis.

Her own tales of survival are horrifying. During the Nazis' invasion of Russia, Rabinovitch, who was only 13 at the time, was taken to the ghetto at Tuchin.

Initially, her freedom was purchased by her parents, who were forced to give her captors gold, silver and diamonds.

"My mother was brutally killed by the Nazis when she was only 39. I had been taken to another camp and my mother tried to leave the Pechora camp to go looking for me.

"She was captured and beaten with heavy boots until her body was a mass of blood, broken bones and soil. They threw her on top of a pile of dead bodies.

"She tried to resist to the last moment and they kept kicking her in the face and threw her into the woods.

"No one was permitted to bury her. When my father heard about what happened, he had a massive heart attack and died on the spot."

Rabinovitch is a volunteer at Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care, and a frequent speaker at the Holocaust Education Centre and Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living.

Her husband, Herschel, died in Moscow in 1985. She has a daughter, Ludmilla Chvartszaid, who is a Toronto resident and a son, Ilya Kogan, who lives in New York.

Rabinovitch speaks Yiddish and can be reached at 638-6498.

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Please note that there will be no issue published July 22. Regular schedule resumes Monday, July 19, which is deadline for July 29 issue. Then Monday, July 26, is deadline for Aug. 5. and Tuesday, Aug. 3, is deadline for Aug.12. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Thursday, July 8

YONGE FRANK 'N' STEIN

Come to the first annual Roof Top Barbecue and enjoy a frank and stein of beer at this Yonge Shul event, 7:30 p.m., 1072 Eglinton Ave. W., rain or shine. $8 in advance, $10 at door. RSVP 785-1107.

Sunday, July 11

JEWISH STORYTELLING

Jewish Storytelling on the Danforth, hosted by **Alec Gelzer**. Come listen, come tell. All welcome. 7:30 p.m., Riverdale Jewish Community Centre, 179A Danforth Ave. $4. 699-8914.

INDOOR GARAGE SALE

Beth Sholom Sisterhood giant indoor garage sale, new and old clothes, books, household items, fine china, jewelry, toys. 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. 1445 Eglinton Ave. W.

Wednesday, July 14

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

Sing a Song, Read Along, an upbeat musical adventure for children with entertainer **David Fox**, explores the mysteries of the world around us through songs and stories. 2-3 p.m., Barbara Frum Library. Pick up free tickets at children's desk starting at 1 p.m. 395-5440.

PROSTATE CANCER

Man to Man and Side by Side Prostate Cancer Awareness meeting, 7:30-9:30 p.m., Civic Garden Centre, Garden Auditorium, 777 Lawrence Ave. E. Guest speakers **Dr. James Rodgerson**, Humber Regional Hospital, and **Dr. John Trachtenberg**, Princess Margaret Toronto Hospitals. 932-8820.

Thursday, July 15

BLOOD DONOR CLINIC

At Mount Sinai Hospital noon to 4 p.m. For more information about blood donation or clinic locations, 974-9900.

And What Else Is New

ORILLIA COUNTRY SHUL

If you live in the Orillia cottage area, do drop in and attend the Orillia Country Shul services during July and August. And if you live in Toronto, take an enjoyable drive up. Services are led by **Elliott Malamet** (July 3); **Chaim Levine** (July 10); **Ron Nefsky** and **Anna Trubashnik** (July (17); **Lionel Sharpe** (July 24); **Stuart Hytman** (July 31); **Rabbi Danny Komito-Gottlieb** (Aug. 7); **Tom Schwartz** (Aug. 14); **Rabbi Elyse Goldstein**(Aug. 21); **Rabbi Arthur Bielfeld** (Aug. 28).

The shul is in Atherley (east of Orillia) and the telephone number is 705-327-7069.

ELDER ABUSE

Through dramas and interactive discussions, the Awareness Project Players of Bernard Betel Centre provide realistic portraits of family life in which elder abuse occurs. Each of the six original dramas – *The Stepfather, Our Pride and Joy, Caught in the Middle, Jack in the Box, The Wild Card, Jake's Lost* – is suitable for community groups, clubs, conferences, schools. For information and booking of the plays, **Sheila Zane**, 225-2112, ext. 133.

LIVELY AFTER FIFTY (LAF)

An eclectic group of women experience a variety of activities: Wednesday, July 21, barbecue (kosher) and an afternoon of shmoozing and relaxing. Wednesday, Aug. 18, special Baycrest program – two docent-led art tours and lunch. For reservations/information, **Lucy** 667-8474.

BOOK SALE

Community Information Fairview, a non-profit information and referral centre, is holding a Fundraising Book Sale at Fairview Mall, (Sheppard and Don Mills) July 12-18. 493-9752.

CASINO RAMA

A trip to Casino Rama is arranged by Pride of Israel Synagogue Monday, July 26. $7 includes lunch (or bring your own). Reserve. 226-0111.

OUT OF SCHOOL?

You've graduated! Now, how do you get involved with other Jewish women in the community? Become a member of Jewish Women International. Monthly programs, speakers, fundraisers, community service.

Continued on page 19

Construction scheduled for fall of '99

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What's New

Continued from page 18

Great chapter for women 25-35. Membership information 633-6444.

SINGLES ONEG SHABBAT

Inter-Synagogue Singles Oneg Shabbat featuring **Rabbi Yossi Sapirman** speaking on Messianic Sex, Friday, July 16, 8 p.m., Beth Torah Synagogue, 47 Glenbrook Ave. **Mollie** 733-3634.

MEALS ON WHEELS

A volunteer is urgently needed Wednesday mornings for Circle of Care Kosher Meals on Wheels Program. Work together with another volunteer and staff to coordinate volunteer drivers and organize Wednesday morning meal delivery. **Arnold** or **Judy** 635-2860.

HEBREW STUDIES

Summer Hebrew studies for adults every Monday at 8 p.m. starting July 12 at Richmond Hill Judaica Centre. Registration fee only. **Lillian Benlolo** 905-770-1082.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteers are needed by the Bernard Betel Centre to visit blind or homebound seniors whose caregivers desperately need a break. Your one- to three-hour weekly visits would make a big difference in their lives and yours. No nursing or physical care is involved. Call **Paula Mintzberg** (ext. 118) or **Barbara Zigler** (ext. 134) at 225-2112.

FOR SENIORS

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Catskills trip to Paramount Hotel July 11-18; Casino Rama July 14, 28, Aug. 11, 25; ballroom dancing Thursday mornings 10 a.m. 395-7881.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: July 27, trip to Kingston, cruise, entertainment; Aug. 25 morning cruise, matinee performance of *Move Over Mrs. Markham* at the Gryphon Theatre; Oct. 12 *West Side Story* at Stratford. **Lena** 785-5773. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). July 8 lecture by **Rosalyn Kurz** on the Holocaust; July 15 **Israel Nutzati** speaks on the Situation in Israel After the Election; July 22 trip to the Thousand Islands; July 29 bingo; Sunday, Aug. 1 dance with the Teddy Band, call **Malka Colla** at 630-5771 for tickets. **Jerry Bengall,** president, 905-707-7334.

New Image 50 Plus seniors dance, Saturday, July 10, Earl Bales Community Centre. Ballroom music tapes by **Murray Jacobs.** Members $3, non-members $5. **Helen** 633-0397.

Young at Heart Seniors Catskills trip to kosher Raleigh Hotel (under United States KOU), 10 days, 2 weekends July 23-Aug. 1. Double occupancy $1,399 Canadian, singles $1,675, including all tips and gratuities. German restitution accepted. **Helen** 635-6343.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Arthritis Management Clinic with **Bev Tobe,** registered therapist with the Arthritis Society, Thursdays, 1-4 p.m., July 8, Aug. 5, Sept. 2. Make appointment at Wellness Desk ext. 131.

Makeover Madness session with **Terry Reddick,** cosmetic manager, Shoppers Drugmart, Thornhill Square, Thursday, July 8, 1:15 p.m.

Israeli Club Etrog: Do you speak Hebrew? Join club members every Tuesday at 7 p.m. for movies, lectures, dances, sing-alongs, bingo, picnics. Programs conducted in Hebrew. **Anna** ext. 110.

BATHURST JC

Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. 636-1880.

55 Plus, Department of Adult Services, is taking membership for the Discount Theatre Club new season 1999-2000 season. Membership is open to BJC members and is $6.50. For the first performance club will be going to *Cabaret*. **Janet** ext. 259.

Visit to Cullen Gardens plus buffet lunch Thursday, Aug. 26. Bus leaves BJC 10:30 a.m. and returns about 4:30 p.m. Members $29, non-members $34. Price includes transportation and lunch. Purchase tickets now! **Teme** ext. 364 or **Janet** ext. 259. Trip is co-sponsored with Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living.

ABOUT PEOPLE

NAMED ASSISTANT DEAN

Rabbi Leonard Muroff has been named assistant dean of the Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies at the University of Judaism. Rabbi Muroff, who is serving as a rabbi at Valley Beth Sholom in Encino, Calif., assumes his new responsibilities this summer. A native of Canada, he received his undergraduate degrees from Columbia University and the Jewish Theological Seminary, his master's degree from the Seminary and the University of Judaism, and his ordination from the Seminary.

Rabbi Leonard Muroff

PRESDENT OF ASE

Toronto cardiology expert Dr. Harry Rakowsi, a professor of medicine at the University of Toronto, was inducted as president of the American Society of Echocardiology (ASE) at the 10th Annual Scientific Sessions in Washington D.C. Rakowski is also a member of U of T's promotions committee. During his tenure at Toronto Hospital, he served as director of the echocardiology laboratory, director of hypertrophic cardiomyopathy clinic and deputy director of the division of cardiology and the cardiac program.

Dr. Harry Rakowski

SINGLES EVENTS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 20

NCJW INSTALLATION

National Council of Jewish Women of Canada, Toronto Section, recently held its installation of new officers and volunteer recognition evening. Roz Fine (right), installed as chair of the Board, presents the gavel to Sheila Mostyn, new president of Toronto Section.

HOLOCAUST STUDIES AT YORK

Pictured at a recent luncheon to celebrate the endowment for Holocaust studies at York University, made possible after the "gathering" of Holocaust survivors and their children with the support of Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC), are (from left) Cary Green, representing Congress; George Weinberger, treasurer, CJC; Michael Brown, director, Centre for Jewish Studies; Gerda Frieberg, member of Holocaust committee of CJC; George Fallis, dean, Faculty of Arts, York University; Moshe Ronen, president, CJC.

SPECIAL DONATION

Through his bar mitzvah gifts, Adam Pollack (third from left) designated a generous contribution to Canadian Hadassah-WIZO's Youth Aliyah project, Ben Yakir Youth Village in Israel. With Adam are (from left) Carol Lou Spiegel, president, Toronto Hadassah-WIZO; Dr. Sheldon Pollack; Jessica Pollack; Penny Pollack; Sharon Kroft, immediate past president, Toronto Hadassah-WIZO.

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The CJN encourages readers to direct any queries they may have on an upcoming event to the event's organizers.

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Middle East peace program struggles to find funding

By JANICE ARNOLD
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL – A McGill University program training Israelis, Palestinians and Jordanians to be peace ambassadors in the Middle East, praised for its innovation and courage, has failed so far to attract all the funds it needs to fulfil its ambitious plans.

In May, 1998, then minister for international cooperation Diane Marleau pledged $3 million from the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) towards the McGill Middle East Program in Civil Society and Peace Building, which was then completing its pilot year. The extra funds allowed the program to expand from four students – two Israelis and two Jordanians – to 12 equally from Israel, Jordan and the Palestinian Authority (PA), and to include McGill's school of architecture, as well as social work.

The CIDA grant, payable over three years, was conditional on the program's raising matching funds in cash or in kind, said Prof. Jim Torczyner, director of the program.

During the 1998-99 academic year, the program had to raise $830,000. By June, $650,000 had been raised, mostly from within the McGill community, Torczyner said.

Fund-raising will be stepped up, he said, especially in the three states involved. For the purposes of this program, the PA is already regarded as a country.

Outgoing McGill Chancellor Gretta Chambers said McGill remains "deeply and irrevocably committed" to the program, which she praised as "unique and forward-looking" and "a leap of faith" by the three peoples involved.

The slowness of fund-raising did not dampen the farewell reception for this year's fellows, all graduate students in either social work or architecture. The 11 (one dropped out because of academic difficulties) had been at McGill since September studying individually in their respective fields and together in a multi-disciplinary course, designed especially for them, about how to improve the lot of the disadvantaged in order that their societies, ultimately, become more equitable and peaceful.

They are only halfway through their program. In the coming year, they will be associated with practice centres in their respective homelands, where they will be expected to put into practice what they learned at McGill.

Exchange ideas

Storefront-style community organizations, modelled on Montreal's Project Genesis, which was founded by Torczyner over 20 years ago, are being established in Amman, East Jerusalem and Nablus, and the existing Israeli Genesis centres in Acre, Beersheva and Jerusalem are being enhanced. The Genesis model stresses educating and organizing the poor to fight for their rights and improve their lives.

In the spirit of the McGill program, this year's fellows are expected to be in contact with each other, to continue the dialogue they have begun on how to tackle social issues common to the Middle East.

McGill's partners in this program are the Palestinian universities, An-Najah and Al-Quds, the University of Jordan, the Jordanian Red Crescent Society, and Ben-Gurion University. Quebec Superior Court judge Herbert Marx chairs the international executive committee.

One of the fellows, Jordanian Abdel Karim Al-Fayez said, "Working for peace is not only a question of political advances; peace building also means a social transformation.

"Poverty and exclusion breed fundamentalism and violence." Alleviating poverty and ensuring all have an equal voice, he said, will go a long way to make the region more peaceful.

"The Middle East has been tainted by wars that have wasted lives and resources. In the last few years, $200 billion has been spent in the region on arms, and only $15 billion on food.

"...We believe only a just, comprehensive peace that will lead to prosperity can provide true security for the peoples of the Middle East," Al-Fayez said.

Palestinian Najwa Silwadi said the program allowed her the opportunity to exchange ideas with Israelis and Jordanians on how to achieve common goals.

"The Palestinians' have had a difficult struggle to build our state...I hope we can apply the skills we learned at McGill to make the life of the Palestinians easier. They deserve a normal life after their long history of suffering."

"It has inspired us to build a healthy, dynamic society," she said.

Israeli Arab Ghada Abu Jaber described the year as intense, with "some hard moments and some wonderful moments."

Torczyner announced that plans are well under way for the program's third year.

Queen Noor, widow of the late King Hussein of Jordan, has agreed to be the honorary international co-chair of the program, he said, and is expected to visit Montreal next March.

Reuma Weizman, the wife of the Israeli president, has also agreed to use her office to advance the work of Genesis Israel, he said.

The McGill program also got a boost from Israeli Consul General Daniel Gal, who called it a "people-to-people translation of the peace process.

"It is a miracle to see former enemies becoming partners [for] the welfare of the region. And, as Golda Meir said, if you don't believe in miracles, you're not realistic."

The fellows, he added, "have made all of us understand that 'shalom' and 'salaam' are the same language."

CJC backs mediation

Continued from page 3

the Toronto Board of Rabbis, is interested in what we are doing."

The mediation process would not deal with family law or criminal matters, said Wolfe.

But she said there are people who do not want to take their problems to the beth din who might want the mediation.

The mediation results would not be binding unless the parties agreed to it, she said, adding that there would be no mediation in the first place if both parties did not agree.

Wolfe, a former Montrealer who is on the roster of mandatory mediators available in Toronto for groups who have adopted the practice of mediation, said she hoped to assemble a blue-ribbon panel of high-calibre mediators for the Congress group.

They would be paid an honorarium, she said.

Though there was some discussion about whether a new mediation approach is needed in view of existing bodies, and how it would be financed, the motion passed without opposition.

Wolfe said individuals with problems in their religious affiliation might want to use the mediation approach.

"Congress will be a neutral, third party," said Landy. "It will be outside of Congress but certainly under its ambit."

Coast to Coast

CJC outreach program holds retreat

TORONTO — A number of Jewish families living in Ontario small communities went to Sudbury or Niagara Falls for weekend retreats under the auspices of Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region (CJC).

The CJC's Family Educational Outreach Project is geared to families with children aged 3 to bar/bat mitzvah. The one-year home-study program is organized for parents and children to learn together through weekly information packages, community visits, and family retreats.

Michael Sobol, chair of the CJC community services committee, told the May CJC regional executive meeting that "without strong smaller communities, the entire Jewish community is weakened."

He said the two family weekends were "extraordinarily successful. It is wonderful to walk into a strange place, see mezuzot, walk into a sanctuary, and know you are home."

Regional chair Keith Landy led Shabbat morning services in Sudbury's Shaar Hashomayim Congregation, delivered a sermon, and observed that "CJC staff are welcomed with open arms, and bring vigor to small communities," Sobol said.

Families sent to Sudbury, Niagara Falls

Three teenagers from different small communities in Ontario bond at the Family Educational Outreach Project's southern retreat held in Niagara Falls. They are (from left) Ariella Gross-Sobel, Guelph; Farrah Dalfen, Niagara Falls; and Stacey Walman, Kitchener.

Landy said he was delighted to have had the opportunity to feel the pulse of Ontario small communities – "it is our lifeblood" – and was taken with the fact that Jews living in small communities do not allow distances to prevent them from coming together.

From conversations during the weekend, he came away with knowledge of the necessity for increased contact among small communities and with Congress. He praised CJC staff for their dedication in working with small communities.

Jeff Arbus of Sault Ste. Marie, vice-president of Congregation Beth Jacob, who came to Sudbury with a combined group from both the Ontario and Michigan Sault, called the weekend "very renewing. It gave me a lot of encouragement to return to my community after discussion of some mutual issues of concern. And it was most enlightening to be updated on provincial issues by the CJC Ontario region chair."

Judi Cartman, president of the Sudbury synagogue, said that people felt honored that Landy came to their city. "It shows that he and the CJC personally care about our small communities," she observed.

The Southern Conference held at B'nai Jacob Synagogue in Niagara Falls, hosted families from St. Catharines, Grimsby, Peterborough, Guelph and Kitchener. CJC staffers who attended both retreats included: Michael Soberman, director of community services and youth activities; Leanne Rosen, family and high school outreach coordinator, and Shula Saltzman, senior education consultant. Volunteers included Young Judaea shaliach Ryan Hass, Michael Ostroff of Toronto, and Paula Baruch-Houpt of Peterborough.

Participants at the retreat came together with members of the local community and St. Catharines for a Yom Ha'atzmaut celebration which included Israeli food brought in from Toronto. Shabbat evening services were lead by Steven Orvitz, a community leader from St. Catharines.

In Sudbury, participants travelled from Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario and Michigan, Echo Bay and Thunder Bay. Volunteers included Ostroff and Morris Glazman and Ari Shapiro of Toronto. Arbus led the havdalah service.

The day in mitzvah land had children rotating through five stations – Shabbat, Shavuot, tzedakah, tikkun olam and welcoming guests.

Saltzman said, "It was great for me to meet people who I had been dealing with on e-mail or phone, and to share ideas in person of what outreach families have been doing and could be doing."

Fred Ball of Thunder Bay, declared that "it is vitally important for people who struggle to maintain Judaism in these small communities to share issues of concern. It is important to network and to build bridges with people in different communities."

Gabrielle Abramsky of Peterborough, who attended the retreat with husband David and children Alanna, 12, and Daniela, 10, said she appreciated the discussions about problems in small communities; such as maintaining Jewish identity and celebrating Jewish holidays, and the lack of availability of resources.

Marilyn Gamble of Kitchener said four families from her community came to the southern conference – in part due to the encouragement of CJC vice-chair Paul Walman of Kitchener.

"We loved the weekend and would like to hold one in our community," she said. "We enjoyed talking to other parents about mutual concerns such as the interdating problem, participating in the programs organized by CJC staff, mixing with members of the local and St. Catharines communities, and enjoying time in another shul.

"We came to realize every community has concerns," Gamble said. "We are always overwhelmed by our own problems. We get a perspective in getting together with other Jews living under similar circumstances."

Groundbreaking held for Edmonton Orthodox shul

By NEIL LOOMER
Special to The CJN

EDMONTON — Over 300 people participated in the official sod turning ceremonies for the new Beth Israel Synagogue.

This is the third home for the city's original Orthodox synagogue, which was founded in 1906.

After nearly 40 years in the first building, which was opened in 1912 on 95th Street, the congregation moved west to 119th Street.

As the Jewish community continues to move to the west end, the congregation is building a $2 million synagogue on 170th street, two km south of West Edmonton Mall.

Synagogue president Howard Starkman and Joseph Shoctor, building chair, paid tribute to William Lutsky, who arranged for the land purchase and donated money to the synagogue. The sanctuary will be dedicated in the names of his parents.

The new synagogue will have seating for 500 in theatre style seats, and room for 300 extra seats for the High Holy Days. There will also be a social hall with seating for 500.

Other features include a mikvah, offices, two kitchens and classrooms.

Among those in attendance were Reform MP Ian McClelland, and Anne McLellan, minister of justice and attorney general.

Synagogue officials expect that the synagogue will be open in time for Chanukah.

William Lutsky (left) and Joseph Shoctor perform the ceremonial sod turning at the site of Edmonton's new Beth Israel Synagogue on June 20. [Neil Loomer photo]

Scene in Ottawa

By G.K. SIMCOE

A certain member of Parliament well known to your humble scribe has just enrolled in an intensive weight loss program. Although never thin, this particular MP gradually (but steadily) put on weight during her years on the Hill and suddenly realized one of the grim consequences of her crazy lifestyle.

In fact, politicians now are beginning to confront the toll parliamentary service is exacting on them personally, professionally and financially. Their conclusion: public service comes at a very heavy price!

While the House is in session, a typical MP is away from his or her family for at least half of each week. Relocating one's family to Ottawa doesn't really help, since the MP is obliged to return to the riding constantly. Even the best of relationships is tested under such conditions.

Add to this the stress on one's family life: children who must accept a parent's absence from important milestones such as a school play missed, a birthday party deferred, a little league hockey game minus the sideline cheerleader, or a good-night kiss transmitted digitally through the airwaves as the MP rushes to another committee meeting or late-night vote in the House.

An elected official's health is also a frequent casualty of public life.

Most MPs routinely log 18-hour workdays. Meals are inhaled on the run, and exercise is usually limited to mad dashes from the House to a meeting to the airport to another meeting. When in the riding, a typical MP will attend countless community functions and deal with a myriad of constituents' demands and needs.

However, you will say, they have freely chosen this career and the lifestyle that goes with it. True enough. At the end of the day, everyone is responsible for his or her own actions, decisions and choices.

But if excessive empathy for their work conditions is not called for, neither is the cynical derision which so often characterizes public perceptions of the 301 men and women who serve in the House of Commons, subject to the whims of a fickle and increasingly volatile electorate.

Instead, perhaps we can set aside the cynicism for a brief moment this summer and "call-in" a spontaneous thank-you to MPs for their efforts on our behalf. It would be a nice thing to do; it would be the right thing to do.

Features

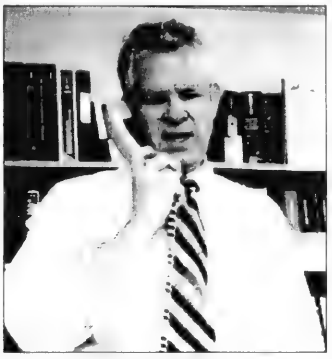
South African Jews make mark on community

By JERRY GLADMAN
Special to The CJN

In the early days of Jewish migration from South Africa to Toronto, the isolated newcomers had a tough go of it, but none more so than Rochelle Carrady.

When the Capetown native arrived here on a visit with her mother in 1950, there were no South African Jewish welcome wagons to greet them. There were no organizations, shuls or enclaves of landsmen already settled here. There were no businesses offering work, nor any kind of infrastructure to accommodate new arrivals.

In fact, says Carrady, who was forced to remain here when her mother was hospitalized with tuberculosis for two years, there were no South African Jews at all.



Alan Sandler

"I'm certain we were the very first to move here," says Carrady, who had to build a new life from the ground up.

"We really struggled. We had a lovely apartment in Capetown, but I had to live in rooming houses here. I was 15 and all alone. The Jews living here were not very friendly, and it was several years before I began to get 'hello' phone calls from other South Africans looking to settle here."

Her situation was a far cry from the thriving South African community that now exists in the Greater Toronto Area – both as a community within a community, and as comfortably integrated members of the larger Jewish society.

South African Jews – believed to be some 20,000 strong now – are involved in every sphere of Toronto life. They have their own neighborhoods, primarily in the Thornhill area, and their own shuls.

They chair UJA campaigns, sit on various boards, are principals of schools and presidents of shuls, and hold senior positions in a wide array of business and industry.

Some continue to cling to their South African roots and traditions, fighting to keep their own unique communities intact. Others, whose children are growing up in this country, have assimilated easily into the larger Jewish community. And some have even carved out lifestyles totally removed from the more established sectors.

"But whichever way you look at it, their impact on Toronto has been a very positive one," says Carrady, who helped found the Reena Foundation, when her daughter became brain damaged following a serious illness.

The initial building blocks for Toronto's South African community were actually put in place in the early '60s following the Sharpville riots and the accompanying racial unrest, which many South Africans viewed as a harbinger of dark days ahead. They began to seek out foreign shores to establish safer lifestyles for their families.

"There was no overt anti-Semitism at the time, but some people believed when they were finished with the blacks, they would start on the Jews," recalls Sandy Rabinowitz, principal of general studies at the Kamin Centre branch of Associated Hebrew Schools, who came here with his young family in 1976.

"But there were big changes taking place in South Africa, and many people began to see the writing on the wall," Rabinowitz said.

Among that group were Len and Nancy Rubenstein, who left for Canada in 1961 with their four school-aged children, and were part of the first small group to settle in Toronto.

Sandy Rabinowitz

"People thought we were crazy for leaving," says Rubenstein, who worked as a salesman, a book-keeper and a private investigator to support his family in the early days. "But maybe we had a little foresight of what was to come in South Africa."

There were actually three migrations – the early '60s, the late '70s, when the riots intensified in the townships, and the '80s, fueled by a severe economic downturn in the country. Some left for personal reasons, some for political ones, and others simply believed the country wouldn't survive the racial disharmony.

Many South Africans went to Israel, while others chose Australia for its climate and similar lifestyle. The largest number went to Britain, and the rest to North America. Those who visited Toronto en route elsewhere, liked what they saw – decent opportunities and a large Jewish support system – and decided to settle here.

"But it was still hard for us, and there was very little help," says Rubenstein, who with his wife Nancy, founded a senior's chapter of the South African Jewish Association of Canada (SAJAC).

"There were no organizations for South Africans. Many people didn't know which way to go, so we helped each other."

Early arrivals began congregating in the Bathurst and Lawrence area. When more came, they settled in enclaves at Bayview and York Mills, and Sheppard and Leslie. Eventually they moved north to Thornhill, Richmond Hill and even Markham.

For many, their lifestyle here was quite different than that in South Africa. They left behind large homes with swimming pools and servants, and flourishing businesses.

Restricted as to how much money they could take out of the country, most had to start fresh.

"The early ones really didn't focus much on community involvement," says Rabinowitz. "They saw their initial task as establishing roots and some sense of security for their families. Those who followed in later years became more involved."

Rubenstein said many tried to stay together and hold on to their past. "I decided to leave my background behind. I felt the only way to make progress was to learn the Canadian way of life. I see myself as a Canadian with South African roots."

The early immigrants quickly established an infrastructure of sorts to assist those who followed them, particularly the '70s wave.

"A lot of people we knew were leaving then," says Rabinowitz. "When we arrived, the community here was like a little kibbutz. You found people you knew from home. That was a big support group."

But accountant Alan Sandler, incoming president of UJA Federation, says the group he arrived with in 1976 was determined to join the larger Jewish community rather than established South African strongholds.

The Sandlers were actually en route to England when they visited Toronto, and met other families from home who were were quite happy here. "There was no big gap from the way it was at home, and we found Toronto very comfortable."

But still, they struggled. They had no idea how to get organized, how to find housing and jobs, drivers' licences or OHIP cards.

Also, Jewish services weren't geared to South African immigration. "We needed some basic facts, so Hilly Cohen, the late Ronnie Roth and I, decided to create an organization that would assist South Africans. The first phase was to help people deal with the system upon arrival. The other thing was to help find employment for them."

Len & Nancy Rubenstein

But Sandler insists there is no South African Jewish community per se. "There are still small pockets and enclaves – and there always will be – but most people have assimilated."

Others disagree. "Alan has been here for 23 years and has integrated superbly," says Colin Baskind, who arrived with the late '80s group, and now serves as SAJAC president.

"But the South African community exists. The majority still have mostly South African friends. Many of their relatives have joined them. There is still that old home mentality with a lot of people, and they stick together."

There are three shuls with large South African congregations – Kehillat Shaarei Torah on Bayview, Chabad Lubavitch on Green Lane and Shaar Shalom on Simonston Blvd.

Rochelle Carrady

Some assimilation was inevitable, largely because of children being brought up here. Many attended public schools rather than Jewish day schools, and made friends with non-South Africans. Because of this, their parents' circle of friends began to extend into the larger Jewish community and beyond.

"There is no reason now to identify my kids as South Africans," says Sandler. "They have no accents or South African ties other than us. They see themselves as Canadians. Many marry non-South Africans. I believe the next generation will be completely assimilated."

Now, there is a solid infrastructure for recent immigrants to feed into. Many have families and friends established here, which is an automatic way to find housing, schooling and jobs. Much is done in advance of their arrival.

The SAJAC magazine published twice yearly, features community news, household tips, a yellow pages section, and an employment program.

At the same time, many South Africans are also involved in all spheres of Jewish life outside their core group, and have made great strides in the business world.

While fewer families have members in the home country, most still cherish their roots, and long for some of what they left behind. That nostalgia is primarily what led to a successful import business for Stanley Dick of Stanmar International.

"Soon after I came here in 1981, I noted that there was a lot of visiting back and forth, and it was traditional for people to arrive with suitcases full of South African products unavailable here."

So he started importing items such as biscuits, chocolates, sauces and canned goods. "We also have products – like our Ceres fruit juices – that are in the mainstream marketplace, and geared to everyone."

There's little question that South Africans have made a significant impact on the Jewish community. Call any Jewish organization and you will bump into someone from Johannesburg or Capetown.

And while old-timers concede their world is changing and some sort of assimilation is unavoidable, they also realize that much of what they brought with them has made a tremendous contribution to their new world.

"We will never forget what we had in South Africa," says Rubenstein. "But we're very happy here. We've established a lovely life and so have our children. My son who is 52 now, recently said to me: 'Thanks, dad. Thank you for coming here.'"

He nods and smiles. "I think that says a lot."

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'Very significant signals' from Damascus

Syria may drop support for Hezbollah

By DOUGLAS DAVIS
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

LONDON — Syrian President Hafez Assad may be preparing to abandon his support for the Shi'ite Hezbollah movement in Lebanon, just as he abandoned Kurdish separatist leader Abdullah Ocalan, according to the editor of a leading London-based Arabic daily.

Writing in *al-Quds al-Arabi* last week, Abdelbari Atwan said Assad's failure to condemn the airstrikes Israel launched on Beirut two weeks ago, and his public flirtation with Prime Minister-elect Ehud Barak, reflect "internal political travails" that have produced diplomatic paralysis in Damascus.

It is difficult, Atwan wrote, to understand Syria's response to the Israeli airstrikes – or its "premature" courting of Barak, as reflected in a recent interview with British journalist Patrick Seale, in which Assad described the new Israeli premier as "strong and honest."

Commenting on Assad's possible thinking, Atwan wrote, "Over the past 30 years, we have been accustomed to Syria being more meticulous and cautious in formulating definitive positions in times of crises.

"It is noteworthy," he continued, "that while Lebanese Prime Minister Selim Hoss held Barak fully responsible for the aggression, the Syrian government was exculpating him.

"It might be no exaggeration to say that Hezbollah will meet more or less the same fate as Ocalan," he added.

Ocalan, who led the neo-Marxist Kurdish Workers party in a protracted war of secession against Turkey, was ordered to leave his safe haven in Damascus last October, after Turkey threatened military action against Syria.

He was eventually captured by a Turkish commando team in Kenya and flown back to Turkey, where he was sentenced to death.

"The question is whether the Syrian government is suffering from fatigue and has therefore decided to drop its steadfast positions in order to enter into peace agreements with Israel, which would enable it to recover lost territory and concentrate on building the homefront."

Such questions, Atwan wrote, are prompted by the "very significant signals" emerging from Damascus, such as its refusal to participate in a proposed five-way Arab summit to discuss peace moves in the wake of Barak's election; its ambivalence toward Iraq; its lukewarm attitude to other Arab countries; and its willingness to negotiate with Israel via media and business channels.

"Syrian diplomacy is paralyzed," Atwan wrote, "otherwise, it would not have relied on British journalist Patrick Seale to carry complimentary messages to Barak, which no Arab leader has had the privilege of receiving" from Damascus.

Syria is currently going through "difficult internal travails," as Assad seeks to settle the succession in favor of his son, Bashar.

"This issue is taking precedence over all others, and determines – perhaps explains – all other Syrian moves," wrote Atwan, citing dismissals from the armed forces, the postponement of the appointment of ambassadors and the attempt to complete the peace process as quickly as possible.

A "new Syria" is in the making, he wrote, adding, "It is too early to pass final judgment or to predict whether the change will be for the better or the worse because Syria's makeup, standing and location make it different from any other Arab state.

"All that can be said, is that the Israeli blitz on Beirut ushers in a new era in Lebanon and Syria, one in which there might be no room for the Islamic Resistance, or any other resistance."

Arafat slammed for holding too much power

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — An independent, American-European report has taken Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat to task, advising him to govern more democratically and effectively, or risk losing Palestinian public support.

The report, *Strengthening Palestinian Public Institutions*, was presented to Arafat last week in the West Bank town of Ramallah, culminating a year-long study by a task force chaired by former French prime minister Michel Rocard that included five former heads of state and world leaders.

Members of the task force highlighted some of the conclusions of the Council of Foreign Relations-sponsored report at a news conference in the West Bank town. While praising the Palestinian Authority for its achievements so far, the task force said much more must be done to build a more participatory political system and develop a free market economy.

Arafat has previously been criticized for holding too much power, while failing to impose accountability for officials and security forces.

His self-rule government has also been criticized for insufficient accountability in the spending of economic assistance funds.

The report, project director Henry Siegman said, was intended to prod Arafat to establish more democratic institutions.

"We have made it clear that not to reform is not an option," Siegman said at the news conference.

Among the measures the report called on the Palestinian Authority to implement:

- Adopt a constitution;
- Establish accountability for the executive branch of the legislature;
- Centralize public revenues and expenditures in the Finance Ministry;
- Ensure independence of the judiciary;
- Establish a civilian-controlled police force that would be subject to political, legal and financial oversight by the Palestinian Legislative Council.

The report praised the Palestinian Authority's achievements during the past five years, including the establishment of the self-rule government's Cabinet, the providing of basic services to the population and the maintenance of public order.

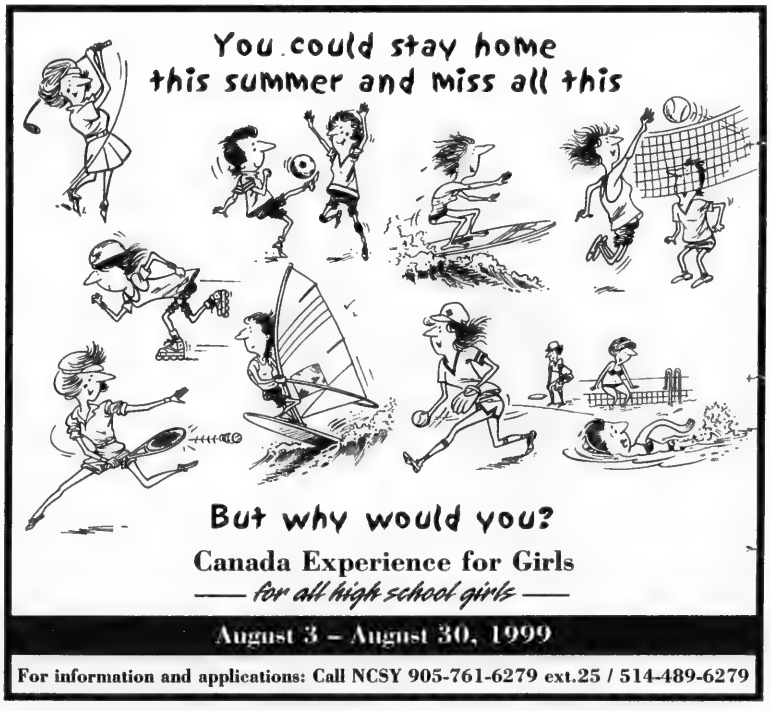
But at the same time, the report cited opinion polls that show Palestinian "dissatisfaction with the level of public services, a perception of waste and corruption in the public administration and police, and a loss of faith in the institutions of governance, particularly the Palestinian Legislative Council and the judiciary."

According to the report, Arafat's failure to bolster confidence through reforms could cost the Palestinian Authority public backing, while increasing support for groups opposed to the Oslo accords.

This possibility, the report said, would hamper the Palestinian Authority's ability to negotiate with Israel and harm Israeli confidence that Arafat could secure Palestinian support for any future agreements.

The Palestinian Authority said it welcomed the report. Nabil Sha'ath, the official in charge of planning affairs, said he would head a team to work with the task force on implementing the reforms.

He said many of them would help the Palestinian Authority "be ready for the declaration of our independent state."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Swiss banks seek fund beneficiaries

By DANIEL KURTZMAN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

WASHINGTON — Ten months after Swiss banks agreed to pay $1.25 billion to settle Holocaust-era claims, potential beneficiaries are beginning to stake their claims for compensation.

Holocaust survivors around the world began responding last week to a media campaign designed to notify hundreds of thousands of possible claimants about how to apply for payments from the settlement.

Full-page ads appeared in some 500 newspapers in 40 countries, providing an application form and a toll free number for people to call for information. Jewish organizations are also planning to send out claims packages to as many as 400,000 survivors.

The notification process began as officials convened in Washington last week to continue the search for looted assets that made their way to the United States.

A 20-member presidential commission, chaired by World Jewish Congress president Edgar Bronfman, is searching for gold, art, cultural property and other assets that were turned over to state governments following World War II.

The commission unveiled a map of all World War II-era federal agencies that might have possessed or controlled assets of Holocaust victims, providing a blueprint for the investigative work that lies ahead.

House and Senate lawmakers sitting on the commission announced legislation to extend the commission's mandate for another year, making a final report to the president due at the end of next year.

Payments from the Swiss fund, meanwhile, are not expected to start reaching Holocaust survivors until the second half of next year, although Jewish officials and lawyers involved in the settlement are urging Swiss banks to immediately start making interim payments to elderly survivors.

Unlike a humanitarian fund of nearly $200 million set up by Switzerland in 1997 that has provided payments to needy Holocaust survivors, the $1.25-billion settlement is intended as restitution for those who lost assets in the Holocaust.

Eligible recipients include:

• Survivors who deposited assets in Swiss banks or have claims to any looted assets that made their way to Switzerland;

• Slave laborers exploited by Swiss entities; and

• Refugees who sought entry into Switzerland to avoid Nazi persecution and were mistreated.

There are no estimates yet as to how many people will be eligible and how large the payments might be.

No final deadline has been set for applications under the fund, the Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) said.

Oct. 22 has been set as a date for claimants to register their suggestions for allocation.

But claimants will be able to apply until a date which has not yet been set, said Ron Singer, spokesperson for the CJC Ottawa Advocacy Centre.

For information, Canadian applicants can call a hot line at 1-888-635-5483, or access the Web site at www.swissbankclaims.com. The Web site also includes an application form.

The fund is the same one approved about 18 months ago, and payouts still have to be approved by a U.S. District Court on Nov. 29, 1999, Singer said.

Those payouts will likely be made before the end of 2000.

With files from Ben Rose.

Lucy Zimmerman, Oscar Zimmerman, Dr. Anna Day, Jodie, Michelle & Daniel Day Zimmerman

extend their sincere thanks and appreciation to family and friends for their thoughtfulness, support and comfort following the recent loss of their beloved husband, father and grandfather

ISRAEL ZIMMERMAN ז"ל

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Barak forges governing coalition

Continued from page 1

• Housing Ministry – National Religious Party. This will help the NRP advance its interests in developing Jewish settlements, but could prove to be a source of tension with dovish parties within the coalition. It may also present difficulties in peace negotiations with the Palestinians, who have demanded an end to Jewish settlement activity.

• Interior Ministry – Yisrael b'Aliyah. The Russian immigrants' party built its campaign around the demand to wrest control of the ministry from Shas, which Yisrael b'Aliyah charged was blocking the entry of immigrants from the former Soviet Union.

• Immigrant Absorption – Yisrael b'Aliyah will continue to control this ministry.

Early this week *Ha'aretz* reported that Prime Minister-elect Ehud Barak has decided to give the Finance Ministry to former finance minister Avraham "Beiga" Shochat; the Internal Security Ministry will go to Shlomo Ben Ami. Yossi Beilin has been offered the Justice Ministry.

Binyamin Ben Eliezer has been offered the Communications Ministry, though he may receive the Internal Security Ministry instead if Ben Ami decides to forgo it.

Shalom Simchon is Barak's candidate for Knesset speaker, and David Levy will serve his third term as foreign minister this decade. Leaving Barak's office, Levy said he and Barak would run foreign policy jointly and shrugged off the appointment of Shimon Peres as minister of regional development.

Sources close to Barak said he sees the Regional Development Ministry as kind of a "headquarters" responsible for drafting position papers, ideas and suggestions for advancing various fronts of the peace process.

Jews wounded in drive-by shootings

Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

CHICAGO — The dark side of America was revealed once again, a major activist in a Jewish organization said last weekend, after a series of drive-by shootings in and around Chicago left a black man dead and six Jews wounded.

"The permanent undercurrent of racism, insane violence and hatred of others came up to the surface," the source said, claiming that the events again prove that there are groups and persons in the United States that will do anything to hurt Jews and persecute them.

The man suspected in the two-day shooting spree shot and killed himself Sunday night after police pursued him in south Illinois.

Benjamin Michael Smith, 21, was believed to be a white supremacist.

The Week in Israel

June 28

• Syria agreed to a visit next month by a group of Jewish and Arab mayors from Israel. The visit, which would be the first official trip to Damascus by Israeli Jews, is being co-ordinated through a European mediator.

June 29

• Close to 100 Jews from Kuwara region in Ethiopia arrived in Israel on Tuesday as part of stepped-up efforts to bring in the more than 3,000 Jews still living there.

June 30

• Prime Minister-elect Ehud Barak sent a letter to the Knesset officially advising the legislature that he would present his new government next week.

• The president of Turkey announced that he expects to visit Israel and the Palestinian Authority this month and thus become the first foreign leader to meet with Prime Minister-elect Ehud Barak.

July 1

• An Israeli air navigator who was taken captive in Lebanon 13 years ago may no longer be alive, according to a former commander of the Israel air force. But Maj. Gen. Avihu Bin Nun said that his comments regarding navigator Ron Arad were based solely on the fact that so many years have passed without any evidence that Arad is alive.

July 2

• A spokesperson for Prime Minister-elect Ehud Barak implicitly criticized President Bill Clinton for saying at a press conference with Egyptian president Hosni Mubarak: "I would like it if the Palestinian people felt free and were free to live wherever they like, wherever they want to. live." Merav Parsi-Tsadok said that the president's "stance on the right of return, as it might be understood...is unacceptable to Barak."

• According to the IDF's judge advocate-general, Uri Shoham, soldiers in the IDF's Lebanon Liaison Unit are collaborating with militiamen of the South Lebanon Army to smuggle drugs, arms and other items into Israel.

Files from JTA and Ha'aretz.

Eighteen Canadian university presidents visit Israel

By VIVA PRESS
CJN Israel Bureau

JERUSALEM — "Spectacular," said Terrence H. White, president of the University of Calgary, after being asked what he thought about Israel.

White, here for the first time, was one of 18 Canadian university presidents taking part in last week's study visit to Israel sponsored by Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC).

The visit, a first for many of the presidents and their spouses, was the brainchild of former CJC president, Irving Abella.

"The purpose of this trip is to enhance the relationship between Canadian and Israeli universities," said Abella, who led the first group of university presidents on a similar trip five years ago. "[We want to] encourage exchange programs for students and professors."

Most of the universities represented on this trip do not have exchanges with Israel. However, after eight days of travelling through the country and visiting the universities here, many of the presidents expressed interest in establishing such programs – exactly what Abella wanted.

Halifax's Mount Saint Vincent University president Sheila A. Brown said one of the reasons for her taking part in this trip was to look into the possibility of an exchange program in gender studies with the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. After a visit to the Hebrew University, Brown said the possibilities looked good.

Prof. Irving Abella meets Prof. Nili Cohen of Tel Aviv University.
[Israel Sun photo]

Colin Starnes, president of the University of King's College, also in Halifax, expressed interest in providing exchanges between Israeli universities and his university. King's College has seen its Jewish student population skyrocket in recent years. Starnes, who said he was overwhelmed by his Israel experience, said he would like to promote a student exchange program with the Hebrew University's Rothberg International School. More than 4,000 students study at the Rothberg one-year program; of some 60 Canadian students who took part in the 1998-99 program, one was from King's.

The schools on the trip that already have exchanges with Israeli institutions came to further their projects.

The University of Calgary has a number of exchange programs between professors and students, White said, but added that he would like to formalize some new relationships. He said his university already has joint research projects with the Hebrew University in biotechnology, genetics and Canadian studies, but he was asked by his colleagues to look into engineering projects with the Technion in Haifa.

"I want to explore further opportunities with Israeli universities – which are excellent," said Concordia University's president, Frederick Lowy, whose university currently has exchanges with the Technion in the area of building studies and with Ben-Gurion University of the Negev in humanities.

Lowy said there used to be an exchange with Hebrew University, which he now plans on reviving.

"Israeli universities are new and more creative. Canadians can learn from them," Abella said in explaining why he chose to bring the Canadian university presidents to Israel. "All Israeli universities are far ahead [and they can] open possibilities to Canadians."

Dalhousie University's Tom Traves agreed. "There's a very impressive university system here," he said. He would like to formalize the informal professor and student swaps his university now has with Israeli institutions.

"As a result of the last trip, there's been exponential growth in exchange programs," said Abella.

"My goal is to help Israeli universities. Any exchange programs Israel brings to Canada and vice versa would be helpful. I want to help both countries in their goals and aspirations," said Abella.

Although only here for eight days, the group, which also included the Council of Ontario Universities and CJC staff, trekked all over the country. They visited Jerusalem, Masada, the Dead Sea, Ein Gedi, Tel Aviv, Haifa and the Golan.

Abella said he was thrilled by the number of university presidents who came on the trip. "I thought 10 or 12 universities would come, not 20!"

Other universities that took part in this trip were Brock, McMaster, Nipissing, Queen's, St. Francis Xavier, Wilfrid Laurier, Ryerson Polytechnic University, and the universities of Guelph, Manitoba, Regina, Windsor and Winnipeg.

In addition to being organized by the CJC, the trip was funded by private donors, including Gerald Schwartz of Onex, Charles Bronfman, Gluskin and Sheff, Edward Bronfman and Milton Harris.

Abella, who is chair of the Canadian committee for enhancement of higher education in the Galilee added that since the last trip five years ago, Jewish programs at Canadian universities have expanded widely. He said he hoped this trip would achieve the same thing.

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Syria deal could free MIAs

Continued from page 1

effectiveness in securing the prisoners' releases.

"I don't think we're doing anything special," Baumel said. "The American mentality is not to be overly dependent on governments."

The Baumels have met with Arab interlocutors and they have even tried backchannel, cloak and dagger approaches they hoped would reveal more information about the MIAs. French President Jacques Chirac has raised the issue during a visit to Lebanon.

Although the PLO pledged in 1993 to provide information about the MIAs, and Arafat presented half of Baumel's dogtag to Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, the Palestinian leader has failed to provide further information.

Since the election of Ehud Barak as prime minister, prospects for the release of the prisoners has increased, Baumel believes, though he's not willing to wager his emotional well-being on that one chance.

"On the one hand, if we weren't optimistic, we wouldn't be able to do what we do. On the other hand, we've been disappointed before. We'll believe it when we see it," he said.

Barak has indicated his desire to complete a deal with Syria on Lebanon and the Golan Heights, and that opens the door to a deal that would include the MIAs, Baumel said.

"The dynamics are there for an initiative by all related parties that could be beneficial."

Baumel, who was in Canada last week accompanied by Dan Eisen, chair of the International Coalition for Missing Israeli Soldiers, believes Canada could play a key role in securing the MIAs' freedom.

"Canada has good relations with the Arab world," he said. "They can do much more for us than allies of Israel [the United States.]"

"Canada is wise enough to see the opportunity for striking a positive blow in the Middle East," Eisen added. "The resolution of this would be a winner for all. It would have an enormous impact on Israel. It would allow the Arabs to fulfil their international obligations and it would allow Canada to fulfil its role as an honest broker."

Baumel and Eisen believe they must lay the political groundwork in Canada before approaching government officials to seek their assistance.

Natives of the United States, the Baumels moved to Israel from Brooklyn in 1970. Prior to that, Zachary had attended Eitz Chaim Jewish school in Boro Park and in Israel, he combined army service and yeshiva studies through the hesder program. He never gave up his U.S. citizenship.

The Baumels' situation is well known among U.S. lawmakers. A few weeks ago, the House of Representatives adopted a bill that called on the State Department to raise the matter of the Israeli MIAs "on an urgent basis with appropriate government officials of Syria, Lebanon, the Palestinian Authority..."

The bill also requires that "decisions with regard to U.S. economic and other forms of assistance...and U.S. policy...should take into consideration the willingness of these governments and authorities to assist in locating and securing the return of these soldiers."

The Bill passed by a 415-5 vote and now goes to the Senate.

In the meantime, the Baumels are looking forward to the day when Zachary will be reunited with his family.

"He has an older brother and a sister, and six nieces he's never met," his father said.

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Health

Professor warns against private health system

By JANICE ARNOLD
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — As a result of the proliferation of private medical clinics in Quebec, there are longer waits in the public health care system because doctors have a financial incentive to devote more of their time to private services, a community conference heard.

The current mixed health care system not only has a human cost, it is also more inefficient economically than a universal plan that is fully publicly funded, said McGill University economics professor, Lee Soderstrom, who has spent 25 years studying the health care field.

Doctors make more doing the same procedures in a private clinic than in a public hospital, he said. "As time permits, they see patients in the public sector," he said.

Soderstrom gave the example of cataract surgery in Manitoba. In 1996, among doctors who worked only in the public sector, their patients waited an average of 10 weeks for surgery. Among doctors who split their time between public hospitals and private clinics, their private patients waited an average of 4.1 weeks, while their public hospital patients had to wait 23 weeks.

This financial incentive for doctors also leads to an overuse of health care services, he added. Doctors will suggest more tests and procedures to patients knowing they will be well remunerated for them, as has happened in the United States.

His argument, he admitted, flies in the face of that of the proponents of privatization, who claim that it will save taxpayers' money and will improve the availability of certain medical services.

Soderstrom was guest speaker at a conference entitled Medicare: Going, Going... Gone? The Threat of Privatization, organized by the council on services to seniors advocacy committee of FEDERATION CJA and the Community Coalition on Health Care of NDG. The two organizations are working together to raise public awareness of and lobby against government cutbacks to health care.

Besides clinics, privatization is creeping into the health care system in other ways, he said, for example, in home care, user fees and the provincial drug insurance plan.

Soderstrom said the evidence shows that for-profit firms are no more efficient than non-profit ones. "Studies over 25 years in the United States of for-profit and non-profit hospitals show no significant difference in costs...except to patients, because for-profit hospitals often charge more for services."

The evidence demonstrates that administrative costs of health care are, in fact, substantially lower under a universal public financing, he said. Private insurance companies have a high overhead for marketing, premium collection and claim payments.

"The administrative costs in Canada for health care are $100 to $125 per capita. In the United States, it's over $400 per person," he said.

Another speaker, Claude Saint-Georges, a researcher for the Confédération des Syndicats Nationaux, noted that Quebec's per capita spending on health care is now the lowest of all the provinces and territories. It dropped from $1,734 in 1994 to $1,655 in 1998, he said.

"During that same period, private spending per capita went up from $634 to $719."

Spending increases

Public health institutions, such as hospitals, long-term care facilities and CLSCs, saw their total financing reduced by $537 million between 1993 and 1998, he said. "During that period, payments to doctors went up by $78 million, and global spending for drugs was raised by $382 million."

The number of hospital beds in the province decreased to 16,389 in 1998 from 23,012 beds in 1994, a 28.7 percent drop, he said. The number of long-term beds also went down by 8.4 percent.

Over 200 people, most of them seniors, attended the conference. An action plan was adopted to press the provincial and federal governments to reverse what they see as a trend toward privatization of health care.

Reva Gesser, a community activist for 48 years and a founder of the Golden Age Association, reminded participants how difficult things were for those without money before medicare.

"Those who are too young to remember, don't be smug and say what's a small fee? Let's not return to those dark days," Gesser said.

A conference plenary adopted the recommendation that "our discourse as community organizations be redefined to focus on the needs of people versus the cost of services. We have been manipulated into adopting the government's discourse."

Postcards to MNAs and MPs against privatization were distributed for participants to mail in. Participants were also urged to target doctors, and "make them feel their social responsibilities."

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Tenor brings down the house at annual Yiddish concert

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — With Yiddish lyrics to *Embraceable You*, tenor Michael Smolash, 27, a relative newcomer from Montreal, wowed 2,000 attending the 29th annual concert of Yiddish music.

Singing and dancing with members of the audience, his flair for showbiz strongly evident, young Smolash was a hit with his combination of traditional Yiddish folksongs and popular Broadway melodies. The melodies were translated into Yiddish by Henia Reinhartz and Hindy Abelson.

Smolash brought the house down when he put on a skirt, a blouse, a sweater, three aprons and a scarf over his head to sing what he described as a sequel to *Di Grine Kuzine*.

It was the lament, he said, of the unlucky immigrant a year after she was wed. Actually, it was the traditional folk song, *A Yor Nokh Der Khasene* with words by Isaac Reingold.

As he took off his feminine garments Smolash introduced members of the klezmorim who accompanied him, Brian Katz, Anne Lederman, Sasha Luminsky, Artie Roth and Martin van de Ven.

The klezmorim distinguished themselves with a jazzed-up version of *Der Nayer Sher*.

Smolash's contribution supplemented the more traditional part of the program by the Toronto Jewish Folk Choir conducted by Esther Ghan Firestone, accompanied by Lina Zemelman.

The choir sang *Yiddish Iz Mayn Lied* and excerpts from the Yiddish folk operetta *Der Bobe's Cholem* with soloists Roz Keyes, Miriam Eskin and Benjamin Stein.

The concert was held in the main sanctuary at Beth Tzedec Congregation, instead of in Earl Bales Park, because inclement weather forced the concert indoors at the last moment. The audience at the synagogue was about the same size as it has been at the park.

The large crowd was seen as evidence that Yiddish is alive and well, said Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl.

"Jewish life is founded upon singing," he said. "God commands people of Israel to sing. The Talmud should be sung not just spoken. Our community gave birth to the Yiddish lied."

All Jewish groups should celebrate 1,000 years of Yiddish next year, said Ethel Cooper, chair, UJA Federation's Yiddish committee. She was also concert co-chair with committee member, David Abramowitz.

Noting that the comittee's expenses run to several thousand dollars a year, she asked the Jewish community to "throw its support behind Yiddish before it is too late."

"The city of Toronto will continue to support this Yiddish concert," said Councillor Howard Moscoe, bringing greetings from Mayor Mel Lastman. Eda Zimler Schiff, president of the Friends of Yiddish, also spoke.

Waltonsteins traces woman's roots

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

TVOntario is broadcasting two vivid documentaries later this month on *Studio 2* bound to appeal to Jewish viewers.

The first, *Waltonsteins*, is about a woman's search for her Jewish ancestry. The second, *Ruth and Frank*, is a portrait of the Canadian composer who wrote crooner Frank Sinatra's first hit song. Both shows air at 8 p.m.

Imagine discovering you're not who you think you are.

Tell me about it, says Frannie Sheridan, an Ottawa playwright who stumbled upon her Jewishness.

The *Waltonsteins*, to be aired on Tuesday, July 13, is a portrait of a feisty woman who discovers her ancestral roots.

Sheridan's father, a Holocaust survivor whose wife bore him seven children, converted to Roman Catholicism when Sheridan was a child. Having been persecuted as a Jew, he abandoned Judaism.

In Ottawa, he joined a local church, St. Basil's, and attended services religiously. Sheridan and her siblings were baptized and confirmed at St. Basil's.

When she was nine, Sheridan found out the truth about herself. Her father urged her never to reveal the secret. He was tortured by an obsessive fear that harm would come to his children if they revealed themselves as Jews.

According to Sheridan, her mother did not share her husband's ob-

Frannie Sheridan

session with concealing his Jewish background. Indeed, she was reluctant to hide her Jewishness, and the issue divided the family.

In short, sharp bursts, Sheridan acts out the emotions which tore her family apart.

Interestingly enough, the pastor of St. Basil's, Father Corbin Eddy, decries the fact that, in a free, multinational country like Canada, Sheridan's father felt the need to reject and deny his origins.

The story has a "happy" ending, so to speak.

***

On Thursday, July 15, Ruth Lowe is showcased. She is famous for having composed the seductive *I'll Never Smile Again*.

A Toronto pianist, she wrote the winning number in 10 minutes while living in Chicago. It was a tribute to her beloved husband, who died during a fairly routine surgical procedure.

As Tom Sandler – her son – relates, Lowe gave the song to band leader Tommy Dorsey, who in turn passed it on to Sinatra, then an up-and-coming star.

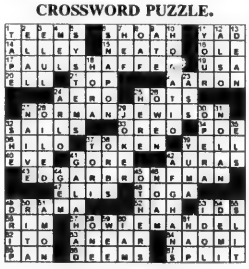
It launched his career and Lowe's friendship, such as it was, with Sinatra.

Lowe wrote one more song for Sinatra, *Put Your Dreams Away For Another Day*, and it became his theme song.

In closing, Sandler explains that his mother stopped writing songs because she wanted to have "a normal life."

I don't quite understand what he means, but isn't it a pity she did not develop her talents any further?

ANSWERS TO THIS WEEK'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE.



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CJN Rosh Hashanah Photo Contest

The CJN announces its fifth annual Rosh Hashanah photo contest. We are asking readers to submit their own original photographs either of Israel or on any Jewish theme in their community.

Anyone can enter except *CJN* employees or members of their families.

A maximum of three photos per entrant may be submitted. Please write your name, address and phone number on the back of each photo. We can only return the photos if you provide a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

You may mail or deliver your photos to: *The CJN* Rosh Hashanah Contest, The Canadian Jewish News, 1500 Don Mills Road, Suite 205, Toronto, Ont., M3B 3K4.

The contest closes at 5 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 16, 1999.

The judges will choose three photographs which, in their opinion, are the most expressive and evocative. These three photos will be published in *The CJN* Rosh Hashanah issue, Sept. 9, 1999. Each of the "winning" photographers will receive a cheque for $100.

We will undoubtedly receive many worthy submissions. But only three will be selected as the "winners." The decisions of the judges will be final. The odds of winning depend upon the number and the quality of submissions received.

...nning entrants will be notified by telephone before Shabbat on Aug. 27, 1999.

Any litigation respecting the conduct and awarding of a prize in this contest may be submitted to the Régie des Loteries et courses du Québec.

Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

RARE HEBRAICA ON DISPLAY AT U OF T

Several important Judaic works are included as part of an exhibition of relatively recent acquisitions of the University of Toronto's Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library, situated beside the Robarts Library on St. George Street, south of Bloor.

The exhibition includes rare books in a wide range of categories, including Hebraica, Science and Medicine, Exploration and Travel, Italian and Caribbean works, English and American Literature, and Canadiana.

The Hebraic works are listed at the front of the glossy 72-page catalogue because they are the oldest. They include eight manuscripts and printed books, the earliest of which may date from the ninth century CE.

Scholars are still divided over whether the Mishnah fragment that Toronto financier **Albert Friedberg** and his wife **Nancy Friedberg** gave to the university in 1995 dates from the ninth or the 11th century. If, as some insist, the vellum manuscript page originated in the middle of the ninth century, it is one of the oldest Hebrew texts extant.

Other items donated by the Friedbergs include *Halachot Pesukot* (Decided Laws) by **Yehudai ben Nahman**, a 10th century manuscript of the first known work of the Geonim, the scholars of Babylonia.

There is also a complete Hebrew Bible originating in Toledo in 1307; a copy of a 14th-century work, *Sefer Mitzvot Gadol*, by French Rabbi **Moses ben Jacob** of Coucy; and an exceedingly rare early manuscript of the *Zohar*, which may have belonged to the 17th-century messianic pretender **Shabbetai Tsevi**.

The printed books seem no less intriguing. *Sefer Hasidim* is an ethical treatise by **Judah ben Samuel**, dating from the Middle Ages and printed in 1538. It was donated from the estate of **Rabbi Abraham Price**, who decades ago wrote an extensive commentary on the work.

Also on display are a 1593-era edition of *Sefer ha-Kuzari*, by **Yehudah ha-Levi**, an important philosophic work concerning the Khazar people who converted to Judaism in the eighth century, and an illustrated Hebrew edition of the *Song of Solomon*, printed about 1922 in Berlin. Both were acquired in 1997 through the Freda and Patrick Hart Green Fund.

The eclectic exhibition also includes published works by **Dante, Galileo, Jane Austen, Henry James** and **Ernest Hemingway**, among many others, and the papers of various Canadian authors including **Gwendolyn MacEwen** who wrote *Earth and High Heaven* (1947), which gave an early treatment of a Jewish theme in Canadian literature. The exhibition continues to Sept. 3.

* * *

Arts in Brief

• Comic **Anne Marie Scheffler** stars in *Dating Myself*, her fourth one-woman show, directed by **Carol Lempert**. Poor Alex Theatre, Bloor & Brunswick, $8. July 1 to 10. 594-5919.

• Congratulations to **Jeremy Gladstone** and the Toronto band **The Zygotes** upon the release of their first CD, *Turning Gyge's Ring*. The CD was launched at a big bash recently at The Rivoli on Queen Street W.

• The 11th annual Beaches International Jazz Festival runs July 22 to 25. The shindig involves a two-kilometer-long street fest and the sounds of more than 40 bands.

• The Art of Etching, featuring artists **S. Firer, A. Arma, N. Engel, L. Hunt** and more, continues at Klim Art Gallery, 2473 Yonge St. above Eglinton, thru July 11.

* * *

Eclectic Journal: The latest issue of *Ariel: The Israel Review of Arts and Letters*, focuses on some aspects of the relationship between Israel and the Christian world in acknowledgement of the approaching Christian millennium. The 96-page journal provides an unusual mix of theology, geology, photography and poetry, as well as pieces on dance, film and literature.

Its review of *Journey to My Father*, **Israel Zamir's** memoir of his famous father, **Isaac Bashevis Singer**, is interesting, even if it does appear almost five years after the book came to print.

Equally interesting is **Hillel Tryster's** piece on silent films in Palestine. Tryster is deputy director of the Steven Spielberg Jewish Film Archive at the Hebrew University, Jerusalem.

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Artist creates directory of synagogue artists

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Canadian textile artist Temma Gentles, says she is dismayed with how often Canadian congregations ignore Canadian artists, and seek out American artists or items from New York Judaica stores.

"It isn't because the American work is better or less expensive," she says, "only that congregations don't know where to find experienced Canadian artists. They are also reluctant to engage in the commission process."

Gentles believes that a directory of Canadian synagogue artists could rectify the situation. She approached Rabbi Paul Golomb, director of the Canadian Council for Reform Judaism (CCRJ), and offered to assemble a directory of artists of religious works, if CCRJ would pay

Temma Gentles

Continued on page 29

Arts & Travel

Travel Talk

BY BILL GLADSTONE

NAPOLEON & OTHER DIVERSIONS IN MONTREAL

The intriguing collection of artifacts related to the French Emperor Napoleon, on view at the Stewart Museum on St. Helene's Island in Montreal, constitute an effective remembrance to a towering historical figure.

He was a military genius and strategist par excellence who had luck and timing with him. At the height of his conquests, he reigned over 40 percent of the European population. "From nothing, I rose to the rank of the most powerful monarch of the world," was how he once summed up his own career. "Europe was at my feet. I confess ...my ambition was great."

And so, correspondingly, is his legend. The exhibit, which originated in Paris, consists of some 300 artifacts, works and documents, including his birth cradle, furniture, clothing, wedding ring, the sabre he used for the campaign of Egypt, and his trademark two-pointed hat.

The exhibit makes no allusions to Napoleon's relations with the Jews, although that peripheral subject has been the focus of books and essays. Napoleon was apparently fascinated with this legendary ancient people, and the problem of bringing them into the modern republic and applying his vision of universal civil rights to them.

He reconvened the Sanhedrin of old, and his soldiers helped to usher in the age of Jewish emancipation by "liberating" the Jews from their confining ghettos.

Like the Jewish people, Napoleon was twice in exile, first on the island of Elba from which he escaped, then on St. Helena, where he spent the last five years of his life.

I found one of the most fascinating pieces in the exhibition to be a small drawing of an unassuming, pot-bellied little man, dressed in white and wearing a sunhat, sitting in the shade as though he has just been puttering in the garden. Thus, Napoleon on St. Helena.

At his death, artists rushed to his bedside to fashion a plaster cast of his face; the deathmask is also displayed. Artists depicting Napoleon posthumously sometimes did so with Christological overtones. One fanciful canvas shows him stepping triumphantly out of the grave, risen again.

Napoleon was a historical giant whose legend is still revered in many quarters. As one might expect, the exhibition treats him reverentially, even as it demonstrates that his feet, after all, were made of clay.

Until Oct. 11. Adults $10. 514-790-1245 or 800-361-4595. www.stewart-museum.org.

***

Montreal Beaux Arts: An ambitious new exhibition opened recently at the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts (Musee des Beaux Arts). Cosmos: From Romanticism to the Avant-Garde, shows how the vastness of the universe and the depths of its mysteries captured the imaginations of an eclectic bunch of artists, including Goya, Miro, Turner, Van Gogh, Picasso, Calder, Kandinsky, Lawren Harris and Joyce Wieland.

The search for new frontiers is a huge topic in modern history. It encompasses the 19th-century explorations of America, including the Far North, to contemporary explorations of the solar system. Cosmos shows how the modern scientific spirit of discovery informed the artistic sensibilities from 1801 to the present.

Until Oct. 17. Adults $12. 1380 Sherbrooke St. W. 800-361-4595.

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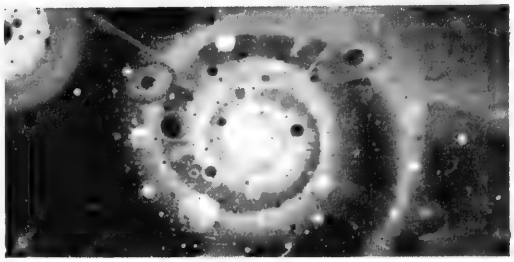

This Wenzel Hablik painting is part of the Cosmos exhibition.

Museum Pass: Admission to the Musee des Beaux Arts, the Stewart Museum and 17 other institutions are included when you purchase a Montreal Museum Pass for $15 for one day or $28 for three days (adults).

Other institutions include the outstanding Pointe-a-Calliere Museum of Archaeology and History of Montreal, the Canadian Centre for Architecture, the Biosphere, the Just for Laughs Museum and the Montreal Holocaust Memorial Centre (temporarily located in Cavendish Mall).

The Museum Pass is available at participating museums, major hotels and at the Infotouriste office in Dorchester Square. 514-845-6873 or 800-363-7777.

Directory lists artists

Continued from page 28

the costs of the initial printing and mailing.

"Rabbi Golomb agreed enthusiastically," she says. Gentles sent some 100 letters to artists and architects. Calls for submissions were posted in provincial crafts organizations across the country and in many of the single-media guilds.

"Although being Jewish was not a prerequisite, experience with commissions and willingness to work in a religious environment were." She adds that she also wanted to provide a full range of expertise to congregations including landscape design and museum curators. "All who qualified were included at no cost to themselves."

The *Directory of Synagogue Artists* includes a page for each of the 24 artists working in metal, stone, ceramics, wood, textile, stained glass and multi-media.

The directory also includes a photo of each artist's work, personal statements by the artists, some of their recent commissions, and contact information.

Gentles, who is one of the artists listed in the directory, says the booklet includes a guide explaining how commissions work. "I want to demystify the process. I hope this section will prove useful."

Recently, Gentles completed a dome-shaped chupah for Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue, 10 Torah mantles for Congregation Beth Israel in Worcester, Mass., and she is currently completing several textile pieces for the new Village Shul on Eglinton Avenue.

She recently spoke at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem on historical and contemporary chupot.

Although the directory is aimed at synagogues, she says that recently, more and more organizations and private homes are acquiring Judaica art pieces."

Gentles hopes to bring an exhibit of the artists' work to the Internet and to regional conferences, and she plans to update the directory every two years.

For a copy of the directory, send a self-addressed envelope at least 6 x 9 inches with two Canadian first-class stamps to; CCRJ, 36 Atkinson Ave., Thornhill, Ont., L4J 8C9.

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BATHURST & CENTRE - BACKS ONTO PARK!!
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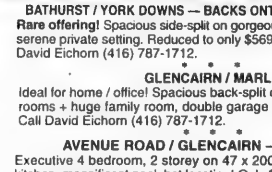

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REAL ESTATE Section

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SOLD
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• • •

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• • •

BAYVIEW/STEELES - $589,000.
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• • •

BAYVIEW/POST RD. - $1,500,000
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BATHURST/CENTRE ST - $729,000.
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35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

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Single female, 36, 5'4", slim, attractive, brunette, enjoy reading, theater, cottage life, country life. Seeking a male, 35-45, attractive, professional, for a serious relationship. AD#2048

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Divorced Jewish female, early 50's, affectionate, financially secure, independent, great sense of humour, enjoy dining out, long walks, music, sports. Seeking a male, over 55, with a great sense of humour. AD#2046

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Single Jewish female, 41, 5'8", brown hair, attractive, honest, educated, employed. Seeking a Jewish male, 45-48, independent, honest, good personality, with similar interests. AD#1414

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Divorced female, early 50's, fair hair, green eyes, attractive, slender, non smoker or drinker, kind, caring, great sense of humour, good family values, enjoy travelling, long walks, quiet times. Seeking a male, 45-60. AD#1545

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Single female, 36, 5'4", attractive, slim brunette, enjoy cottage life, theater, country. Seeking a professional male, 35-44, who is intelligent, interesting, attractive, inside and out. AD#1561

SERIOUS RELATIONSHIP
Single female, 40, 5'3", professional, attractive, medium build, enjoy movies, travelling, tennis, dining out. Seeking a sincere male, 36-50, attractive and successful. AD#1195

YOUNG AT HEART
Divorced female, 44, pretty, slender, Jewish, employed, dark brown hair and eyes, enjoy sports, art, theater, swimming. Seeking a Jewish male, 40-49, non smoker, healthy in body, soul and mind, independent, sensible. AD#1094

GOOD TIME
Single Jewish female, 38, educated, loyal, thoughtful, pearl of a person, creative, active, enjoy laughter. Seeking a Jewish soulmate, 36-45, tender, honest, family oriented. AD#1254

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Single female, creative, sensitive, beautiful. Seeking a confident male, who is kind, modern , with strong principles. AD#1560

Men seeking Women

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ONE WAY TO LOVE
Single Jewish male, 37, good looking, compassionate, fun to be with, with a great sense of humour. Seeking a female, 29-37, who is a Jewish lively and bubbly. AD#1562

THE RIGHT STUFF
Single male, 45, 5'8", Jewish, professional, sincere, intelligent, affectionate, down to earth, family oriented. Seeking a Jewish female, 38-46, with similar qualities, for a meaningful relationship. AD#1378

LADY OF HIS DREAM
Single male, 40, slim, 5'11", 165lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, sincere, hopeless romantic, enjoy walking on the beach, bowling, tennis, swimming, sports, 60's music. Seeking a slim, attractive female, with a great sense of humour. AD#1610

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WARM AND CARING
Single white male, 57, romantic, self employed, businessman, enjoy travelling, movies, quiet times, good conversation. Seeking a female with similar interests. AD#2044

SERIOUS RELATIONSHIP
Single male, 50's, young looking, 5'8", slim, professional, trim, world explorer, strong, well educated. Seeking a slender female, 25-45, intelligent, compassionate, attractive, very wise and adventurous. AD#2045

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Single male, financially secure, from the Thornhill area, handsome, 50's. Seeking a female, good looking, good sense of humour, slim, age not important, picture a must after contact made, financially secure enough to escape winters is a definite plus. AD#1810

OPEN MIND
Single Jewish male, 48, 5'11", young looking, handsome, emotionally fit, dark brown hair, good shape, enjoy travelling, art, photography, writing. Seeking a female, 36-44, sensitive, intelligent, attractive, slim, good communicator, with an open, curious mind. AD#1648

SOULMATE
Israeli male, 6'1", 160lbs, compassionate, enjoy the country side, night shows, classical music, dancing, dining. Seeking a female, 47-54 years of age with similar interests. AD#1012

LANE-WAY TO LOVE
Jewish male, 37, 5'9", attractive, compassionate, enjoy theater, conversation, fun. Seeking a female, 26-37, with similar interests. AD#1194

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Single male, 36, 6', have a Master degree, professional, enjoy camping, cycling, travelling, film, dining out, cooking. Seeking a female, under 40, no children, down to earth, caring, chatty, mid size, unconventional. AD#1053

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Single Jewish male, 40, bright, witty, kind hearted, enjoy long walks, theater, hiking, travelling, table tennis and other games. Seeking a female with similar interests. AD#1086

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Jamaican male, 48, 160lbs, enjoy house work, gardening, music, down to earth, good sense of humour. Seeking a female with similar interests. AD#1230

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Single Jewish male, non smoker, seeking a slim, attractive female, 65+, with a great sense of humour, who likes sports and travelling. AD#1292

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Single male, 25, enjoy walks, camping, sports, biking, outdoors. Seeking a Jewish female, 21-25, similar interests. AD#1055

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Single Jewish male, attractive, early 50's, 5'10", caring, compassionate, enjoy dancing, electronics, computers, socializing. Seeking a female, attractive, intelligent, caring, compassionate. AD#1119

SOULMATE
Single male, 6'1", 160lbs, young looking, compassionate, enjoy nature, country site, classical music, dancing, dining out. Seeking a female with similar interests, looking for my soulmate. AD#1005

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Sports

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Parent has ties to her majesty's sceptered isle

Thornhill athlete to suit up for British baseball team

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Ari Levstein speaks with no trace of a British accent, but when you talk to his father, Ivor, his Glaswegian brogue comes through loud and clear.

Right now, Levstein the younger is thanking his lucky stars for his family's connection to her majesty's sceptered isle. Those ties came in very handy recently when the 18-year-old athlete was asked to play for the British National Baseball Team. Levstein readily agreed to the unexpected opportunity and left recently for Britain. He will take up residence in suburban London, where he will split his games playing for the nationals and for Bracknell, a club team northwest of the city.

Levstein's summer will include a trip with the national team to Germany where they will play against other European baseball powers. That will be followed by the European Pool A Championships, with the two top teams qualifying for the Olympic Games in Sydney in 2000.

Ironically, Levstein's best opportunity to participate in the Olympics came by leaving his native land, since Canada will not be sending a baseball team to the quadrennial games.

Levstein has played elite-level baseball in the Toronto area ever since he was a kid. A five-foot-10, 165-lb. centre fielder with the Thornlea Thunder, his high school team, he also patrols the outfield for the Thornhill Reds in the Metro Toronto League.

His stats with the Thunder show why the British nationals considered him such a hot prospect. In 26 games, he racked up a .500 average with two home runs, two triples, nine doubles and 14 singles. He stole six bases and registered 20 RBIs. The year before, he hit .439, with 27 singles and 20 ribbies.

Those numbers indicate Levstein hits for average, not for power. "My goal is consistency and with that comes big hits," he said.

In 1998, the Thunder lost in the finals of the Ontario high school championships – Levstein was named MVP in the championship game – and this year the team finished fifth province-wide.

Levstein played about 20 games with the Reds this season but he didn't see much action. A torn tendon in his thumb kept him out of the lineup and hampered his hitting when he returned. He still managed a .500 average on six hits in 12 at-bats.

Levstein's resume also includes a key role on the Toronto's Maccabi Youth Games baseball team, a squad that sliced through the opposition easily en route to a gold medal in Hartford a few years ago.

His Thornlea coach, Gary Godkin, believes Levstein "has all the tools he needs," to succeed in England.

"He's one of the better players in York Region, in the top 10," he said.

"Ari is an unbelievable player with a great work ethic," he continued. "He is also one of the nicest student athletes I've had the pleasure to coach."

Ari Levstein

Last year, he pointed out, Levstein helped him bring along the team's younger players while finishing second on the team in hitting and slugging percentages.

"He was a starter, he batted second in the lineup and he was one of our clutch hitters," he said.

Levstein won't be the first Thornlea grad going to Britain to play baseball. Last year, a former teammate was recruited to play for the Brits – one of four or five Canadians on the national team – and he told the coach about Levstein. The coach e-mailed Levstein, asking for his stats, his background, some references and a video of him playing. Levstein provided the information, and later learned that a scout had come to watch him play, although "I don't know when or which game the scout was at."

In mid-May he got a call from Britain, saying "the team would be delighted if I came to play." It didn't take him long to accept the offer.

A student at Associated Hebrew Schools until grade six, Levstein started playing competitive baseball at seven years of age. He moved to rep ball at nine, playing the infield for teams in Richmond Hill, Maple and for the past seven years, Thornhill.

He admits the English invitation took him somewhat by surprise, but "I've never been happier. It's an experience I'd never thought about. It's taking baseball to another level. I figured it was the opportunity of a lifetime, so I might as well take it."

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Golfers raise research funds

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — When Michael Nepom had a bone marrow transplant in May 1998, he might have been forgiven for staying as far away from any reminders of the situation as possible.

Instead, he and his wife Shari started the annual McKinnon Heating Cooling Golf Tournament, to raise funds for cancer research.

A committee, which includes Nepom's sister Leslie Igel, is helping organize the 1999 tournament. It will be held at the Diamondback Golf Club in Richmond Hill on July 14. Registration will be from 7 to 7:30 a.m., with a shotgun tee-off at 8:30.

The fee of $195 per golfer, includes breakfast, green fees, a power cart, and lunch.

The beneficiary of this year's tournament will be the Princess Margaret Hospital Foundation. Proceeds will be directed to the hospital's bone marrow transplant unit.

Nepom, diagnosed with chronic myeloid leukemia, received his bone marrow transplant at Princess Margaret.

Last year's tournament raised $15,000 for the Leukemia Research Foundation.

The year 1998 was special for the Nepoms, not just because of the transplant, but also because the couple's first child, daughter Jaimee, was born in September.

For more information on the second annual McKinnon Heating Cooling Golf Tournament, call 694-1187.

The Inside Back

Will Israel have a constitution?

In addition to wording the new government's approach to issues such as the peace talks with the Palestinians and Syria, the coalition negotiations in Israel revolved around solutions to questions like the draft of Yeshiva students and the recognition of non-Orthodox conversion.

You may recall that these matters came to a head due to the intervention of Israel's Supreme Court, leading to demonstrations and counter-demonstrations, as well as no small amount of discussion on the role of the court in Israel's democratic process.

In fact, one of the major areas of difference among the parties which may make up Israel's next government, is their approach to the completion of the country's written constitution. Parties such as Meretz and the Centre party ran on a platform calling for the legislation of more Basic Laws in order to finalize a bill of rights and constitution which would be above the Knesset and government, while the religious parties see the same issues as a reason to stay out of the government.

Essentially, in addition to the arguments over the content of the constitution, the factions are divided over whether the court should be granted the power to strike down legislation at all. Former Shas leader Aryeh Deri is quoted as saying that he would not even vote to enact the Ten Commandments in Israel's constitution, if the courts had the right to interpret them.

It is worth recalling the roots of the debate. At the founding of the state, the first legislators were unable to agree on a constitution, and there was no formal groundwork for citizens' rights.

Prof. Pnina Lahav writes in her biography of Supreme Court President Shimon Agranat (the North American who had more influence than any other on Israeli society), that Ben-Gurion and other founders of the state had an ambivalent attitude to the rule of law. While they wanted Israel to be part of the community of western, democratic nations, their history in the underground, where the important thing was to get things done despite the laws, and their fears about the security of the country, created an approach which saw legalities as unimportant.

Lahav quotes Agranat describing working conditions of the Supreme Court in the first years of the state, in an unheated, dank building in Jerusalem's Russian compound, where there was no library and writing paper was rationed, so that judgments were written on the backs of used forms from the days of the British Mandate. The status of the judges was commensurate with their conditions.

At the same time, the general feeling was that the victory in the War of Independence was fragile, and that any threat to government power could weaken the country. In this atmosphere, the judges did not want to confront the government, and tended to approve its actions.

Agranat's major accomplishment may have been to create out of nothing the legal framework to protect the citizen from the powers of the state. Thus, for example, he was the first to use the Declaration of Independence as a legal document, arguing and ruling that since the Declaration of Independence states that Israel was founded on democratic principles, it was clear that freedom of speech, freedom of assembly, etc. were inherent to the legal tradition, and were enforceable.

Today's Supreme Court President Aharon Barak has continued Agranat's tradition of legal activism, and perhaps even taken it too far in some cases. Nonetheless, I have no doubt that the same politicians who decry the court's intervention, are secretly glad that it exists to protect them and their constituents from the arbitrary power of the state.

As always, Israel faces vital decisions which will affect its future and its security. This decade has witnessed the turmoil such decisions can cause, sometimes leading to violence. In such an atmosphere, it may be inappropriate or even impossible to create a constitution, which should ideally be based on broad social consensus and acceptance.

The government may also take steps to overturn rulings of the court with which it disagrees. One can only hope that if such steps are taken, they will not lead to a retreat of the court from its role as guarantor of civil rights, back to the days when it served as a rubber stamp for whatever politicians decided to do.

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3 lbs. sweet potatoes
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1/2 tsp. ground cinnamon
1/4 cup nonfat sour cream

Preheat oven to 425°F. With a fork, pierce sweet potatoes in several places. Bake on a baking sheet about 1 1/4 hours. When potatoes are cool enough to handle, remove skins. In a food processor slowly blend potatoes with vinegar and 1/4 tsp. cinammon until smooth. Slowly stir in sour cream until combined well. Season with salt to taste. Sprinkle with remianing 1/4 tsp cinnamon. Heat in 350°F oven about 30 minutes. Serves 6.

About Life

Dear Ella,

I'm getting married in six weeks and everything is going well with the wedding. I have been disturbed about one thing however – the wedding rings.

My fiancé Marty does not want to wear one. He said if it was important to me for him to have one, he would consent to a double-ring ceremony; however, once the day is over, it comes off.

He claims he is uncomfortable wearing a ring and he is not a jewelry kind of guy.

I was very hurt by his decision, as I feel the ring is a symbol of our commitment to each other, and his not wanting to wear it makes a statement I'm not sure I'm comfortable with.

Am I reading too much into this or am I justified in wanting him to wear his ring as I will be proudly wearing mine?

Ring Around the Marriage

Dear Ring Around the Marriage

I find it interesting that you feel so strongly about Marty wearing a wedding ring.

In six weeks, he will be standing under the chupah with you and committing his life and love to you. Have you thought of why it is so important for you to have him wear a ring? Is it a matter of trust, or possibly peace of mind, knowing that anyone who meets him gets the message that he is off limits?

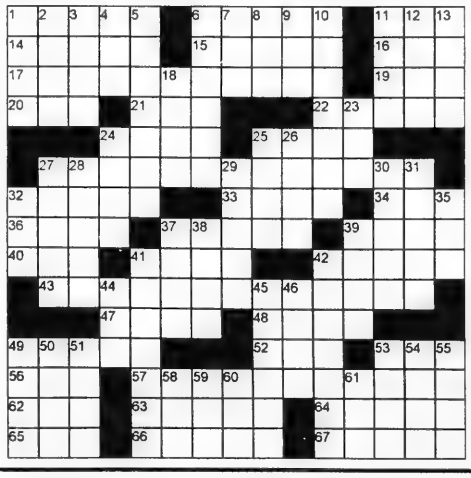
The symbolic custom of a man wearing a wedding ring will not change the way he treats you. If he loves and respects you, wearing a ring won't enhance or lessen that.

I think you need to take a step back and re-examine why you need Marty to wear a ring. Don't let your insecurities get in the way of having a wonderful life together. After all, it is possible that he really does just feel uncomfortable wearing jewelry. Many people are the same.

There are far more important things to gauge a man's love and trust for you, than a wedding ring.

If you truly do love and have faith in your future husband, then put his wedding ring out of your mind and enjoy your wedding day and your life together.

Readers may submit their questions to Ella at The CJN. *But Ella is not a professional counsellor. She brings to the questions posed by readers her unique brand of earthy wisdom. Her advice is not a replacement for medical, legal or any other advice. For serious problems, consult a professional.*



The Canadian Jewish News

Oy! Canada

By Matt Gaffney and David Bianco (QSyndicate@aol.com)

Across

1 Overflows
6 "Schindler's List" subject
11 ___ VaShem
14 Spare site
15 "Cool!"
16 Corrida cry
17 Letterman's Canadian sidekick
19 NAFTA partner
20 Building wing
21 Dreidel
22 TV Spelling
24 Space beginning
25 Have the ___ for (lust after)
27 Canadian director of "Moonstruck"
32 Ashdod sights
33 Sandwich cookie
34 Eerie Baltimorean
36 Hawaiian city
37 Subway need
39 Holler
40 Genesis name
41 Environmentalist Al
42 Glows
43 Canadian owner of Seagram's
47 Yalies
48 Party type
49 Arthur Miller's field
52 Doubter's bark
53 Freudian concepts
56 Edge
57 Canadian "St. Elsewhere" star
62 Judge Lance
63 Lend ___ (listen)
64 Ruth's mother-in-law
65 Disparage, a la Gene Siskel
66 Rates
67 Hit the road

Down

1 Marathon finish line
2 Israeli airline
3 Twelfth month
4 "Voice of the Yankees" Allen
5 Nervous and digestive
6 Attach, in a way
7 *Playboy* publisher, familiarly
8 Schlump
9 Put away
10 Ragged Dick creator
11 Irving Berlin's *Annie Get ___ Gun*
12 Plus
13 Brandeis bigwig
18 Deganya dance
23 Fool
24 Folk singer Guthrie
25 Roll call response
26 John Irving's *A Prayer for ___ Meany*
27 Gullible
28 Stopped squeaks
29 Wild card, often
30 The Marx Brothers' "A Night at the ___"
31 Pitcher Ryan
32 "___-Devil" (Roseanne film)
35 Golfer Ernie
37 Alternate Spelling to 19-Across?
38 Spheres
39 Arizona city
41 Good Knight?
42 Soft blankets
44 Precious thing
45 The rest
46 Linguist Chomsky
49 Faucet annoyance
50 '86 Nobelist Levi-Montalcini
51 King of Judah before Josiah
53 Streisand, to many
54 Michael's "Disclosure" co-star
55 Thin opening
58 List starter
59 Tiny
60 Paul Simon's "___ A Rock"
61 Forty winks

(This week's answers are on page 27.)

Crossword Puzzle

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This Week

National

Municipalities back Montrealers' unity mission. *Page 3*

Orthodox divided over approach to educating girls. *Page 5*

Jewish general reflects on life in the army. *Page 7*

Features

Brantford struggles to maintain its Jewish life. *Page 20*

Arts

Nathan Englander, 28, draws comparisons to J.D. Salinger. *Page 30*

Sports

Edward Bronfman donates skates to Metulla's Canada Centre. *Page 38*

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Shabbat Chazon: Devarim
Candlelighting: 8:39
Av 3, 5759
Havdalah: 9:44

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REVIEWING THE TROOPS

On his first day as Defence Minister, Prime Minister Ehud Barak, reviewed an IDF honor guard. He said he would like to follow the example of the two prime ministers who also served as defence ministers – David Ben-Gurion and Yitzhak Rabin. *[Israel Sun photo]*

Mission to Israel

By VIVA PRESS
CJN Israel Bureau

TEL AVIV — Hearing about Israel in the news is one thing. Being here is a totally different matter. At least that's what 10 Canadian parliamentarians learned after spending a week as guests of the Canadian-Israel Committee (CIC).

"I could have read a million reports and never have duplicated what I've seen...I think we will all go home with an enhanced understanding," said Sue Barnes, MP, London West.

Monte Solberg, MP, Medicine Hat, said he had only a cursory understanding of Israel's problems. "I have learned how complex the situation is with the Palestinians and with Lebanon and Syria. I think I've become more sympathetic to the plight of Jews in Israel who are so worried about their security and future."

The group was brought to Israel on an annual trip organized by the CIC, to give them an "opportunity for some exposure to the issues in the Middle East," CIC's Rob Ritter told *The CJN*.

"When they see things firsthand, they understand the complexities. There is no substitute for standing on top of the Golan. Similarly, if you don't walk through Jerusalem, you can't understand the real issues," Ritter said.

The parliamentarians met with Israeli, Palestinian and Druze officials, and they visited sites including Yad Vashem, the Knesset, Bethlehem, Gush Etzion, and the Dead Sea.

"I congratulate the CIC, because it shows that they're not just pushing one angle," said Solberg, while on a tour of Jaffa.

"I've rounded out my knowledge of the situation."

The group agreed that Canada can help Israel overcome some of its problems. MP Ovid Jackson, who has been to Israel once before, said, Canada "acts as a facilitator to help democratize places and to help create peace."

9 MPs, senator on educational visit

"We have no political objective other than to serve humanity," said Sarkis Assadourian, MP Brampton Centre. Assadourian, who was born in Syria and left in 1967, said the highlight of his trip was a visit to Rabin's tomb.

"It was a very emotional moment," said Assadourian, who had nominated Rabin for the Nobel Peace Prize. "It's too bad he didn't live to see the peace...I hope Barak continues the process that Rabin began."

The MPs learned about some of the main issues facing Israelis and Palestinians, including water, environment, refugees, borders and Jerusalem.

Lorne Nystrom, MP, Regina Qu'Appelle, said there is "so much money here used on the military, that could be used for more useful purposes. As long as there's no peace, that will continue. It doesn't make any sense."

Solberg said that as a result of the trip, he understood why security is such a huge issue.

"I think Canada's role can be to ensure that people support Israelis [and understand] that things are complicated," said Solberg, who hopes to return here for another visit.

"After having gone through five wars and a Holocaust, [Israelis] have every right to be cautious about how they proceed with negotiations with all the various parties."

Most of the parliamentarians refused to budge from their "Canadian middle ground" positions, but it was evident that some returned to Canada with new sympathies.

Continued on page 26

'STILL FISHING'

The next issue of *The CJN* will appear on July 29, 1999.

36 today
ews
ek.

Tragedy brings Israelis, Palestinians together — please see page 23

The News in Brief

CANADA

Order Of Canada

OTTAWA — Several Jewish Canadians were among the 76 people named to the Order of Canada last week.

Named as Officers of the Order were Frederick Lowy of Toronto and Montreal (health care); Barry Posner of Montreal (health care); and Bernard Shapiro of Montreal (education).

Named as Members were Paul Godfrey of Toronto (communications); Ben Heppner of Toronto (music); Nathan Saul Mendelsohn of Winnipeg (science); and Rose Wolfe of Toronto (volunteerism).

Ontario Award

TORONTO — In June, Eva Adler of Toronto, who has spent over 11,000 volunteer hours at the Baycrest Centre, was awarded the Ontario Medal for Good Citizenship.

Goldmann Fellow

TORONTO — Hershel Sahian, public policy co-ordinator for Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region, has been named a Nahum Goldmann Fellow. The Nahum Goldmann Fellowship is a summer institute for a limited number of Jewish men and women to develop community leadership. The fellowship will take place in Glamsta, Sweden, Aug. 22 to Sept. 2, and the theme is The Jewish Community in the 21st Century. The intensive program consists of workshops, discussion groups and lectures by leading Jewish academics from around the world.

ISRAEL

Arad 'No Longer Alive'

JERUSALEM — An Israeli air navigator who was taken captive in Lebanon 13 years ago may no longer be alive, according to a former commander of the Israel air force. Maj. Gen. Avihu Ben Nun said his comments about navigator Ron Arad were based solely on the fact that so many years have passed without any evidence that Arad is alive.

Husseini Eyes JNF House

JERUSALEM — A Palestinian official is reportedly trying to buy a Tel Aviv building that was home to a leading Zionist. Faisal Husseini, the Palestinian Authority official in charge of Jerusalem affairs, reportedly wants to buy the structure, built in 1922 for the family of Menachem Ussishkin, a former president of the Jewish National Fund. The JNF said it will examine buying the building.

Women Study Torah

JERUSALEM — More than 2,000 women of all ages took part in a day-long Torah study session here. Forty different classes – eight an hour – were taught by women to women in Bible, Talmud, Midrash, Jewish thought and law. The event was organized by Emunah Women and Nishmat.

WORLD

Assurances On Jews

PRISTINA — The leader of Kosovar Albanians has issued a written promise to safeguard Kosovar Jews and their property. Hashim Thaci met twice this month with a special envoy of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, to whom he issued a letter ordering "the entire Kosovo Liberation Army under my control to respect and protect all the Jews of Kosovo." Earlier this month, three Jews were evacuated to Macedonia. There are about 40 Jews left in Kosovo.

U.S. Aid For Israel

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Senate overwhelmingly passed a foreign aid bill that includes $1.92 billion in military aid, and $960 million in economic aid to Israel. The bill, which passed 97-2 this month, reduced aid to Israel by $60 million and aid to Egypt by $40 million.

Restitution Bill

BUCHAREST — Romania's government recently agreed to propose a bill that would return property taken during and after World War II. The bill also calls for reparations for the seized assets of companies owned by Romanian Jews during the fascist wartime regime of Marshal Ion Antonescu.

Religious Leaders Hope for Spiritual Rebuilding

BUDAPEST — Jewish, Christian and Muslim leaders from the former Yugoslavia and other Balkan countries have set up a permanent interreligious committee aimed at reconstructing the war-torn region, from a spiritual dimension.

Following a one-day meeting here last week, they stressed that education was needed to prevent further "religious and cultural hostility."

The leaders called upon "the integrity of the religious leaders throughout the region to speak with courage to their fellow believers, to turn the grief and feeling of loss into a catalyst which will heal what has been hurt and build what has been destroyed."

The Budapest meeting – the first such conference since the Kosovo conflict – was sponsored by the European Jewish Congress, the Conference of European Rabbis and the European Council of Synagogue Organizations.

The meeting brought together leaders from Catholic, Eastern Orthodox and Protestant churches, as well as religious and lay leaders of Muslim and Jewish communities, from Yugoslavia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Macedonia, Bulgaria, Hungary and Romania.

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Simon et Lorena Benarroch,
Jimmy et Beiby Benarroch,
Yvette et Leo Abitbol,
Mimy et Jackie Benarroch,
Mercedes et Menahem Ivcher,
Judith et Joe Bouzaglo,

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Municipalities back Montrealers' unity mission

By JANICE ARNOLD
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — From Leading Tickles, Nfld. (pop. 513) to Burnstick Lake, B.C. (pop. 403), 500 Canadian hamlets, villages, towns and cities in nine provinces and the Northwest Territories have adopted a resolution extending a hand of friendship to Quebec.

The People's Resolution for a United Canada is a project of two Jewish Montrealers, Aaron Makovka, 28, and Maurice Suissa, 37. They co-founded and are co-presidents of Team Canada for Unity (TCU).

They describe TCU as a grassroots organization that gives ordinary Canadians a means of expressing their desire for Quebec to remain in Canada, and for the French language and culture to flourish.

After the referendum in October, 1995, Makovka and Suissa searched for a way to let Quebecers know that other Canadians care about them. They chose to work at the municipal level, because they believe these governments are closer to the people.

More than 500 Canadian municipalities have passed the resolution to date, including the biggest, Toronto, whose mayor, Mel Lastman, is TCU's captain. The smallest municipality is the village of Fairlight in Saskatchewan (pop. 65).

While a majority of these municipalities have populations under 10,000, together they represent 11 million Canadians.

Most of the major cities have the resolution on their books, among them, Vancouver, Edmonton, Ottawa, Halifax and St. John's, with a few notable exceptions – Calgary and Winnipeg.

"Now when Premier Bouchard says the rest of Canada doesn't care about the fate of Quebec or the French language and culture, we can say he is wrong," Makovka said.

As a symbol of what he and Suissa call "one of the largest grassroots unity efforts ever undertaken," each of the endorsing towns submitted its municipal flag. These flags have been sewn into the *Unity Quilt*, which measures 85 by 22 feet.

Toronto Mayor Mel Lastman (centre) roots for Team Canada for Unity (TCU), with TCU co-presidents Maurice Suissa (second from left) and Aaron Makovka (on Lastman's left).

On Canada Day, the quilt flew on the lead ship at the Toronto Harbor Parade of Lights, a major charity boating event. Mayor

Continued on page 24

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From the editor's desk

Mosaic's new poetry

Mosaic Press is a small but feisty publishing house based in Oakville, Ont. It publishes important works in a range of subject areas, including the area of Judaica-related themes.

Across my desk this week I received from Mosaic Press three slim, elegantly designed and handsomely printed volumes of poetry. Each volume features the work of a different author.

Each of the authors – Morris Granatstein, Seymour Mayne and Simcha Simchovich – brings us deeply satisfying, inspiring poetry, tall trees in the rich, layered landscape of Jewish Canadian writing.

The works are ideal companions. They come in "small packages," but they are veritable large treasure troves of insight and emotion.

Most readers of *The CJN* will by now readily know that we regularly publish poetry in our pages. This is not the norm for the weekly tabloids of the North American Jewish press.

But we do so for the deep satisfaction that flows from sharing beautiful poetry with our readers, and in the hope that in the process, some of our readers, possibly, too, our young readers, will be inspired to try writing their own poems.

Granatstein's volume is called *Welcome to the Year 2000 and Other Poems*. As the introduction tells us, it "looks back on almost nine decades of [his] rich life."

Granatstein was born in Lodz, Poland, in 1911. He emigrated to Canada with his family in 1926, settling in downtown Toronto near the famous Kensington market in the Spadina and Dundas area.

The poem from which the title of the volume is taken is a long, free verse work, too long to reproduce in its entirety in this space but too moving not to excerpt, even though, in providing only an excerpt, I am not conveying the true essence of the poem or its full intended effect.

Goodbye to old century
of what we were
what we did
what we became

On interconnected paths
of encrusted consequences
at crossings

See the mountain boulder
see the climbing heights
taste the stone pebble
on the tongue.

Old dwindling century
shot through
and through
like pockmarked, perforated
lives

But still counting
the moons, the stars
the suns in time
to the feebling
strokes
of all old failing clocks
in the
world
in towers.

Paths toward final berth
focused on the one blue
eye, one brown,
one green, one black
one
dead.

Goodbye to
crotchety limping
cursed
century.

* * *

Seymour Mayne, from Ottawa, has published more than a dozen collections of poetry. He has been the subject of articles in *The CJN* and he has provided poetry for us. He is widely read and widely renowned outside the borders of this country.

His present volume is entitled *Carbon Filter*. From this work I reproduce *Finished Line*. It is, in fact a poetic form of advice, lovingly offered to all aspiring writers.

Take your sweet time with the poems,
no matter what those in a great
big hurry say

who like harebrained bounders
never make it right
to the finished line.

* * *

Readers of *The CJN* will also be familiar with the poetry of Simcha Simchovich. His poetry has appeared numerous times in our pages. It is humble and uniquely haunting, carrying in its rhymes and cadences, the inconsolable, constant ache of the survivor's heart. It is simple but so profound.

I reproduce *My Little Grandson*.

My little grandson, sweet and lively,
fills with joy this heart of mine;
his pure innocence permeates me
like healing rays of sunshine.

All my sadness dissipates
like a cloud in morning light
as I watch him on his tiny tractor
riding proudly like a little knight.

Soon alighted, he is circling
the room in joyful ecstasy,
until I spread out my arms
and embrace him lovingly.

Life upon you, little grandson,
of my old age – a shining crown.

SEE JN

FIRST EVER JCC OPENS IN BOMBAY

Children recite the Havdalah service at the recent opening of the first Jewish Community center in Bombay, India. The center is supported by the American Joint Distribution Committee (JDC). UIA Federations Canada contributes $400,000 annually to the JDC. [JDC photo]

Orthodox divided over approach to educating girls

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

How do you prepare young, Orthodox people to deal with the temptations and dangers of the modern world? How do you ensure that they retain their commitment to Jewish observance so that the tradition can be passed on to future generations?

Backgrounder

The Orthodox community uses basically two approaches. One is to have the young people face the outside world head-on, consciously arming them with the tools to live in both the religious and the secular worlds. The other is to have them live in an insulated world, keeping potentially harmful influences far away.

The tension between the two philosophies, felt strongly in the Orthodox world generally, plays itself out most visibly in the field of education.

The problems are exacerbated when dealing with education for girls. For centuries, there has been a debate about whether girls should be educated on the same level as boys, or should only learn what they need to know for the life they will lead. There is a fear of destroying the sense of *tzniut*, modesty, that is seen by the Orthodox view of Judaism as the essence of the Jewish woman, not only by putting her in educational competition with the opposite sex, but by exposing her to what are often considered corruptive secular influences.

While day school education, and ongoing adult educational programs may be new phenomena, it was always felt necessary for women to have at least enough education to be able to read prayers and religious works, and to do simple arithmetic.

Shoshana Zolty, in her book *And All Your Children Shall Be Learned* (Jason Aronson, 1993), says that from very early times, there were women, particularly those from rabbinic families, who were learned in Torah and even Talmud.

Nevertheless, many women received very little education. They were expected to pick up what they needed to know from their mothers – for example in the areas of kashrut, the holidays, family purity and so on.

When Chassidism arose in the late 18th and early 19th centuries, men and boys would often leave home to spend Shabbat and holy days at the court of their rebbe. This left women and girls in chassidic families at home with little spiritual guidance.

The situation started causing real concern when girls began to attend secular schools and were influenced, adversely it was felt, by modern philosophies antithetical to Jewish norms and values.

Shoshana Zolty

To make matters worse, what was happening was that boys were receiving an education almost exclusively in Torah and Talmud, and girls almost exclusively secular.

In 1918, Sarah Schenirer, a seamstress in Poland, took what was then a revolutionary step. She decided to found a school for girls that would teach both secular and religious subjects in a Torah atmosphere.

The school was named Bais Yaakov, from verse in the Torah in Exodus 19:3 that says: "Thus shall you say to the house of Jacob and tell the sons of Israel." The phrase "the house of Jacob," *bais Yaakov*, the commentators say, refers to the women of Israel.

It is hard for us to realize that in its day, Beth Jacob, which is now considered an extremely traditional school, was a very radical concept. The only way Schenirer could gain acceptance was by winning the support of the rebbe of the Ger Chassidim, Rabbi Avraham Mordechai Alter, and especially that of Rabbi Israel Meir haCohen Kagan, known as the Chofetz Hayim.

The school, which sprouted branches all over Poland, was a resounding success. After World War II, the movement was transplanted to the new world. Toronto now has a Bais Yaakov elementary school, a secondary school, a seminary and a teachers' training program.

Rabbi Akiva Stefansky, longtime principal of Beth Jacob High School of Toronto, said that the goal of the school is to "transmit to the students our tradition as we have been taught at Mount Sinai, and imbue them with the values and sterling character of our ancestors Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel and Leah."

He told *The CJN* that they try to provide teachers who can be role models in all subjects, but especially in religious ones. "Our teachers have to be able to communicate to our students the message we want to transmit to them."

This puts a heavy load on the staff and student body, he acknowledged. "We can't compromise on religious education, which requires time and energy, nor can we abrogate our responsibility for secular subjects."

Rabbi Stefansky said the school has no problem adapting the Ontario Ministry of Education guidelines to their ideology. For instance, "We don't teach the family studies course, because our definition of a family is diametrically opposed to their definition of the Canadian family."

The traditional Orthodox see the family as it was constituted in Genesis. "The first commandment is 'Be fruitful and multiply,' and any union that doesn't have this as an objective can't be considered a family," he said flatly.

The public schools, according to Rabbi Stefansky, "only disseminate information and skills. We want to build Torah personalities."

For that reason, he said, the school does not accept girls "who expose themselves to a value system that is diametrically opposed to our purpose of existence," such as television, movies and the Internet.

The religious studies program is heavily weighted to Torah, Navi (Prophets) and Psalms, "where we find the Torah lifestyle described and lived by outstanding models of virtue.

"Showing the students the beauty and harmony of that lifestyle develops in them a desire to emulate it," he said.

With very few exceptions, Rabbi Stefansky said, the students spend at least one year after high school learning in seminary. After that, they take extra training in fields that are considered compatible with the Orthodox lifestyle, such as teaching.

The graduates are not encouraged to attend university, which in a previous interview Rabbi Stefansky referred to as "corrosive." He puts his opinion bluntly: "To raise healthy, self-reliant children, you need a career mother at home, not a part-time mother who has a career outside."

Nevertheless, the Bais Yaakov world made a concession of sorts to today's needs. A program called Maalot offers university courses accredited by the American Council on Education in Washington, D.C.

The principal, Rabbi Yosef Posen, told *The CJN* that the 50 or so students, all of whom must have finished one year post-high school education, can either take a degree in humanities, computer science, psychology or liberal studies, or take individual courses, which can lead to another degree elsewhere.

Maalot has a "special relationship," he said, with Thomas Edison State College in Trenton, N.J., which grants the degrees.

Maalot classes are held at the Beth Jacob campus at Lawrence and Bathurst, and at the Maalot offices at Douglas and Bathurst.

Teachers are qualified and respected academics, he said, who, because they are also members of the Orthodox community, "understand where the students are coming from."

Rabbi Posen explained that the girls remain in an environment "conducive to the standards of Torah Judaism," where they don't have to face experiences contrary to those they have grown up with, can take more advanced Jewish studies courses, and stay in the familiar Beth Jacob setting.

Material is covered in a more "conservative" fashion, using more sensitive and appropriate examples and language than a university might, he said.

It should be noted, he said, that many girls in the haredi community would not get any university education if it were not for Maalot. "Many of them wouldn't be comfortable in a university atmosphere, and many of their parents wouldn't allow them to attend anyway."

There is one positive outcome of the Beth Jacob philosophy. Within the constraints of the school's ideology, girls are encouraged to develop their talents, whatever they are. Since academic excellence is not a goal in itself, those with other capabilities have the opportunity to shine in music, drama, arts and crafts, and organization, especially through an annual production in which the whole school takes part, and in the Beth Jacob convention, which is held in Toronto every four years.

While one might be forgiven for considering Beth Jacob at the extreme of the religious educational spectrum, in fact, it is not. A new school, Bnos Bais Yaakov, is scheduled to open in Toronto in September. While there is no reason to think that its basic philosophy will be very different, the belief in the community is that the intention of the school's founders is to keep their daughters from being exposed to the damaging influence of those who are not as strict.

Rabbi Chaim Finkel, principal of the new school, declined to be interviewed at this time.

Another new entry in Orthodox girls' education is Bais Chomesh High School for Girls, which will open with a Grade 9 class this September. Sultana Nakar, a member of the board of directors, said that it will combine Chabad (Lubavitch) teachings with a yeshiva program and a fully accredited general studies program.

Continued on page 6

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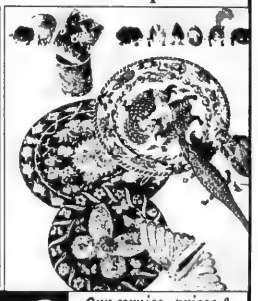

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Greater Toronto Area

Judaic artifacts exhibit held at retirement home

By ANNA TURKIENICZ
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — An exhibit of Judaic artifacts provided nostalgic and personal satisfaction for the residents and visitors at the first annual Toronto Judaica Exhibit held at Terrace Gardens Retirement Residence, according to its general manager.

On display, was a mixture of books on Jewish themes, artwork by Jewish artists, Judaic antiques, such as candelabras, and more current pieces such as embroidered challah covers and kippot. Artisans were also there showing how to make tfillin and tzitzit.

Urn from late 19th century. Made in Israel.

"There was an interest from the residents in seeing these things," said Yoav Bohbot. "It touches them personally."

"It was also important to provide an event which would bring the community into the building since many of our residents do not often leave the building," Bohbot said.

A show of this nature provides residents with a connection to their past through the artifacts, he said. It can also give them a focus on their present through the more current articles on display.

"In the planning stages of the show, we were overwhelmed with phone calls from exhibitors. However, it was decided that it would be more important this time to go with a more simple, elegant show," Bohbot said.

Two pieces by Canadian artist Daniel Kerem were featured – a wooden box for prayerbooks and a pair of metal candlesticks. Kerem is known for the metal fence around the parliament building in Ottawa, which was commissioned by the Canadian government.

Other art works on display were paintings by Reudor, a seventh generation Israeli, and Isaacc Besancon, an artist who first displayed his work at the age of 15 in the Duncan Gallery in Paris.

Judaica, antique and by-commission pieces were shown on tables throughout the hall.

A klezmer band played, as some visitors and residents danced, and others sat back to listen.

The residence hopes to make this an annual event, said Bohbot, who was pleased that everyone – "exhibitors, residents and visitors enjoyed their day."

Challah cover from Yaacov Alon collection.

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Schools mirror the divisions within Orthodox community

Continued from page 5

"We want to produce girls who are stable in Torah education and Chabad, to instil leadership qualities, not just knowledge and skills," she said. The students will have the academic credits to go to university "at any point in their lives," Nakar added.

"We want to teach Chassidus and ahavas Yisroel (love of the Jewish people) so as to hasten the coming of Mashiach," she said.

A very different approach to education for Orthodox girls is taken at Ulpanat Orot, the only Bnei Akiva school in North America. It is the sister school for girls to Or Chaim Yeshiva, and shares a rosh yeshiva, most recently Rabbi Moshe Yeres, and many of the staff.

Bnei Akiva schools, said Rabbi Yeres, were created to "give a quality education to boys and girls."

The primary goals, he explained, are to enable the student to have a firm grounding in Jewish texts, and be fluent in analyzing and understanding primary source material such as Torah, Navi, the Oral Law, and commentaries; to provide a good preparation for university; and to instil a belief in the centrality of Israel.

"We want our students to be proud of their Jewish heritage, and prepared to be productive citizens of Canada and of Israel," Rabbi Yeres said.

At the same time, he said, Ulpana is conscious of the particular needs of the Jewish woman. In the OAC year, for example, a class called mishpachah (family), teaches the laws of marriage, as well as such concerns as dating, interpersonal relations, the qualities to look for in a mate, and the role of the Jewish woman in today's world.

Most of the girls spend a year in seminaries or women's yeshivot in Israel before going on to university, he said.

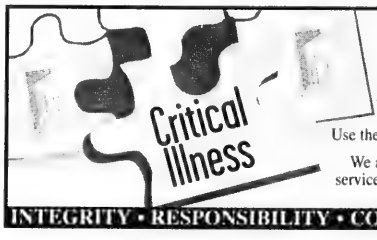
Ulpanat Orot, as the school readily acknowledges, is not for everyone. The school accepts only applicants who are prepared and able to cope with an extremely demanding academic load.

This leaves a very real void for the student who cannot deal with it, but whose family follows the Bnei Akiva philosophy. Where do these girls go? Do they switch to a school whose world outlook is to a large extent different from theirs? Do they go to CHAT, which does offer remedial help but whose program is also academically rigorous? Or do they opt for a public school, where they will be the odd man out, so to speak?

It is significant that there is very little formal contact between the schools. Programs and special events are held separately, and there are no joint sports leagues or competitions. There is no sharing of facilities and little of staff, although some general studies teachers teach, for instance, at Beth Jacob and Ulpanat Orot.

It is also significant that the schools mirror the divisions in the Orthodox community itself. The "other" schools, and often the students in them, are seen not as different sides of the same coin, but as coins of lower value.

And that may be the most serious outcome of all for the Orthodox community.



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Greater Toronto Area

Canadian Jewish general reflects on army life

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Ed Fitch cradles his chin and furrows his brow when it's pointed out that there's a hospital named after him in Montreal. He's puzzled. "The Jewish General," he's finally told, and he laughs – a dignified, understated chuckle.

Attired in the crisp greens of the Canadian Armed Forces, Fitch responds by saying he was born at the Jewish General, and offers a punchline of his own: He's been a military man for 32 years, and "I have to decide pretty soon whether to make a career of it," he says drily.

The Canadian army helped him decide last month, when Fitch was promoted from lieutenant-colonel to brigadier-general, putting him in the rarefied company of only about 70 others in Canada who sport a three-inch gold stripe on their sleeve and a single maple leaf on their uniforms. (Each successive leaf, up to four, translates into, respectively, major-general, lieutenant-general, and general).

The 50-year-old Fitch is not Canada's first Jewish general. That honor probably belonged to Robert Rothschild, who attained the rank of major-general in the Quartermaster Corps after World War II.

Fitch is likely the highest ranking Jewish member of the Canadian Armed Forces. Officially, the Forces do not keep track of members' religion, or at least, do not release that information to the public. In any event, Fitch says faith is not an issue, except sometimes on peacekeeping missions, when a host nation's sensitivities are respected by excluding women or members of certain ethnic or religious backgrounds.

In all his time in uniform, he's never encountered any anti-Semitic bias, which he calls "remarkable."

He got word of his promotion last February when he was visiting Dieppe, site of the disastrous 1942 Allied raid, in which 907 Canadians were killed and nearly 2,000 taken prisoner.

"I got a phone call from the Chief of Defence Staff. It was a very emotional moment. I went for a walk on the beach to commune with those who had died [in the raid]. I then told my wife that she was going to be mother to 12,000 soldiers."

That's roughly the number of Forces members who will now fall under Fitch's purview as he assumes command of Land Force Western Area, based in Edmonton, where he will be responsible for Force's activities in the four western provinces. These soldiers will be the first to be called in case of a natural disaster in those provinces.

The posting is for the next two to three years. Fitch will be joined by his wife, Sharon (née Paul) and their two daughters, Rena, 19, and Leora, 13.

He'll also be involved in training of troops for peacekeeping and other missions.

The Montreal-born and raised Fitch, who was bar mitzvahed at the Shaar Hashomayim Synagogue and attended West Hill High School, joined up at 17, spurred by a youthful sense of adventure and two main role models: his father Burton, who had been a platoon leader in the first Canadian battalion to raise the country's flag on German soil in 1945, and an uncle who was a medical officer stationed in England. "It was just something I wanted to try," Fitch says.

Brig.-Gen. Ed Fitch [Stephen Epstein Photo]

A fully subsidized education didn't hurt either. He graduated as a civil engineer in 1971.

From 1975 to '78, he was stationed in the former West Germany, and recalls the spine-chilling feeling. "I stood on a street corner in Munich. Thirty-five years earlier, I could have been taken away and shot just for standing there."

Twenty years on, Fitch has several commands under his belt, mainly in his field of engineering. He was also a member of the Canadian delegation that helped hammer out the much-praised international landmine treaty Canada drafted, and which has been signed by dozens of nations.

In June, Fitch was honored for heroism by Ve'ahavta, the organization that sends medical missions overseas and is involved in several humanitarian projects locally, for having voluntarily extended his tour of duty in the former Yugoslavia to work at a refugee camp.

"It was a de facto concentration camp," Fitch says of the facility in Croatia that housed up to 25,000 inmates. "People could not come and go as they pleased."

He spent a year in Bosnia and Croatia under the UN's flag – eight months longer that he'd planned – to help the local population rebuild their shattered infrastructure. "Thirty years of training and practice – I used it all," he recalls.

The work of a peacetime soldier, he muses, is "a very Jewish concept. I've gained knowledge of the fundamental philosophy of *tikkun olam* (repair of the world). Fortunately, I've been a soldier at a time when that's what soldiers did."

Fitch recently wound up a six-month stint in Toronto, where he was enrolled in the National Security Studies Course at the Canadian Forces College, near Yonge Street at Wilson Avenue. Essentially, the course teaches high-ranking officers the delicate task of interfacing with politicians.

While here, he was a regular at Shaarei Tefillah Congregation. Until their move to Edmonton, the family belonged to Machzikei Hadas Congregation in Ottawa.

Fitch is also an accomplished marksman. He was a shootist on Canada's Maccabi target air pistol team in 1989, when he picked up one silver and three bronze medals, and again in 1993, when he won two bronze medals.

On a personal level, his career has been "a slow self-discovery. This just suits me. The concept of working for money never drove me." Clearly, Fitch is not looking forward to retiring, which he must do at age 55.

Playing on the Forces' motto – There's No Life Like It – the newly minted general says his "is not a job…it's an avocation, a calling. I can't imagine doing anything else."

BGU Associates to attend Cirque's big top

TORONTO — East and west are joined in Cirque du Soleil's new show *Dralion* being performed this summer under the blue and yellow big top at Ontario Place.

The same concept applies to Toronto's New Ben-Gurion Associates, and its special relationship with Ben-Gurion University of the Negev (BGU).

On Aug. 11, 250 New Ben-Gurion associates will attend *Dralion* as a fundraiser for Ben-Gurion University, specifically designated towards BGU's community action unit.

Charged with a special mandate of spearheading the development of the Negev, BGU regards the human and social aspects of its mission as important as technological, industrial and agricultural advances.

Through the community action unit, more than half of Ben-Gurion's student body of 14,000 lend their time, knowledge and skills to improve the quality of life for residents of all ages in disadvantaged neighborhoods. The unit helps the unemployed, the elderly, and the immigrants from North Africa, the former Soviet Union and Ethiopia.

Gifted children, the Bedouin population and former soldiers benefit from pre-academic programs tailored to their specific needs.

The group has set a goal of $50,000 to establish an endowment fund that will enable the community action unit to expand its programs and activities.

The show will be preceded by a supper reception at Ontario Place. Door prizes will be offered. As an added feature, each adult attending will receive a voucher from Etre Belle Canada for a complimentary demi-facial (valued at $45).

For information, adult or children's tickets, call Claire Horowitz, executive director, Ontario region at 665-8054.

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In his own words...

Even before he presented his government to the Knesset last Tuesday, the insults were already flying toward Prime Minister Ehud Barak. "Barak takes charge, but with a black eye," one headline screamed. The "black eye" was a reference to the rejection of Barak's personal candidate for Knesset speaker, Shalom Simchon, by the Labor party faction in favor of Avraham Burg. Burg was ultimately accepted as the speaker by an overwhelming majority of Knesset members.

The day after the official swearing-in of the new cabinet, one columnist wrote: "He [Barak] promises excellence and new faces, but they're not to be seen in his government."

The severe, sharp edges of political life in Israel are like stiletto coral reefs across which notoriously tough politicians are dragged every day without mercy until they bleed too much and decide, simply, to walk away from public life and from the reddened reefs.

Barak spoke forcefully and eloquently when he presented his cabinet to the Knesset. Echoing the promises on which he had campaigned some weeks before, he emphasized the importance of dealing with urgent domestic issues.

In his own words, this is part of what Barak said: "The most important mission which the government will take upon itself in the social sphere is the positioning of education as its top priority... The government will allocate resources and efforts in order to bring about a change and breathe a new spirit into the entire education system... And to the same extent, the government will work to education toward values, personal morality, work ethics, social responsibility, volunteerism, assistance to fellow human beings, justice, respect for the law and a loathing for injustice and violence...

"The State of Israel has not always been sufficiently wise to grant all its citizens a sense of equality and partnership. The disparities are great, and the sentiment of bitterness is not unjustified... I pledge today that the government... will make every effort to gradually bridge the gaps, dissipate the alienation and provide equality for all sectors of the population in Israel...

"The primary consideration... was the need to find the broadest possible common denominator to bring together representatives of parties and sectors from various, even opposing, sides of Israeli society ...We will first have to make the painful compromises among ourselves, via a policy which is the fruit of a broad-based, sober and realistic consensus...

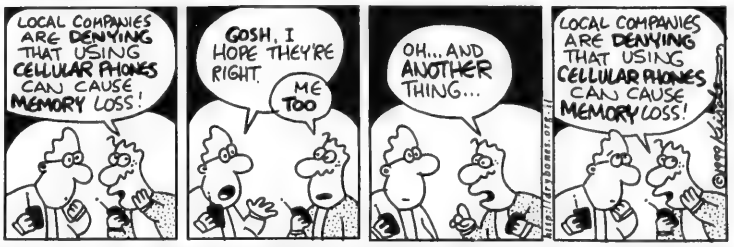
"This government will not turn its back on any group, portion, sector or ideological stream in Israeli society. This will be a government of constant dialogue, openness and attentiveness, a government that will aspire to a 'new national consensus'...

"I believe that bearing responsibility together will bring the extremes closer, blunt the contrasts in society and will require consideration, attentiveness and mutual balances – since it has already been said in the Torah, and about our Torah: 'Its paths are paths of pleasantness, and all its ways are ways of peace.' In this way, we will be able, together, to face the tests and decisions which await us. In this way, we will be stronger and more united, despite the disputes and the diversity of opinion among us. Perhaps we will become wiser, because we will be guided by shared wisdom."

These are important words. We hope and pray they will enjoy important meaning. We wish Prime Minister Barak and his newly formed government success in all their endeavors. May their deliberations, indeed, be wise and prudent, courageous and fair.

WISDOM OF THE AGES
Judge justly in the disputes between a man and his brother, or a man and a stranger. ***(Parshat Devarim)***

Dry Bones


LOCAL COMPANIES ARE DENYING THAT USING CELLULAR PHONES CAN CAUSE MEMORY LOSS!
GOSH, I HOPE THEY'RE RIGHT.
ME TOO
OH... AND ANOTHER THING...
LOCAL COMPANIES ARE DENYING THAT USING CELLULAR PHONES CAN CAUSE MEMORY LOSS!

Editorial Advisory Board
Irving Abella, Donald Carr, Q.C., Sydney Eisen, Rabbi Elyse Goldstein, Jack Kahn, Zac Kaye, Igor Korenzvit, Guidy Mamann, Lou Ronson, Pamela Medjuck Stein, Joseph Steiner

Strong opposition to Trans-Israel Highway

As a longtime resident of Israel currently visiting his native Canada, I was very surprised to learn (*CJN*, June 24), that the Canada-Israel Chamber of Commerce (CICC) has recently lauded the Canadian Highways Internationals Corp. for its part in the projected Trans-Israel Highway.

The people at CICC are apparently unaware that the project has met with strong oppostion from thinking Israelis as being unnecessary, economically wasteful and ecologically very damaging. The project's only supporters seem to be interested parties and politicians.

Its touted benefits for Israel can hardly be expected to exceed the few (if any) benefits of its role model, Highway 407, has brought to the people of Ontario. As for its several thousand construction jobs, virtually all will surely go to cheap labor from such places as Romania, Thailand and Indonesia.

I find it very sad that pro-Israel bodies like the CICC seem to be so out of touch with the realities of life in Israel.

Eddy Kaplansky
Haifa

Former Canadian diplomat pays tribute to 'Mrs. Judy'

On May 30, I attended at Temple Israel in Ottawa a presentation by Prof. Harold Troper of his book: *The Ransomed of God.* It was a moment to remember and it helped us become even more aware of Judy Feld Carr's dedication to the cause of the Syrian Jews.

Later, when I read the book, it was humbling to realize that my contact with Feld Carr on this issue started in September 1990. Remembering the amount of time and energy spent on this issue, it is almost beyond human belief that Feld Carr had actually done far more during the same period and had done so for two decades before. Troper's book bears witness to this heroic story.

In spite of Feld Carr's unrelenting demands in support of her aims on behalf of the Syrian Jews, this has now become a source of cherished memories for me. I joined the Canadian foreign service on the memorable date of June 5, 1967, and retired recently. That the path of my life crossed Feld Carr's is a blessing. I am gratified that she gave me the opportunity to demonstrate the possibility open to each of us, whatever our background and choice of life, to work together in promoting such individual but universal human principles as freedom of movement.

Read this book and keep in mind that in spite of Troper's remarkably detailed presentation, there remain a lot of untold stories in "Mrs. Judy's" odyssey.

When you read the book, you will catch a glimpse of what it is to consecrate one's life to deserving causes.

Denis Grégoire de Blois
Saint-Cuthbert, Que.

Decries cut-throat competition for used clothing

The article concerning the competition for clothes boxes between JF&CS and B'nai Brith (June 24) is instructive. It's interesting that the field of human services in the not-for-profit charitable sector has taken on all those wonderful characteristics of the world of business: "who can take over whom," and survival of the "fittest" or the "biggest." If an organization won't let you take them over, then go into their business and either push them out or cut into their market. Great discipline, wonderful values!

Any real sense of what's in the community's best interest gets lost in jumbled rationalizations. It's time to give some of our community organizations' egos a rest and to have them remind them of who and what they are.

Gloria Clamen
President
Circle of Care
Toronto

Opposes spending $2 million on Auschwitz synagogue

I would like to express my complete agreement with the article written by Sholem Hershkop (Yiddish Vinkel, *CJN*, June 17). He criticized the decision taken by some American Jewish philanthropists to spend $2 million on a synagogue near the death camp in Auschwitz.

Why rebuild a synagogue in such a Jewish desert, he asks, where it may even be defaced and its Torahs and prayer books stolen? This has already been happening to other Jewish monuments in Poland. I am a Holocaust survivor from Lodz and totally concur with his point of view. The money, in my opinion, would be far better spent on Jewish projects in North America.

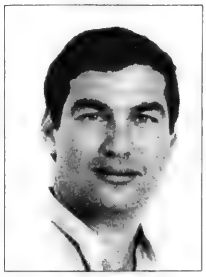
Joseph Lupka
Toronto

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures. Letters sent by e-mail must also include the sender's municipal address.

Perspectives

Israel's 28th government

Shimon Peres



Haim Ramon

Yossi Sarid

Nathan Sharansky

The following is an excerpt from the text of Prime Minister Ehud Barak's speech to the Knesset upon presentation of his government Tuesday, July 7, 1999.

Mr. Speaker, Distinguished Knesset,

I am proud to submit to the people and the House a new, broad-based, good, representative government, supported by the large majority of Knesset members and the citizens of the state.

It was not in vain that I took advantage of the full time allotted by law to form the government. I did not take the easy way.

The lessons of Jewish history and the depth of the social and political chasm in Israel today required me to choose the long and patient way in order to achieve the goal which I had set for myself: to form a government which will act during a time of difficult national decisions, through consent and balance between most sections of the people. I did not accept any disqualification of any side.

During the negotiations I seriously examined the possibility of expanding the basis of the coalition even further. This was not possible and in retrospect, this may have been best.

In a democratic system, there is great importance to the role of a parliamentary opposition, and it is my intention to express my recognition of this by maintaining ongoing contacts with, providing information to and holding consultations with the heads of those factions which are not members of the coalition.

I expect substantive and constructive criticism from the opposition which will also enable consideration of its opinion in managing affairs of state…

The basic guidelines of the government and the coalition agreements are before you. Everything is open and fully disclosed. Nothing is concealed. There are no secret agreements, no "under-the-table" understandings, and as you have seen, there are neither financial commitments nor favors to specific sectors or groups.

I will not go into the details of all the government guidelines. The guidelines constitute the identity card of the government, the principles of its policy and its declaration of intent.

All previous governments had good intentions. Not all were equally successful in putting them into practice. I know that the government will be judged by its actions, not its intentions. I will try will all my might to ensure that the gap between its good intentions and its actions is as narrow as possible…

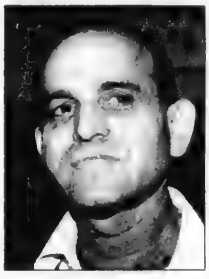
In the coming days, I will bring before the Knesset a proposed change to "The Basic Law: The Government" for an increase in the number of ministers, as required by the size of the coalition and the composition of the Knesset.

In any form, this is the best government for the State of Israel at this time. We are the bearers of the torch which our predecessors have transferred to us, and we assume full responsibility for moving forward.

Today, the government requests the confidence of the 15th Knesset in the knowledge that the eyes of all Israelis are focused thereon, in prayer and with great hope.

Today, millions of eyes in Israel, millions of eyes of Jews around the world, and millions of eyes around the whole world are focused on us, praying that we will know how to lead the country, with determination and a sure hand toward a new path, and a new page in the chronicles of the State of Israel – a new page of peace in an arena which, in recent generations, has known mostly pain, bereavement and suffering.

Accompanied by the blessings and concern of everyone, we embark today on the long and arduous path. I would be most appreciative if you would express your confidence in the government today and wish it well and Godspeed.



Ran Cohen

Shlomo Ben-Ami

Benjamin Ben-Eliezer

Yitzhak Cohen

The following is the list of ministers (along with party affiliation) confirmed by the Knesset on Tuesday, July 6, to form the 28th government of Israel:

Ehud Barak (One Israel) – Prime Minister and Defence Minister

David Levy (One Israel) – Foreign Minister

Avraham Shochat (One Israel) – Finance Minister

Yossi Beilin (One Israel) – Justice Minister

Shlomo Ben-Ami (One Israel) – Public Security Minister

Benjamin Ben-Eliezer (One Israel) – Communications Minister, Deputy Prime Minister

Dalia Itzik (One Israel) – Environment Minister

Shimon Peres (One Israel) – Regional Co-operation Minister

Haim Ramon (One Israel) – Minister in the Prime Minister's Office, responsible for Jerusalem Affairs

Eliyahu Yishai (Shas) – Labor and Social Affairs Minister

Eli Suissa (Shas) – National Infrastructure Minister

Shlomo Benizri (Shas) – Health Minister

Yitzhak Cohen (Shas) – Religious Affairs Minister

Yossi Sarid (Meretz) – Education Minister

Ran Cohen (Meretz) – Industry and Trade Minister

Natan Sharansky (Yisrael b'Aliyah) – Interior Minister

Yitzhak Mordechai (Centre) – Transportation Minister

Yitzhak Levy (NRP) – Housing Minister

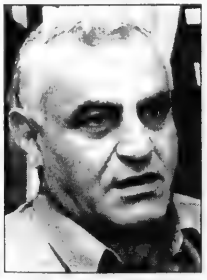
Prime Minister Barak is retaining control over four ministerial portfolios that he may distribute when and if he expands his cabinet, as he is expected to do. The portfolios are: Immigrant Absorption, Agriculture, Science and Tourism.

Six of the 18 ministers were also cabinet members at one time or another in the outgoing government of Benjamin Netanyahu: Yishai, Suissa, Sharansky, Mordechai, David Levy and Yitzhak Levy.

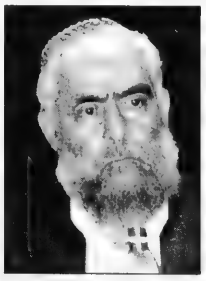
JTA

(Unfortunately not all photographs were available.)

Avraham Shochat



Yitzhak Mordechai



Yitzhak Levy

David Levy

Dalia Itzik

Yossi Beilin

Opinions

Very special memories

Some weeks ago, I had occasion to chair a memorable meeting. It took place at Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care and dealt with restitution and other payments (including the Swiss Funds for Holocaust Survivors).

Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

When the lectures were over and the questions began, it became obvious that nothing relating to the Shoah can ever be treated calmly and rationally, for that event itself was total evil, so that even now – so long afterwards – anyone who touches it will be caught up in its irrationality. It took only a few moments in the question-and-answer period to have bitter emotions come to the fore, and memories of terrible yesterdays tried to come to terms with the realities and opportunities of today. At events of this kind, there will always be many questions, and not all of them can ever be answered satisfactorily. It was no different on that evening.

Afterwards, I was given a lovely looking, slender volume as a token of appreciation. It is called *Collective Poems: The Terrace Holocaust Survivors Group.* Beautifully produced, edited and illustrated by Paula David, and printed in truly legible, large and bold letters, it presents a memorable assemblage of poems by a small group of women who worked both individually and together on this collection. The oldest participant is 95 years of age, the youngest 82.

Here are two samples, and they will speak for themselves:

WHO COULD UNDERSTAND

Even the North American Jews – they
can't understand.
Nobody can feel what we lived through.
They wouldn't understand because we
ourselves can't understand
We lived through everything we did and
we don't know how.
We lived through everything and it hurts
to talk about it.
I personally cannot understand how I
went through it.
And I am still here.
How I survived.
I am still a person.
After everything I saw and heard and
felt.
It makes sense that people should
understand,
But how can there be any sense out of
Auschwitz?

▪▪▪

WORDS FOR HOPE

I speak five languages,
But I have no words for the Camps.
The Eskimos have many words for
snow,
But we know only one word for death.
I have only tears.
Enough tears for many lives.
I cannot cry and I cannot laugh.
I can talk, and I want to talk.
If the new generations will listen,
The survivors might find words for
hope.

No commentary is required.

'A woman of worth'

The Victoria Jewish community is as varied and diverse a community as you would expect to find anywhere in the Jewish world. It sits, however, not only at the far edge of the continent – on an island, yet – but also at the edges of consciousness of the rest of Canadian Jewry. In this it is usually joined by its sister city, Vancouver, although in recent years we have made enough noise to get noticed now and again by the folks "down East."

Jean M. Gerber in Vancouver

When you are in Victoria, however, and engaged with the community, you feel just as at home as you would in Willowdale. On a sparkling Shabbat morning, entering the jewel of a synagogue that serves as the major house of worship for much of the community, you are immediately engulfed by the warmth of the davening.

The building itself is a gracious gem, restored not many years ago to its pristine cool loveliness. Based on the old European model with three doors leading to a small vestibule and then into the main sanctuary, it has white columns gracefully supporting the balcony that runs along three sides. A blue-tinted rose window brings in soft light. The whiteness of the walls shows off the brilliance of the ark curtain. And what a curtain! It features the hills and green mountains of the province, the blue water, and two magnificent eagles, one sitting and one in flight.

We were here to visit friends, and had the good fortune to be able to celebrate a special birthday for a very special member of the community.

Bernice Levitz Packford arrived in 1953 and since then Victoria, and the Jewish community, have never been without her guiding presence. Her tribute was something to savor.

We met Bernice first in the tense years after the 1973 war, when Jews and Israel were under attack as racists and aggressors, and when the media and the universities were full of Jew hatred. We were invited to Victoria to participate in a Hadassah-sponsored seminar on Israeli-Palestinian issues. We met Bernice, by then a 20-year veteran in Hadassah and the Temple Emanu-el congregation, who was instrumental in creating the the Victoria Jewish Appeal Society, the forerunner of the present Victoria Federation, which has enhanced the community's ability to fund seniors and youth programs, the Hebrew school, the Jewish Community Centre and Israel.

But what makes Bernice's life a standard for all to follow is that not only has she stood by her people all these years, but she has made a commitment to social justice in the widest possible community context.

Although initially hampered by lack of funds from getting a university education at the beginning of World War II, she did complete her social work training in Toronto, and hearing that British Columbia had the most advanced social legislation in the country, she set out for B.C., coming to Victoria in 1953 with her daughter Leah. Her mother also lived with her for many years.

To list Bernice's accomplishments in the field of social work would take pages; her main interest is in child and family welfare. Her work with foster children and parents led to the creation of the first North American Foster Parent Association, a movement that spread across North America. She also helped form the B.C. Council for the Family, the Capital (Victoria) Families Association, and she has found many other ways to assist families in crisis or in need.

They tell me it is very hard to say no to Bernice, so rabbis, watch out!

Her most recent effort has been in inspiring the Victoria community to support agunot who need help in procuring a get. And she seems to have jump-started the synagogue social action committee, which is active in environmental causes. When we were there on Shabbat, the synagogue was planning to join several eco-tours of organic farms. It goes without saying that Bernice was the original re-use, re-cycle person.

She lobbied against the recent bank merger proposals and is a vigorous supporter of the local Credit Union. She explored alternatives to job losses in the dockside industries of Victoria and Esquimalt, and became president of the Victoria Esquimalt Working Harbor Association.

She is also active in interfaith dialogue and a friend of (retired) Bishop Remy de Roo, a man long known and esteemed for his own commitment to a just society.

I have run out of space to tell you all the things that owe their existence to Bernice. Let me close by saying a word about Victoria. I had the honor of doing a community study for their federation a few years ago, and I concluded that Victoria is a good example of what future Jewish communities may look like. So *kol ha-kavod* to Bernice. and to the Victoria community for nurturing such a true woman of worth.

Learning from our youth

Something truly amazing happened in Edmonton last month – a Jewish organization held its annual elections and there was actually competition for the executive positions!

Bruce Elman in Edmonton

This is almost unprecedented. I served 2½ years as president of my synagogue, two years as president of the federation, and two years as co-chair of the UJA campaign. Not once did anyone ever run against me in elections for those positions. As a critic of mine once said: "It is true that you are the president, but it is not a highly sought-after position."

Truer words have never been spoken. In all my years in this community, I have never witnessed a contest for any executive position. I suspect other communities are no different from Edmonton in this respect.

So, in which communal organization did these electoral contests take place? They occurred in the Ahava chapter of B'nai Brith Girls (BBG), my daughter Gail's chapter.

For whatever reason, the young women in this organization wanted to hold executive positions. Perhaps they thought that their vision of the organization was better than that of their competitors, or perhaps they believed that they had better leadership skills than their competitors, or perhaps they just wanted the *kavod*, whatever that may mean in this context.

It does not really matter. The fact is that these young women were determined to stand for elective office, were prepared to make speeches indicating what they would do if elected, and were willing to endure the potential embarrassment of rejection if defeated.

I am told that, at the BBYO regional convention, the competition for elected office was even more intense.

The question is not why young people in this organization choose to run for elective office. The real question here is why adults DO NOT. I think the answer is simple. Most adults realize what awaits them should they decide to assume leadership positions in one of our Jewish institutions or organizations. And what awaits them is, unfortunately, complaints and criticism, insults and abuse.

The scenario is a familiar one. A well-meaning and dedicated individual decides to assume a leadership role in one of our institutions thinking that he or she is volunteering to better the Jewish community. Initially, the individual becomes a board member. A controversial issue arises; the matter is studied at length; a full debate takes places within the institution; and a decision is made in good faith .

The next thing the individual knows, the board upon which he or she sits is being publicly attacked for its decision. Board members are vilified as if they had derived some personal benefit from the decision. In the alternative, they are treated as if they are politicians answering to the electorate rather than volunteers trying to help their community.

And the president tends to be the focal point of this assault. The result? Our dedicated volunteer will not, generally, assume any higher position in the institution and likely, will in due course resign from the board.

On Shabbat Korach, we celebrated my son Joel's bar mitzvah. I learned much from his d'var Torah.

I learned that dissent, generally, is a healthy state of affairs. Judaism has a long tradition of dissent. The debates between the House of Hillel and the House of Shammai are an example of our acceptance – even approval – of dissent.

Some dissent, however, is not endorsed. An example of the latter is Korach's rebellion against Moses. What is the difference between the two? According to our sources, the Hillel/Shammai debates were dissent "for the sake of Heaven." They were engaged in a halachic debate whose basic premise was the service of God.

Korach's rebellion, on the other hand, was "not for the sake of Heaven" because it was based purely upon jealousy and the pursuit of personal power. What does this mean in the context of today's Jewish communal life?

Free and open debate is essential to the future vibrancy of our Jewish institutions. However, dissent must be for the purposes of enhancing and bettering our Jewish institutions and not for the object of destroying them.

Dissent is only legitimate if it comes from individuals who are committed to the future of the institution and have demonstrated their commitment through ongoing personal and financial support. Further, it is essential that the debate be conducted in an atmosphere of derech eretz, with sensitivity and civility to other participants in the debate and certainly must be free of personal invective.

Perhaps most significantly, those who dissent should offer themselves for elective office and subject their vision of the institution's future to the democratic processes of the institution – just as the young women of the Ahava chapter of BBG were prepared to do. In Jewish communal life, we can learn a lot from our youth.

The Kirshner File

The passing parade

They died recently, leaving footprints in time...

Estelle Sapir was the first plaintiff in a U.S. class-action suit launched by Holocaust survivors to recover family deposits in Swiss banks.

Sheldon Kirshner in Toronto

Graenum Berger, a longtime campaigner on behalf of Ethiopian Jewry, founded the American Association for Ethiopian Jews.

William Perl, a Viennese lawyer, organized a seaborne rescue operation which brought 40,000 Jews from Romania, Greece and Yugoslavia to Palestine in the late 1930s and early 1940s.

Judith Kestenberg was a psychoanalyst whose interest in the emotional state of Holocaust survivors prompted her to write several books, including *Children Surviving Persecution* and *The Last Witness: The Child Survivors of the Holocaust*.

Raphael Recanati, born in Greece, was one of Israel's most prominent businessmen, with interests in banking (Israel Discount Bank), shipping, and high-tech companies.

Gideon Rafael, one of Israel's first diplomats, was the ambassador to the United Nations during the Six Day War and was later envoy to Britain.

Levi Ben Levy was chief rabbi of New York's Israelite Board of Rabbis, which served the city's black Hebrew community.

Rolf Liebermann, a Swiss national, was general manager of the Hamburg Opera from 1973-1980 and director of the Paris Opera for 13 years before that.

John Goldwater, a comic book cartoonist, created *Archie*, the carrot-topped, freckled-faced character who charmed millions of newspaper readers.

Anatoly Rybakov, the Russian-Jewish novelist, wrote *Children of the Arbat*, *Fear* and *Dust and Ashes*, which chronicled the Stalinist era.

Shel Silverstein's mordant cartoons graced the pages of *Playboy*. He wrote such well-known books of poetry as *A Light in the Attic* and *Where the Sidewalk Ends*.

Geoffrey Wigoder, a founding director of the Diaspora Museum in Tel Aviv, edited major reference works, notably the *Dictionary of Jewish Biography* and the *Encyclopedia of the Holocaust*.

Alfreda Brilliant, a Polish Jew, was a sculptor best known for her bronze statue of Mahatma Gandhi which stands in central London.

Arbit Blatas, a Lithuanian Jew, was a leading sculptor and painter whose works were exhibited in the United States and Europe.

Saul Steinberg was an artist whose surrealistic cartoons in *The New Yorker* over a 50-year period won him a wide following.

Garson Kanin's screenplays, *Adam's Rib*, *A Double Life* and *Pat and Mike*, earned him Academy Award nominations.

Helen Aberson Mayer wrote *Dumbo, the Flying Elephant*, which inspired the 1941 Walt Disney cartoon, *Dumbo*.

Susan Strassberg, the Broadway actress, electrified audiences with her portrayal of Anne Frank in *The Diary of Anne Frank* in the mid-1950s.

Lucille Kallen, along with writers Carl Reiner, Mel Brooks and Neil Simon, wrote Sid Caesar's *Your Show of Shows*, a witty television program which enjoyed popularity from 1950 to 1954.

Batsheva de Rothschild, the granddaughter of Baron James, founded the Tel Aviv-based modern dance troupe, the Batsheva Dance Company.

Mel Torme, born Melvin Howard Torma, was a velvety-voiced crooner whose song, *Chestnuts Roasting on an Open Fire*, was his quintessential trademark.

Sam Shaw was a photojournalist whose photograph of Marilyn Monroe standing over a subway grate with her white skirt billowing seductively won him fame.

Barbara Pfeffer's documentary film, *Art and Remembrance, the Legacy of Felix Nussbaum*, is still the definitive film about that German-Jewish painter.

Herbert Kline's 1947 documentary, *My Father's House*, was one of the first films about the Holocaust.

Aron Vergelis edited *Sovietish Heimland*, the only official Yiddish magazine in the former Soviet Union.

Stanley Kubrick, the Hollywood legend, directed an array of classic films from *Dr. Strangelove* and *Paths of Glory* to *Lolita* and *2001: A Space Odyssey*.

Gene Siskel, the movie critic of the *Chicago Tribune*, teamed up with rival Roger Ebert and reviewed films in *Siskel & Ebert*.

Gershon Legman, a scholar of bawdy limericks and ballads, coined the phrase "Make love, not war."

Robert Goldman was the world bridge champion four times in the 1970s.

Paul Kristeller, a refugee from Nazi Germany and a Columbia University professor, was a leading authority on Renaissance philosophy.

Mirra Komarovsky was a Barnard College sociologist whose landmark book, *Women in the Modern World: Their Education and Their Dilemmas*, dealt with themes from gender to family.

Robert Sobel, an economic historian who specialized in American business, wrote *The Origins of Intervention* and *The Last Bull Market: Wall Street in the 1960s*.

Gertrude Elion was co-winner of the 1988 Nobel Prize in medicine, having developed drugs for herpes, leukemia, gout, malaria, immune disorders and AIDS.

Max Samter was the author of *Immunological Diseases*, the standard text on the subject.

Mark Weiser, a computer pioneer, was chief technology officer of the Xerox Corporation's Palo Alto Research Center.

Stanley Rosenthal, a meteorologist with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in the U.S., pioneered techniques to track the formation and movement of hurricanes.

Arthur Schawlow, co-winner of the 1981 Nobel Prize in physics, was instrumental in the development of lasers.

Russell Ross, a medical researcher at the University of Washington, advanced the understanding of atherosclerosis, a primary cause of heart attacks and strokes.

Philip Strax, a radiologist, helped revolutionize the detection of breast cancer through mammogram testing.

Leopold Just, a structural engineer, was one of the designers of the George Washington Bridge in New York City.

Sidney Gottlieb headed the Central Intelligence Agency's technical service division – the "dirty tricks" department – during the Cold War.

Jay Pritzker, one of the richest men in the United States, built the Hyatt hotel chain.

Jules Lederer, the husband of advice columnist Ann Landers, was the founder of Budget Rent-a-Car.

Nathan Ancell, co-founder of Ethan Allen Inc., created the concept of selling home furniture in room-style settings.

Leon Hess, an owner of the New York Jets football club, turned his family-owned fuel oil business into a titanic enterprise.

Jerold Hoffberger, a beer brewer, brought major league baseball to Baltimore, and his team, the Orioles, won two World Series crowns in the 1960s and 1970s.

Henry Grunfeld was a merchant banker, having been associated with the firm of S.G. Warburg & Co. for decades.

Zachary Fisher, a Manhattan real estate mogul, was a member of a dynasty whose luxury high-rises and office towers defined New York's skyline.

Annette Strauss, in the 1980s, was the first and only woman to be mayor of Dallas, Texas.

Ruth Langer Lawrence, in a protest which scandalized Austria, refused to go to the 1936 Olympics in Berlin as a member of Austria's swimming team.

Bessie Cohen was one of the last survivors of Manhattan's 1911 Triangle fire, which caused the deaths of 146 garment workers and led to a struggle for safety in the workplace.

Jean-Pierre Bloch was head of the League Against Racism and Anti-Semitism from 1968 to 1992.

HOLY BLOSSOM TEMPLE

LIFE-CYCLE CO-ORDINATOR

Holy Blossom Temple, a synagogue whose main purpose is to be a vibrant centre of Jewish life, seeks a special individual to become its Life Cycle Co-ordinator. This position is at the centre of our congregants' emotional passages, and the successful applicant will deal with a wide range of individuals at moments of both great happiness and sorrow. Our Life Cycle Co-ordinator must be committed to the religious dimension of the work and comfortable in dealing with people at these significant moments.

Qualifications include: excellent interpersonal and communications skills; accuracy, meticulous attention to detail and the ability to respond promptly and effectively to congregants' needs; above average computer skills including MS Word and Excel for Windows. She/he must be willing to carry a beeper.

Please fax your resume to F. Kleinmintz at (416) 789-9697 or mail it to 1950 Bathurst Street, Toronto, Ontario M5P 3K9.

Judy and David in Concert

In support of Reena and Bathurst Jewish Centre

Sunday, August 22nd, 1999 @ 11:30 a.m.
LEAH POSLUNS THEATRE
4588 BATHURST STREET

Bring the kids!
Join these Juno Award winners for their most EXCITING show EVER!
Sing and dance along to great songs from their BRAND NEW TV SERIES coming this fall on YTV!

Tickets $10:00 - (General seating)
Call 905-763-8254 ext. 3034

Enter Raffle for a 1999 Ford Mustang to be drawn on August 22nd.
Call number listed above for details!

Jews for Judaism

The Board of Directors, Staff and Volunteers of
Jews for Judaism
wish to extend sincere condolences to
Eva Mayer and her family
on the loss of Mrs. Mayer's father.

ALEXANDER SAND ז"ל

Associated Hebrew Schools of Toronto

We extend condolences to

Dr. Howard Langer
member of the Board of Governors of Associated Hebrew Schools

on the passing of his father

Louis Langer ז"ל
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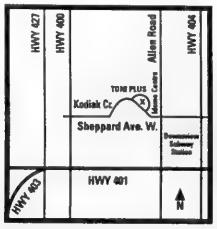

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Learning from our mistakes

By RABBI RONALD WEISS

There is an apocryphal story told of the great baseball philosopher, Yogi Berra, who upon winning yet another championship with the New York Yankees, is said to have remarked: "It seems like deja vu all over again."

At various times in our lives, each of us encounter events or circumstances that we seem to have experienced before. Hopefully, we learn from our experiences and do not repeat our mistakes. *Halavai*, it would be so easy.

Throughout the course of our collective history, we Jews have confronted three experiences which have challenged our ability to live as Jews. These experiences are marked on our calendar by the holidays of Purim, Chanukah and Tisha b'Av. As this Shabbat, Parshat Devarim, is also called Shabbat Hazon, the Shabbat of Vision, and is always read the Shabbat before Tisha b'Av, perhaps it would be of interest to examine these holidays more closely and see how they impact upon our lives.

The first recurrent challenge to our ability to live as Jews is anti-Semitism. Hatred of Jews culminates in the attempt to physically obliterate the Jewish people by first degrading and then planning the actual destruction of our people. The story of how the Jews dealt with this threat is told on Purim.

The second periodic challenge is total acceptance. Jews were invited to join the societies around them and give up their uniqueness, on the grounds that it was no longer necessary to remain different. The surrounding non-Jewish culture seemed to aspire to all of the good values advocated by Judaism, and its population was ready to become one with the Jewish people.

Unfortunately, the price of acceptance was the spiritual destruction of that which is distinctively Jewish. This recurring attraction to assimilate into the larger host society, and how we cope with such a threat to our existence, is commemorated on Chanukah.

Tisha b'Av tells of the third dangerous threat to the Jewish people. We re-experience the destruction of both Temples, first by Babylon and then by Rome. The national disaster of our exile from Eretz Yisrael struck at the heart of our special relationship with the Almighty, and called our continued survival into question, both physically and spiritually.

How do we, as Jews, react to the threats and challenges of each experience? On Purim, the holiday that commemorates the attempted physical destruction of our people, we eat and drink. The festive Purim seudah (meal) and the drinking of beverages is meant to demonstrate in unequivocal terms that we are alive. After all, the dead don't eat or drink.

On Chanukah, the holiday that celebrates our victory over the Greek-Syrian threat to our continued spiritual existence, we light candles which represent the Jewish soul burning brightly. Our rededication to the traditional values that had been under attack by the forces of assimilation is truly a cause for great rejoicing.

But what of Tisha b'Av? On the holiday marking the death of our national independence and the destruction of all that we, as Jews, held dear – what do we do? The pervasive Jewish response to such overwhelming loss and tragedy is to cry. In the three weeks leading up to Tisha b'Av, we strive to establish an awareness of what it was that we lost. We focus our attention on the historical aspects of what took place as a means of trying to feel the enormous spiritual rift the Jews of those generations must have experienced. We strive to relive these events and internalize their impact within our own lives.

Yet, to truly understand what the nature of our focus ought to be, we need look no further than the Haftorah for Parshat Devarim, Shabbat of Vision. As one of my teachers pointed out, the prophet Isaiah does not lament the fact that the Holy Temple was destroyed; rather, he agonizes over the underlying causes of that destruction. Thus, the annual observance of Tisha b'Av serves to focus our national mourning, not towards the past, but to the present.

It is not enough to anguish over the great losses of previous generations. We must use our mourning today as a means to begin an examination of our present day situation. What are our thoughts, feelings and deeds towards God, our fellow Jews and society at large? What have we done to eliminate the attitudes and practices that sent our ancestors into exile thousands of years ago, not once but twice? What can we do to improve ourselves, our communities and society, and ensure that it never happens again?

Yogi was right. It is "Deja vu all over again."

Have a meaningful fast.

Rabbi Weiss is the director of Chaplaincy Services at Jewish Family and Child Service.

Checking with the experts

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

Today, more rabbis on the Internet who are willing to field your questions and maybe engage in some online debate. A reminder: check out the credentials of the rabbi you are dealing with and direct complicated problems to a reliable authority.

You don't have to have sex on your mind to ask a question of Rabbi Shmuley Boteach **[http://www.lchaim.org/]**. In fact the rabbi of Oxford University's L'Chaim Society was fielding questions of all sorts before he became famous for his books *The Jewish Guide to Adultery* and *Kosher Sex*.

Some essays posted on his Web site include advice on what to do if someone tells an unfunny joke – "If all else fails and you can't even offer a light chortle, just laugh because laughter is Godly and holy." He also looks at the problem of husbands who won't grant a Jewish divorce – "There are times when rabbinic inaction and cowardice leads directly to sin. There is no stronger example of this than the painful saga of the agunah, the chained wife."

And, yes, Rabbi Boteach does address more intimate questions, which you can find on his Web site. You can subscribe to his essays at Shamash **[http://www.shamash.org/help/listoflists.html]**

Are you planning on a trip and have a question about travel and Jewish law? Then your first stop should be at Jewish Travel **[http://www.shamash.org/jewishtravel/rabbi/asktherabbi.html]**. One fascinating question deals with whether Jewish travellers to Korea and Taiwan should observe Shabbat on the local Saturday. The answer is quite complicated since there is a "halachic international dateline" a certain number of degrees east of Jerusalem. In that region, some rabbis require that Shabbat be observed completely on the local Saturday *as well as* partially the next day.

Over at the Microsoft Network's Cyber-Synagogue, there are two rabbis' offices **[http://communities.msn.com/jewish/cybersynagogue.asp]**. Rabbi Avram Rothman of Ohr Somayach in Toronto fields questions from an Orthodox perspective. Right next door is the office of Rabbi Niles Elliot Goldstein who addresses Liberal questions. Both rabbis also maintain discussion areas where readers are invited discuss and debate.

Rabbi Goldstein has written a fascinating article in *Newsweek* about his outreach experiences with his Online Synagogue **[http://communities.msn.com/jewish/asktherabbi/niles_onlinesynagogue.asp]**.

Compared to real temples where he has served in the past, Rabbi Goldstein finds online synagogues liberating. He no longer has to deal with members who use their wealth to sway temple policy. And the anonymity of the Internet has liberated people to speak out and say things they never would have dared to say in a real congregation

In future columns, rabbis who answer kashrut questions on line tell you how to answer missionaries – and my favorite Ask the Rabbi site on the Web.

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a Toronto-based television producer who writes, lectures and teaches about the Jewish Internet. He can be contacted at ***[highway@home.com]****.*

A unique personality

***Rabbi Joseph B. Soloveitchik, Man of Halacha Man of Faith*, edited by M.D. Genack (KTAV Publishing).**

Books
Bernard Baskin

Rabbi Joseph B. Solovetchik, known affectionately by his students and admirers as "the Rav," was a unique personality.

A formidable talmudist, halachic authority and peerless teacher, he was North America's leading exponent of modern Orthodoxy, as well as religious Zionism. The descendant of a long line of Lithuanian talmudists, he was also the holder of a doctorate in philosophy from the University of Berlin.

As head of the rabbinic program at Yeshiva University's Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary, and chief rabbi of the Boston community, his influence was incalculable. He gave smichah to some 2,000 rabbis.

His logical and systematic method of study, as well as his intellectual rigor, gave Torah scholarship new meaning and vitality. The Maimonides Day School which he found in Boston in 1937, one of the few of its kind outside of New York, was an overwhelming success.

In the book under review, 13 well-known disciples and educators discuss various facets of the Rav's personality, achievements, influence, teachings and legacy.

In 1959, after the death of Israel's Ashkenazi chief rabbi, Isaac Herzog, Rabbi Soloveitchik declined an invitation to succeed him. Though Orthodox Israelis were troubled by his refusal to join them, his American followers found it easier to understand his preference for the galut (exile) experience. His concept of exile was that it began with Adam upon his expulsion from Paradise. He believes the experience of exile to be "the essence of the Jewish people."

His famous shiurim, two- to four-hour discourses on halachic subjects, attracted surprisingly large and grateful audiences. Rabbi Yitzchak Twersky, son-in-law and former professor at Harvard, writes: "Every shiur, every speech, was crafted with consummate artistry. This is not only an expression of his literary-conceptual perfectionism, but of his realization that if he was to teach effectively, he had to contain his immense learning and unbounded creativity…He happily fused apparently limitless erudition with enthralling elegance and immense pedagogic skills."

Dr. Norman Lamm, president of Yeshiva University refers to the Rav's essay *The Lonely Man of Faith*, and points out that "he somehow did not fit in into any of the conventional categories."

Actually, the Rav viewed himself as a stranger in a modern society that is technical, self-centred, self-loving. He wrote: "My doctrines are not technical…My law cannot be laboratory tested. What can I say to a functional, utilitarian society?" There are many references to his feelings of loneliness and homelessness in his lectures and essays.

Almost alone among contemporary Orthodox authorities, he viewed the emergence of the State of Israel as a divine act. He saw its appearance as opening a new chapter in Jewish history, one in which Jews enter the world stage once again. He was not afraid – despite the opinions of the majority of his own distinguished family members – to identify with the goals and aspirations of religious Zionism.

Perhaps the most significant area in which he followed an independent way and diverged from other forms of Orthodoxy – especially Chassidism – was his conviction that secular knowledge and education were essential. He believed that the great thinkers of all ages had truths to teach us and were not necessarily invalid or unimportant because they derived from non-sacred sources.

The Rav opposed interfaith dialogue on matters of theology, favored Orthodox participation with other Jewish groups in areas of mutual community concern and took a resolute stand against mixed synagogue seating for men and women.

The essays, despite their reverential tone, are well written, absorbing and informative. They provide a well-rounded picture, not only of a giant of intellect and spirituality, but also of the status of modern Orthodoxy – with its major preoccupations, accomplishments and concerns for the future.

The mistrust persists

By BENJAMIN ARCHIBALD

Guest Voices

The world is still riding on a bubble. Beset by failure upon failure in the Balkans, the international community is overjoyed by the political demise of the prime minister of Israel, Benjamin Netanyahu.

Prime Minister-elect Ehud Barak has renewed hope among foreign policy advisers in Canada, the United States and Europe, that a foreign policy success story is on the horizon: a long sought after peace accord between Palestinians and Israelis.

The yearning for peace is not rooted in a concern for Israelis or Palestinians. Peace is necessary in order to demonstrate the relevance of the enlightened west in the implementation of a cohesive foreign policy grounded on the principles of tolerance and mutual respect. But there is no cohesive foreign policy, and much like the Balkan tragedy being played out on the evening news, the Middle East will not lend itself to an easy fix peace treaty.

To the contrary, like Netanyahu before him, Barak will be faced with the substantive questions raised by the Oslo accords that were to be resolved in a spirit of trust after five years of reciprocal give and take negotiations.

These negotiations were not reciprocal, even in the time of the martyred prime minister Yitzhak Rabin. Israel gave up territory and exposed itself to deep internal soul searching vis-a-vis the Palestinians, while terror rose to unprecedented levels on the streets of Tel Aviv, which in turn led to interminable closures of the West Bank and Gaza, effectively destroying the already fragile Palestinian economy.

Five years later, the mistrust persists. The average Palestinian sees little difference between the centre-left Labor party and the centre-right Likud party. This segment of the population has seen its economic position worsen over the past five years, and has reaped little more than symbolic benefits from the Oslo accords.

Similarly, the average Israeli sees little difference between Chairman Yasser Arafat and Hamas. Over the past five years, Arafat has referred to bus bombers as holy warriors and called for a Jihad on Jerusalem. How can the veil of mistrust be lifted in less than a year?

Achieving peace between Palestinians and Israelis may very well be as hopeless as Netanyahu's administration suggested. This is likely one of the contributing factors of his political demise.

Three years ago, Netanayahu was elected by Israel's swing voters situated in the centre on the political spectrum. Incensed by the unabated Hamas terror attacks, the centre rejected the Oslo model and elected a Likud led government promising peace with security.

The past three years have demonstrated that Israelis may have only one choice: peace or security. This is Barak's challenge. He must make both the Palestinians and the world understand that Israel's minimum demands will not include a retreat to pre-1967 armistice lines.

Similarly, Arafat will try to persuade Europe and the west, as he has been doing quite successfully of late, that at a minimum, Jerusalem must become a bi-national capital and the Palestinians are entitled to all the trappings of statehood including a military force.

Netanyahu inherited Oslo just as the difficult issues came to the fore. What remains to be seen, however, is whether Netanyahu was the enemy of peace or conversely if the Israeli and Palestinian minimalist positions are irreconcilable. Ultimately, the issues of Jerusalem, borders, refugees and statehood cannot be solved in a marathon Let's make a Deal conference.

Conversely, Barak and Arafat must present, argue and debate their positions on the merits of the facts on the ground and the need of both peoples to uncover some kind of modus vivendi. Talk of unilateralism on the one hand and annexation on the other will not achieve the result the international community craves.

Ben Archibald is a law student at McGill University.

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CJ Food

Cold Shabbat lunch is perfect for those hot days

By EILEEN GOLTZ
Special to The CJN

A cold Shabbat lunch is perfect at this time of year.

Salads are great, but iceberg and romaine week after week can be boring, so can the same chicken, fish or deli. Think how much better it would be if you could create exciting salads that incorporate meat or fish, and have everyone clamoring for an invitation.

You can always double or triple the following recipes, and you can usually change the meat in any recipe to grilled or poached fish. Just make sure that if you're going from fish to meat that you have the appropriate pareve substitutes for the sour cream.

Here are some hints for making an easy special salad: You can jazz up your favorite coleslaw with a little fruit juice, or use flavored fruit or herb vinegar in your dressing in place of the usual wine vinegar. A dash of balsamic vinegar over mixed berries and tossed greens is perfect to serve with a grilled chicken breast or salmon steak.

If you don't have time to make a salad from scratch, improve on your favorite deli potato salad by adding chopped sweet pickles, red or green peppers, cucumbers, hard cooked eggs, cheese, or herbs such as dill or parsley.

When making potato salad, marinate still-warm potatoes in a little vinegar and oil; this will add flavor to the finished salad. Or dress the potatoes while still quite warm, then refrigerate to cool quickly.

If making pasta salad, cook until al dente; the pasta will then be able to absorb some of the dressing and remain firm.

When using long noodles, rinse with cold water to remove excess starch to prevent clumping.

To mix greens with less mess, refrigerate in a plastic bag. When ready to serve, toss with the dressing in the bag, then transfer to individual serving plates.

SMOKED TURKEY WITH ASPARAGUS SALAD

½ lb asparagus cut in 2-in. pieces
2 cups strawberries, halved
1½ cups smoked turkey breast, cubed
1 can pineapple tidbits in juice (8 oz), drained, reserve juice
¼ cup reserved juice
2 tbsp honey
1 tsp oil

Boil or steam asparagus until crisp tender. Drain and cool. Combine the cooled asparagus, strawberry halves, turkey, and pineapple tidbits in a medium bowl. In a bowl, whisk together the reserved pineapple juice, honey, and oil. Pour dressing mixture over the salad and toss gently. Serves 4.

CASHEW SALAD WITH SALMON

⅓ cup sugar
⅓ cup vinegar
1 tsp dried mustard
1 clove garlic, finely chopped
1 tsp celery seed
salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste
equal parts fresh raw spinach and leaf lettuce, enough to serve 6 to 8
1 cup cashews, or more to taste
6 to 8 grilled salmon steaks

Grill the salmon steaks with a little salt and pepper until done. Set aside to cool (this can be done 1 to 2 days ahead.) Combine the sugar, vinegar, mustard, garlic, celery seed, salt and pepper in a bowl, and whisk until combined. Toss the greens in the dressing and place on individual serving plates. Place the salmon on top of the greens and then sprinkle with the cashews and serve immediately. Serves 6 to 8.

CHINESE CHICKEN-NOODLE SALAD

4 oz angel hair pasta uncooked
1 cup (½-in.) diagonally sliced fresh snow peas
2 cups shredded cooked chicken breast (approx. ¼ lb)
½ cup diced red bell pepper
¼ cup sliced green onions
1 medium cucumber, peeled, halved lengthwise, and sliced – about ¼ cup
3 tbsp low sodium teriyaki sauce
2 tbsp rice vinegar
2 tsp sesame seeds toasted
1 tsp dark sesame oil
½ tsp salt
¼ tsp pepper

Break pasta into 5-inch pieces. Cook in boiling water 2 minutes. Add the snow peas and cook an additional minute. Drain and rinse under cold, running water; drain well. Combine pasta mixture, chicken, and the onions, peppers and cucumbers in a bowl; set aside. Combine teriyaki sauce, rice vinegar, sesame seeds, sesame oil and salt and pepper in a bowl; stir well. Pour the dressing over the pasta mixture and toss well. Serve at room temperature or chilled. 4 1-½ cup servings.

SALMON OVER WHITE & BLACK BEAN SALSA

1 lb salmon fillets
1 cup canned black beans, drained
1 cup canned white navy beans, drained
¾ cup chopped tomatoes
¼ cup chopped red onions
½ cup chopped green bell peppers
¼ cup chopped fresh cilantro
½ tsp minced garlic
¼ cup balsamic vinegar
2 tbsp lemon juice (fresh)

Salsa: Combine the beans, peppers, tomatoes, onions, and cilantro in a bowl. In another bowl whisk together the vinegar, lemon juice, and garlic. Pour the vinaigrette over the bean mixture and toss. Barbecue the fish or bake uncovered at 425 for approximately 10 minutes for each 1-inch thickness of fish, or until the fish flakes with a fork. Serve the fish over the bean salsa. The fish can be served either hot or cold so this is perfect to make ahead if you're looking for a cool dish. Makes 4 servings.

GARDEN TUNA SALAD

1 6-oz can water-packed tuna, drained, flaked
1 large tomato, chopped
1 medium cucumber, peeled, seeded, chopped
1 small red bell pepper, chopped
½ cup chopped green onions
2 celery stalks, chopped
4 oz (about 1 cup) small shell pasta, cooked
6 tbsp (or more) prepared ranch-style salad dressing
3 tbsp chopped fresh dill or 1 tbsp dried dill

Combine first tuna, tomato, cucumber, bell pepper, green onion and celery in large bowl. Mix in the pasta. Add dressing and dill and blend well. Season salad to taste with salt and pepper. (Salad can be prepared up to 2 days ahead but best if made the night before using). Cover and refrigerate. Adjust salad with more dressing if desired and serve.
Serves 4.

More recipes can be found monthly in The CJN *and weekly in* The CJN Internet.

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The New Israel Fund of Canada (NIFC), an organization dedicated to strengthening democracy and advancing social justice in Israel, is seeking an Administrative Assistant to provide administrative support to the Executive Director and to be responsible for all aspects of administration, including donor database management and programming assistance.

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Please forward your resume to:
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The New Israel Fund of Canada,
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MINYANIM IN THE GTA
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Synagogue	Address & Tel.	Fri. Night	Shabbat	Sun. A.M.	Daily A.M.	Daily P.M.
Adath Sholom (C)	864 Sheppard Ave. W. (416) 635-0131	7:00 PM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	8:00 AM	----------
Aish HaTorah (O)	949 Clark Ave. W. (905) 764-1818	7:00 PM	8:45 AM	8:00 AM	6:30 AM	8:40 PM
Beth HaMinyan (C)	70 Ridge Hill Dr. (416) 785-3655	----------	9:30 AM	----------	----------	----------
Beth Sholom (C)	1445 Eglinton Ave. W. (416) 783-6103	7:00 PM	8:45 AM	8:30 AM	7:30 & 9:00 AM	7:00 PM
Beth Torah (C)	47 Glenbrook Ave. (416) 782-4495	----------	9:00 AM	----------	----------	----------
Chabad of Markham (O)	83 Green Lane (905) 886-0420	7:00 PM	9:30 AM	8:30 AM	6:45 AM	----------
Emunah Shleima (O)	4120 Bathurst St. (416) 638-6115	7:00 PM	8:45 AM	8:00 AM	7:00 AM	8:40 PM
Shaarei Tefillah (O)	3600 Bathurst St. (416) 787-1631	7:00 PM	8:45 AM	8:30 AM	6:30 & 7:30 AM	8:40 PM
Temple Har Zion (R)	7360 Bayview Ave. (905) 889-2252	6:15 PM	10:30 AM	9:00 AM	7:15 AM	----------
Tifereth Yisrael (O)	756 Sheppard Ave. W. (416) 487-4161	7:00 PM	8:30 AM	8:00 AM	Mon. Thurs. 6:30 Tues. Wed. Fri. 6:45	8:40 PM

This is not a comprehensive listing of the synagogues in the Greater Toronto area. The information is provided by the Vaad Harabonim of Toronto and the Toronto Board of Rabbis. The Vaad and the Board will periodically revise the listings. For statutory holidays, please call the Synagogue for any changes in times.

Help us move into our new home.

The new Apotex Centre, Jewish Home for the Aged, and The Centre for Neurovascular Disorders is going up.

It's going up at a tremendous pace.

The concrete shell of the building is complete. Anticipation is building. The walls of resident rooms are going up, the plumbing's going in and the wiring is being installed. Residents are looking forward to moving into a new facility that's much better equipped to meet the needs of seniors.

And their anticipation will be rewarded. The rooms will be bigger, and all rooms will be private. Each room will have an entrance foyer and an ensuite washroom almost twice as large as in the current building.

This excellent new facility has been made possible by the generosity of our community. It's a wonderful achievement. If you have made a gift, please accept our thanks. If you haven't, please consider making a contribution to the ongoing work of one of the finest seniors' facilities anywhere.

For more information on how you can be part of completing the Apotex Centre, Jewish Home for the Aged, and the Centre for Neurovascular Disorders, call Shirley Worth in the Baycrest Centre Foundation at (416) 785-2500, Ext. 2013.

Baycrest Centre
for Geriatric Care

Photos by Orah Buck, from the permanent installation; "Time in Faces".

jewish toronto

Wexler Praises Community

The man who headed the $950 million dollar Operation Exodus Campaign in the United States says thousands of Jews are still waiting to be rescued from the former Soviet Union (FSU) and other trouble spots around the world. Operation Exodus launched the massive emigration of Jews from the FSU to Israel in 1989.

"Just last month more than 4,000 Jews applied for Israeli visas in Moscow in only one week," reports Richard Wexler, Immediate Past National Chairman of the American United Jewish Appeal, which has since merged with other Jewish organizations to become United Jewish Communities. As many as 60,000 Jewish men, women and children are expected to leave the FSU for Israel by the end of this year due to rising anti-Semitism and economic uncertainty in the region.

"They're counting on us to help get them out," Wexler told 100 leading UJA Federation supporters during a recent visit to Toronto. "As Jews we have a responsibility to make sure Israel is ready to take these people in."

The event was held at the home of Penny and Martin Offman.

According to Wexler, the Jewish Agency, UJA Federation's overseas partner, will require an additional $30 million to finance the aliyah of 11,000 FSU Jews already underway, the transportation and absorption of 3,500 Quara Jews from Ethiopia and the cost of airlifting and settling Jewish and Muslim Kosovar refugees in Israel.

(l-r) Mel Wolfond, Richard Wexler and David Engel.

"Your giving has always extended beyond your backyard to the far reaches of the Jewish world," Wexler told a group of leading philanthropic families at the Hineni level who gathered to celebrate the success of the first year of UJA Federation's Campaign for Fifty. Mel Wolfond, who is chairing the upcoming Campaign 2000 with David Engel, called Toronto's Jewish community "amazingly generous" and pledged to build on last year's success.

Larry Tanenbaum and Brent Belzberg, recognized for heading last year's record-breaking $40.5 campaign, were among 16 former UJA Federation campaign chairs in attendance. "Toronto's Jewish community is legendary for its commitment to tzedakah and its tradition of passing on this commitment from one generation to another," Wexler added.

volunteer views

Jacquie Oppenheimer and her four-legged friend Chammie (short for Champagne) are giving volunteer teamwork new meaning.

Once a week, Oppenheimer, and her four-year-old collie visit clients at the Toby and Henry Battle Developmental Centre, operated by Reena, a UJA Federation beneficiary agency. Whether out for a walk, a frolic in the park or a quite cuddle, Chammie, with Oppenheimer nearby, has been lifting the spirits of many physically and developmentally challenged Reena clients for well over a year.

Oppenheimer says Chammie's caring canine qualities were evident ever since she brought her home from the animal rescue mission. "I could tell by her affectionate manner that she was destined for higher things."

"Most of the people we visit respond very warmly when Chammie extends her paw or nuzzles up for a kiss," says Oppenheimer. "She even has special permission to jump up on some of the kids. You can just see the smiles appear on their faces as she enters the room."

"I feel very proud to be able to share this important work with Chammie."

To find out about volunteer opportunities in the Jewish community, call UJA Federation at (416) 635-2883 ext.137.

UJA Grants Benefit Singles and Young Adults

What do Bible study classes for women have in common with Jewish counter-missionary seminars and educational programming for Jewish singles? They all rank high on the list of priorities for UJA Federation's Jewish continuity initiative which recently awarded over $200,000 to eight local Jewish organizations.

Jews for Judaism's Julius Ciss says education is the best prevention against the efforts of the Christian missionary movement.

Programs for Jewish singles, university students and recent graduates were among the top three groups to receive funding. "We're looking to fill some of the programming gaps within the community," explains Zac Kaye, Director of Jewish Campus Services (JCS).

In addition to expanding its activities to more college campuses, JCS will use part its grant to fund programs specifically geared to post graduate students. Kaye says while undergraduates can choose from a variety of cultural and educational activities, 22 – 30 year old adults often feel cut off. "We get a lot of calls from people saying 'what about us,'" notes Kaye.

The Bloor Jewish Community Centre (BJCC), the Bathurst Jewish Centre (BJC) and Kolel: A Centre for Jewish Learning are stepping up efforts to attract singles, many of whom live in the community's downtown core. "It's very important that we reach out and find exciting ways of engaging this highly under-serviced group," says Rabbi Jeremy Schwartz, Assistant Director at Kolel.

Other grant recipients include the Mekorot Institute of Torah Study for Women, UJA Federation's York Region office, Israel Experience programs and Jews For Judaism, the largest Jewish counter-missionary group in Canada. "UJA Federation's support is critical in helping us monitor and combat the activities of 40 Jews for Jesus missionary groups in Ontario alone," says Director Julius Ciss. Organization activities include one-on-one counseling, seminars, publications and lectures. "By supporting us, UJA Federation is ensuring Jewish survival," Ciss adds.

In the last three years, UJA Federation has provided over $500,000 to dozens of community organizations offering innovative programming to promote and strengthen Jewish identity.

Home At Last

jewish toronto

In the next few months thousands of Quara Jews from Ethiopia will be brought to Israel on Jewish Agency flights. In a telephone interview with jewish toronto one of the first Jews to arrive expresses hope for the future.

Amera Taibbebu waited his whole life to come home. Now, after a tumultuous journey, which included seven years in an Ethiopian refugee camp and one devastating delay after another, he has finally made it.

Twenty-two year old Taibbebu and his family were among the first of 3,000 Quara Jews from Ethiopia who began arriving in Israel two months ago. The Jewish Agency, funded by the worldwide UJA Federation network, has arranged for two weekly flights to bring Jews from Addis Ababa to Israel in order to complete the evacuation by mid-August. Close to 400 Jews have already joined 60,000 Jews of Ethiopian origin living in Israel.

At the current rate, the Jewish Agency expects to obtain aliyah approval for another 1,000 Quara Jews housed in the Gondar refugee camps who will make their way to Addis Ababa over the next two weeks.

"I've waited my whole life to return to Israel," says Taibbebu, whose broken English stifled his intense emotion during a recent telephone interview from the Mevaseret Tzion absorption centre outside Jerusalem. Back in his famine-stricken African country, Taibbebu, who holds a diploma in mathematics, was barely able to feed his family on the meager salary he earned as a garment worker. Now hopeful about his family's future, Taibbebu is eager to begin a new life. "I thank God that we are here."

Together with his wife and two young daughters, Taibbebu plans to join relatives in Beersheva and Ashdod after completing Hebrew language and training classes.

Tziki Aud, director of absorption operations at Mevaseret Tzion, says the current situation is ideal for the new arrivals from Quara. "Many already have family members living in Israel so they can draw upon their experience and knowledge during the transition period," he explains. "It also instills a greater sense of mutual responsibility among the Ethiopians."

At the Jewish Agency's Nurit absorption centre in Beersheva, five out of six staff members, including three translators, are Ethiopian.

"This wave of immigration is going extremely well because we are able to bridge the cultural gap," adds Jewish Agency spokesman Michael Jankelowitz.

Each year the UJA Federation funded Jewish Agency invests approximately $26 million in programs for Ethiopian immigrants.

The smiles on the faces of these two young girls who were among the first Quara Jews to arrive in Israel, tell the whole story.

Record Year for Israel Experience

The number of Canadian high school and university students participating in Israel Experience programs, subsidized in part by UJA Federation, has tripled in the last three years.

Thanks to the commitment and generosity of Anne Tanenbaum and other community leaders, a record 1,800 young Jewish adults from across the country are taking part in a wide range of summer programs in Israel offered through the Canada Israel Experience Centre (CIEC).

Leora Sass of London, Ontario, shares a moment of pre-flight excitement with Tanenbaum.

Photos: Signature Photography

Last week, Tanenbaum, who contributed $1 million toward Israel Experience programs, met with some of the 350 students benefiting from her generosity at Toronto's Pearson Airport. Tanenbaum was greeted by dozens of excited students who thanked her for helping make their dreams of going to Israel come true.

"We all appreciate how much Anne has done to enrich our Jewish learning at home and in Israel," said CHAT student Joanna Davidson.

"This is a very important part of their Jewish education," said Tanenbaum who, through a partnership with UJA Federation, recently donated $3 million to build CHAT's new Anne and Max Tanenbaum Education Centre. "I'm absolutely thrilled to see how many young people want to go to Israel and I am so happy to help make this possible."

In addition to the support of individual donors, CIEC Director Liz Sokolsky credits the climb in numbers to financial assistance provided by UJA Federation and UIA Federations Canada.

"Providing an Israel experience to as many of our youth as possible is a very important priority in our community," says Glennie Lindenberg, Chair of UJA Federation's Jewish continuity initiative, which funds up to 50% of program costs for hundreds of students in need. UJA Federation also funds special Israel experience scholarships for high school and university students demonstrating outstanding leadership qualities.

Anne Tanenbaum surrounded by Israel Experience participants.

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Monday, July 19, is deadline for July 29 issue, and Monday, July 26, is deadline for Aug. 5. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Monday, July 19

SUPPORT GROUP

Jewish Parents and Families of Gays and Lesbians meets 7:30 p.m., Jewish Family & Child Service, 6th floor, Lipa Green Building. Phone in confidence. **Ruth** 763-9111.

Tuesday, July 20

TOWARDS TISHA B'AV

Rabbi Jeremy Kagan from Jerusalem, lecturer and author of *The Jewish Self*, speaks on Our Challenge to Interpret Reality, 8 p.m., at Anshe Minsk Synagogue, 10 St. Andrews St., Kensington Market. 595-5723. Suggested donation $7.

Thursday, July 22

TISHA B'AV AT BETH JACOB

Beth Jacob Congregation invites the entire community to a series of lectures on Tisha b'Av. Shacharit along with explanations of the Kinnot by **Rabbi Jay Kelman** begins 8 a.m. Minchah is at 2 p.m. followed by a series of lectures by **Rabbi Yakkov Hirshman, Rabbi Yossi Michalowicz, Rabbi Jay Kelman, Elliot Malamet** and **Rabbi Shmuel Klein.** For more information, call the shul at 638-5955.

Sunday, July 25

FUN AT THE MUSEUM

Songstress **Kim Doran** sings songs for children in English, Yiddish and Hebrew, 1 p.m. Discovery Children's Museum, Bathurst Jewish Centre. 636-1880 ext. 456.

DYNAMIC SINGLES

Dynamic Singles of Adath Israel presents Strutting at Some Barbecue with singer/guitarist **Rick Washbrook** and bassist **Chad Wenzel**, at the Sunday Barbecue Brunch for singles 35 plus, 11:30 a.m. on the lawn at Adath Israel or indoors if it rains. $15 if prepaid by 3 p.m. Friday, July 23, or $18 at the door. Dress code, elegant casual. Synagogue office 635-5340.

Monday, July 26

LA LECHE LEAGUE

La Leche League-North Bathurst (Thornhill) presents The Art of Breastfeeding, 7:30 p.m., 112 Judith Ave., Thornhill. **Nancy** 905-889-7445 or **Joyce** 905-881-8779.

Wednesday, July 28

COMIC JUGGLING

Comic juggler **Craig Douglas** entertains children of all ages with his juggling antics while perched atop a unicycle, 2-3 p.m., Barbara Frum Library, 20 Covington Rd. Pick up free tickets at children's desk starting at 1 p.m. 395-5440.

MAD SCIENCE

Children ages 5-12 explore space with Mad Science, 2-3 p.m., Don Mills Library, 888 Lawrence Ave. W. Call 395-5710 to pre-register and/or information.

And What Else Is New

WOMEN'S TORAH STUDY

Canadian Friends of Nishmat is sponsoring three days of intensive Torah study for women of all educational backgrounds, July 26-28. Studying will be led by **Chana Henkin**, founder and director of Nishmat, Jerusalem. This year's topic is The Art of Prayer. Sessions are Monday and Tuesday 9:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. and 1-3 p.m., and Wednesday 9:15 a.m. to 2 p.m. Event takes place at 159 Almore Ave. For information 789-4883.

STAGED READINGS

Medina Theatre Ensemble will perform staged readings for your next special meeting, installations or fundraising event. Call **Roselle** 633-2057

KABBALAH CENTRE

A new course on the teachings of Kabbalah begins Wednesday, July 28 at 8:30 p.m. at 678 Sheppard Ave. W. 631-9395.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Circle of Care and the Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living's volunteer escort and transportation service requires additional volunteers to take clients to medical and other appointments. Help make a difference in someone's life. **Chelsea Gordon** 635-2860, ext. 416.

WEL GROUP EVENTS

The WEL (Women Enjoying Life) Group has space available for a trip to Peterborough, lunch and boat cruise Wednesday, July 21, and also for a theatre outing to the Princess of Wales Theatre to see

Continued on page 19

Construction scheduled for fall of '99

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What's New

Continued from page 18

Fame Aug. 18. **Gussie** 225-9777.

TRADITIONAL MINYAN

Shomer Israel Congregation traditional heimish minyan welcomes all non-affiliated. No dues. Shabbat 9 a.m. Shabbat Minchah study class with **Rabbi Sheldon Schwartz**. Sunday morning minyan 8:30 a.m. 60 Rockford Rd. (behind Rockford School). **David** 256-1600.

FUNDRAISING EVENT

Tikvah Chapter, Jewish Women International, is looking for women 25-35 to join the membership and help plan a community event this summer. If you are interested in becoming a member of JWI and love to volunteer, this is the best time to join. 633-6444.

WALKING TOURS

Heritage Toronto's weekend walking tours: Sunday, July 18, 1:30 p.m., South Rosedale, features houses rented, owned or visited by eminent literary figures, led by **Greg Gatenby**, artistic director, Harbourfront Reading Series, author of *Toronto: A Literary Guide;* Sunday, July 25, 1:30 p.m. The Toronto Carrying Place: Part II, Old Dundas St., Lambton Mills, led by **Madeleine McDowell,** Humber Heritage; Sunday, Aug. 1, 1:30 p.m., The Restoration of Toronto's 'House on the Hill': Casa Loma and Her Gardens, led by **Joan Crosbie**, curator, Casa Loma. 392-6827.

COLLEGIATE REUNION

Bloor Collegiate alumni and staff are invited to join and help celebrate 75 maroon and gold years, May 26 and 27, 2000. For more information, call 393-1094.

WELLNESS PROGRAM

If you're a senior living with osteoporosis, reserve your spot for the Fall Session of POWER, a six-week wellness program that covers exercise, nutrition and education. A referral from your family physician is required. Classes start in October at Baycrest Centre (785-2500, ext. 2395), North York General Hospital Seniors' Health Centre (756-6050), and Yee Hong Centre for Geriatric Care (321-6679). Registration fee is $30 and class size is limited, so register early.

FOR SENIORS

Association of Jewish Seniors presents Fun Look at Life-To Our Good Health, Thursday, July 29, 9:30 a.m., Earl Bales Community Centre. Bring lunch. Drinks, fruit provided. Reservations a must! **Goldie Leiberman** 635-2860.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). July 15, lecture by **Israel Nutzati** on the Situation in Israel After the Election; July 22, trip to the Thousand Islands; July 29, bingo; Aug. 1, Sunday dance with the Teddy Band, call **Malka Colla** 630-5771 for tickets. **Jerry Bengall** 905-707-7334.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Casino Rama July 28, Aug. 11 and 25; barbecue party Aug. 15 2-4 p.m.; community garage sale and flea market Aug. 22; ballroom dancing Thursdays 10 a.m. 395-7881.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: July 27, trip to Kingston, cruise, entertainment; Aug. 25, morning cruise, matinee performance of *Move Over Mrs. Markham* at Gryphon Theatre; Oct. 12, *West Side Story* at Stratford. **Lena** 785-5773. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

A mix of stimulating discussions, lectures, videos, **Issie Lacow** videos, **Lorne Alter** Mondays 10-11:30 a.m., July 19 and 26, Balkan Wars – An Attempt at Explanation. Non-members $1.

Healthy Cooking with **Andrea Sturk** Thursday, July 20, 1:15 p.m.

An afternoon of favorite songs with **Marat Maksutov,** Wednesday, July 21, 1 p.m.

Lifestyles Retirement Community Forest Hill Place and La'Briyut Wellness Centre co-sponsor **Dr. Joseph Levy** (Dr. Wellness) presenting From Health to Wellness-Time to Get a Life-L'Chaim. Thursday, July 22, 1:15 p.m.

Osteoporosis Support Group features physiotherapist **Irene Simas** presenting Posture and Strengthening Exercises for People with Osteoporosis, Tuesday, July 27, 1:15-2:30 p.m.

Summer Afternoon Tea Dance with **E. Rubin** and **D. Samaluk** Wednesday, July 28, 12:30-2:30 p.m. Dessert, fruit, tea. Members $5, non-members $7. Reserve at Ticket Sales Desk.

Israeli Club Etrog: Do you speak Hebrew? Join club members every Tuesday at 7 p.m. for movies, lectures, dances, sing-alongs, bingo, picnics. July 20, picnic in the park; July 27, sing-along. **Anna** ext. 110.

Sunday movies, *Ever After* July 18, and *The Preacher's Wife* July 25, 2:30 p.m.

ABOUT PEOPLE

Rabbi Neal Loevinger

KOLEL RABBI

Kolel: A centre for Liberal Jewish Learning opens a new department of outreach with the arrival of **Rabbi Neal Loevinger**. Rabbi Loevinger studied at Kolel when he was a graduate student at York University prior to enrolling in rabbinical college. Rabbi Loevinger received smichah last month from the Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies in Los Angeles, the newest rabbinical school affiliated with the Conservative Movement. Rabbi Loevinger's responsibilities will include educational outreach to unaffiliated, especially marginalized members of the Jewish community. He will be continuing Kolel's YUJJIE program and he is hoping to establish Kolel programs that will focus on Judaism and healing.

NATIONAL COMMANDER

Jewish War Veterans of Canada, National Command, announces the election of **Sqn. Ldr. Jack Cahan CD (Ret)** as national commander.

At the national convention held last month, attended by delegates from every post across Canada, a new executive was also elected. **Capt. Mort Lightstone CD (Ret),** adjutant; **Lou Laurie**, quartermaster; **Sydney Gangbar**, judge advocate general; **Sid Gladstone**, treasurer; **Ralph Goldman**, secretary.

Sqn. Ldr. Jack Cahan CD (Ret)
[Lou Vandelman photo]

CENTRE'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY

Celebrating the 25th anniversary of the Jerome D. Diamond Adolescent Centre (from left) Jerome D. Diamond; Wendy Wolfman, manager; Gordon Wolfe, executive director, Jewish Family and Child Service.

NA'AMAT RETREAT

Pictured at Na'amat-Toronto's recent all-day leadership and membership retreat, attended by 100 members, are (from left) Sima Shayo, president of Club Aliza; Doris Wexler-Charow, leadership development chair; guest speaker Irit Waidergorn, Israeli vice-consul general; Malka Weisblum, membership chair; and Dalia Orgil.
[Mollie Rothman photo]

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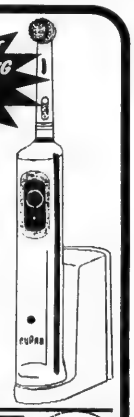

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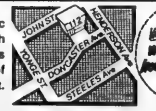

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SINGLES EVENTS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 22

Features

Brantford struggles to maintain Jewish life

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

BRANTFORD, ONT. — Contrary to what some people suspect, Mindy Sherman did not put her husband up to taking over the presidency of the synagogue in this small town a 75-minute drive southwest of Toronto.

Unlike his wife – who is treasurer of Hadassah-WIZO's Brantford-based Sharon chapter and a board member of the synagogue – Arthur Sherman isn't a joiner, he told *The CJN* at the auto parts store his late father and grandfather established in 1929.

But Sherman refused to accept that the resignation of his predecessor last fall might mean the closing of Beth David Congregation – and the end of Brantford's organized Jewish community, which dates back more than a century.

The community, according to Sherman, 53, is "kind of like the lamp at Chanukah time," referring to the Maccabee-era lamp that lasted eight days on a modicum of oil.

"We had a really good community, but it's coming to an end," he said. Today there are 28 local families affiliated with the synagogue. At its height there were about 150.

For the most part, Sherman's generation went where their professions took them or moved to their spouses' hometowns, he said. Their parents, in many cases, followed.

"We thought we were going to have to close the synagogue, because there's not very many people left, and the resources were down to nil," said Sherman.

He expects the synagogue – named for David Axler, a member of the Royal Canadian Air Force who died in World War II – will eventually come under the wing of a congregation elsewhere.

In Brantford, services are now held only on the High Holy Days and for special occasions, like a recent bat mitzvah. Men and women sit in wooden pews on either side of a mechitzah.

Rabbi William Eisenstein, principal of the Hamilton Hebrew Academy has been serving the community, a half-hour drive from Hamilton, for almost a decade.

Among his predecessors, when the community could support a full-time rabbi, was the late Rabbi Gedalia Felder, who served in the late 1940s.

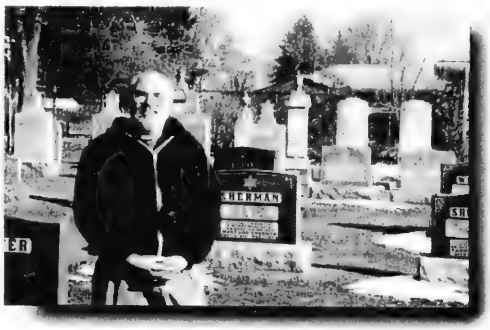
Rabbi Eisenstein conducts funerals and High Holy Day services, presides over bar and bat mitzvahs and visits the elderly.

On Sunday mornings during the school year he can be found teaching in the synagogue basement. A typical class might have eight children and four sets of parents from Brantford and surrounding towns.

"Okay guys," Rabbi Eisenstein says, snapping his fingers. "Let's get through this quickly."

An enthusiastic teacher with 38 years' experience, he gives plenty of reinforcement, ruffling a child's hair affectionately and offering lollipops at the end of class. "Beautiful!" he says in response to a correct answer.

"I love teaching," he told *The CJN*. "What you try to do is give [the students] a love and a pride in being Jewish." His goal is to whet their appetite for Jewish learning.



Allan Norris is in charge of the Jewish cemetery.

Ultimately, he hopes the children will marry Jewish, he said.

The comment was his only reference to intermarriage, albeit an oblique one, until he was asked about the issue.

"The families consider themselves Jewish and want their children to be Jewish," Rabbi Eisenstein said, referring to some couples with only one Jewish (or halachically Jewish) partner.

As an Orthodox rabbi, he doesn't recognize Reform conversions that have taken place within the community.

"But I'm not judgmental," he said. "I'm there to teach. I care about being sympathetic to their needs. When the tough decisions have to be made, they'll be made later on."

Allan Norris, 47, whose sons Sam, 11, and Jake, 8, underwent Reform conversions, says Judaism would have "a lot less hassles if there were more Rabbi Eisensteins around."

Norris believes that without Rabbi Eisenstein, there wouldn't be a Jewish community in Brantford.

Norris' wife Deborah, who has a doctorate in biochemistry, is not Jewish, but has been involved with Hadassah-WIZO. She and Allan coordinate the Jewish component of an annual multicultural display seen by almost 800 schoolchildren at the Brant County Museum.

She also goes into her sons' school, where they are the only Jewish students, to give presentations about Jewish holidays. Last year she joined other parents in making latkes at the Hebrew school Chanukah party.

To her surprise, more than 50 people attended. "We had some new families move into the area, and there's a whole family converting," she said. "It was just so nice."

An American who once lived in Toronto, Deborah, 46, said that although Brantford's downtown is "dreary, there are big old homes and a lot of parks. We're the 'best bloomin' city in Canada.' That's our motto."

Rabbi William Eisenstein and some of his students, (from left) Sam and Jake Norris, Alex Fuller, Joseph and Eric Yelle, Jennifer Book and her cousin from Toronto, Shoshana Erlich.

It's a nice town in which to raise kids, agreed Allan, but it doesn't have much to offer Jewishly.

Allan, Sherman's predecessor, served as shul president for more than six years, and is the longtime cemetery custodian.

He moved to Brantford from Kitchener as a teenager. In the mid-1970s he spent four years in the Middle East and Asia, studying Buddhism along the way.

He returned to Brantford in 1980 to co-run a family business, Brantford Iron & Metal.

But he carves out time whenever a death occurs to ensure the right plot is prepared, organize a minyan, and even cover the grave.

He has also, on occasion, had to deal with vandalism, although he's not convinced it is anti-Semitic.

There have been isolated anti-Semitic incidents in Brantford, a town of over 85,000 people. Most recently there were anti-Jewish/anti-fur signs placed just north of town last fall. Although the case has not been closed, it appears to be the work of a local individual.

The cemetery, like the synagogue, is Orthodox, Allan noted. A section, as yet unused, has been set aside for members of the community who are not Jewish according to halachic standards.

"I'm by far not an Orthodox Jew," Allan said. "To me my Judaism is a family, traditional thing and not so much a spiritual thing, but I'm still trying to impart Judaism to my boys. They're very proud that they're Jews."

When he and Sherman were youngsters, the Brantford Jewish community was thriving. Local Jews like to point out that their congregation predates Hamilton's.

Services were held in private homes from approximately the turn of the century, and the congregation was incorporated in 1911.

"At one time, we were quite a community," said Sherman.

In fact, his uncle, Max Sherman, was the first Jew to be elected to a political position in Brantford.

A former mayor (from 1957 to 1958), Sherman was Brantford's Citizen of the Year in 1965.

Now 84, Max retired from politics as a city councillor only last year, and is active in more than half a dozen organizations.

City Hall's foyer was recently named in his honor, and a local street, Sherman Drive, is also named after him. (Another local thoroughfare, the Wayne Gretzky Parkway, celebrates Brantford's most famous citizen.)

A native of Toronto, Max moved to Brantford in 1938 to convalesce from tuberculosis at the Brantford Sanitorium. At the time he had a 6-month-old daughter, and his in-laws, who lived in Hamilton, had a business in Brantford.

His political career included a brush with anti-Semitism when he was invited by a friend to join the Brantford chapter of an international service organization in the 1950s.

"They're not going to accept me," Sherman predicted correctly.

"But you're the mayor," answered the friend.

After he was blackballed, Sherman received a letter from within the organization acknowledging that anti-Semitism was involved and apologizing for "members of this ilk."

But Sherman didn't admit the reason for the blackball publicly, thinking it could harm the Jewish community in Brantford and other locations.

Today there are no barriers to any ethnic group interested in joining an organization, said Max. "It's a good town to live in."

Unlike some of his contemporaries, Max, a great-grandfather and second-time widower, is staying in Brantford. "My roots are too deep. I figured I'd be happier here."

The bleak facade of his now empty hardware store on Brantford's main street – and other stores like it – attest to economic difficulties the city has experienced.

Arthur Sherman, seen here in his auto parts shop, stepped in as synagogue president last fall.

Continued on page 21

Features

Ontario town 'a wonderful community'

Continued from page 20

(Many Toronto readers, by the way, may associate the name Sherman's Hardware with Max's father, Ben, who lived to age 111.)

Although Brantford's economy has suffered, at least one member of the Jewish community – an accountant with an aversion to being quoted by name – speaks in positive terms about the town's prospects. He said Brantford "is on the verge of an economic rebirth."

This fall, in fact, both a casino and a small satellite campus of Wilfrid Laurier University will open in the downtown area.

Two telecommunications companies that will employ 1,300 people between them have also moved to town, said David Amos, director of Brantford's Economic Development department.

The city's unemployment rate has dropped to seven percent from 15 percent at the beginning of 1997, he added.

During the Jewish community's heyday, Max was an active participant. He served as MC at the opening of the synagogue's new building in 1948, and is a former chair of B'nai Brith's Brantford lodge, which hasn't been active since 1974.

Max remembers the Torah procession from the original 1915 synagogue – a house on Palace Street where the Jewish stars are still visible on the windows – to the red brick building around the corner on Waterloo Street, just blocks from downtown.

Jerry Miller, a second-generation Brantford lawyer who lives outside the city, misses the "active, vibrant" Jewish community in which he was raised.

Through the local Jewish youth group, Miller spent time with his counterparts locally and in communities like Galt, Guelph, Kitchener and Waterloo.

"When I was a kid, [maybe] half the merchants downtown were Jewish. Now I don't think there's one Jewish business downtown. Of my parents' friends, 80 to 90 percent were Jewish in this community. They had an affinity."

Miller experienced little anti-Semitism personally, but it did exist, he said. His friends were both Jewish and non-Jewish.

"Although our parents did not dictate [that we marry Jewish], it was understood that it was preferable," he said.

He is now married for the second time, and his wife is not Jewish. One of his four daughters married a non-Jew, "a very decent fellow," said Miller.

Former mayor Max Sherman reminisces over a scrapbook made for him by a family member.

A former synagogue president, Miller now affiliates with Beth Jacob Congregation, the Conservative synagogue in Hamilton, but attended Beth David last fall because he thought it would be the Brantford congregation's final year.

He has filled his life with other things to compensate, he said. "I had to be a realist."

The earliest Jewish pioneers, most of whom were Russian, settled in Brantford in 1881, but it wasn't until 1912 that the Jewish community acquired its own cemetery, thanks largely to the efforts of Frederick Strenkovsky.

In the early days of the century when Strenkovsky peddled in the area with his father and brother, he came across a Christian cemetery with stones bearing names he believed were Jewish, recalled his daughter Lena Rothberg, 81.

"It became an obsession with him to bring what he knew of Judaism to a smaller centre," Rothberg said over lunch at the home she and her husband Murray have shared for over 50 years.

Rothberg is a past national president of Hadassah-WIZO. The local Brantford chapter, which now holds membership meetings only once a year, has almost two dozen members ranging in age from early 40s to over 80.

The chapter, the third established in Canada, was started 80 years ago to help with the war effort. Members celebrated the landmark anniversary last fall.

Rothberg, whose mother was a charter member of the chapter, has her own Judaic mission, born of an incident which took place almost 70 years ago when a teacher "ridiculed" her for missing an exam that fell on a Jewish holiday.

"I promised myself that when I grew up, I was going to do something about promoting Judaism so people would understand we were people like they were."

Rothberg's closest childhood friend was the daughter of an Anglican minister. But growing up in an observant home, her Jewish identity was very strong. Her father, who eventually went into the surgical supplies business with two brothers, had rabbinic smichah from Russia.

Lena and her four siblings attended cheder. Children of all ages learned together, the boys separated from the girls.

The Strenkovskys used to travel to Toronto to stock up on kosher meat for the winter, Rothberg recalls. "We had what was called a summer kitchen, but it was really a winter kitchen."

She met Murray, a native of Melbourne, Australia, when he was stationed in the area as a pilot instructor during World War II.

He sought out the small Brantford synagogue where he attended a service. "An elderly gentleman asked me if I'd like an aliyah," he recalled, "and one of the young men invited us to go to an evening. The young ladies in town were entertaining the air force and the army. I met Lena at this party, and I saw her right away."

Now the grandparents of six, Lena and Murray had to work to create a Jewish environment for their two daughters.

"We drove our kids around to neighboring cities [for activities with other Jewish youth]," recalls Lena. "We had a very active sisterhood at that time. We learned to be caterers at our shul. We had a Jewish hockey team. We had a marvellous youth program."

Mindy Sherman, left, and Lena Rothberg share a deep commitment to the Jewish community.

Both their daughters married Jewish men, and are involved in their respective Jewish communities.

Rothberg's sister-in-law, Sadie Stren, 84, who now lives in Toronto, has become the Brantford Jewish community's historian and archivist.

"It was such a good place in which to live," she said. The community's decline merely paralleled that of small communities worldwide, she added.

Although many community members have left Brantford, Mindy Sherman, 52, did the reverse, moving to Brantford from Toronto when she married Arthur 21 years ago.

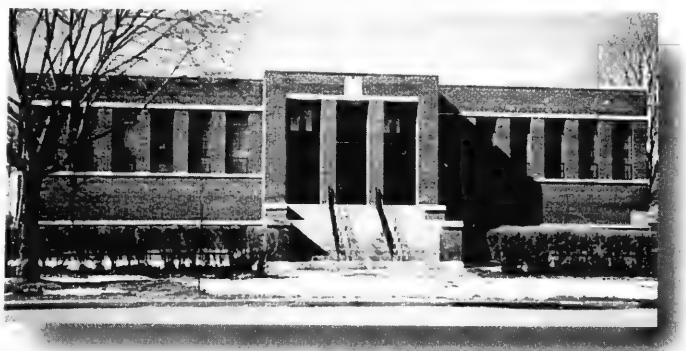
She was raised in a traditional home, but did not take an active role Jewishly until she was asked to handle gift cards for Hadassah-WIZO in Brantford.

"We've been lucky to have [Mindy]," said Lena, who takes great pride in the community.

"It's a wonderful community, a warm community," said Rabbi Eisenstein, but he sees nothing to keep Jewish people there.

Last year, when Allan Norris was still president, the synagogue's boiler broke down. "I was here every six hours draining the place," he said.

"My guess is, when the roof goes, the shul will go, and when the shul goes, I figure so does the community. That's why I always tried to keep the shul going. I think whatever identity is left here is right in this building."



Jewish life in Brantford once revolved closely around Beth David Congregation, built in 1948. [Frances Kraft photos]

On Campus

ייִדיש ווינקל
YIDDISH CORNER

רעדאַגירט פֿון ש. ליפּשיץ

דאָס לעבן און טויט פֿון מאַקסים גאָרקי

פֿון אַריעל קאַפּראַוו

נאָך אַלס קינד פֿון 8 יאָר האָט מאַקסים גאָרקי אָנגעהויבן זיין זעלבשטענדיק לעבן. ער איז געגאַנגען צופֿוס טויזנטער קילאָמעטער אַרום דער וואָלגאַ צו באַקענען זיך מיטן רוסישן פֿאָלק. ער האָט זייער אַ סך געשריבן. אין זיין ביאָגראַפֿיע קומט בולט אַרויס זיין שטעלונג צו דער רעוואָלוציע און צו לענינען.

גאָרקי און לענין זיינען געווען צוויי קעגנגעזעצטע טיפּן, ווי פֿייער און וואַסער. לענין, אַן אינטעלעקטואַל מיט אַן אייזערנעם מוח, האָט געגלויבט אין מאַטעריאַליזם און האָט געהאַלטן, אַז דער ציל הייליקט אַלע מיטלען. גאָרקי האָט בלויז געלערנט אַ האַלב יאָר אין אַ פֿאָלקס־שולע. דאָס איבעריקע האָט ער געלערנט אין די היטערקעלערס פֿון דער אונטערוועלט. ביי אים, להיפּוך צו לענינען, האָט דאָמינירט דאָס האַרץ. זיין באַציאונג צום קאָמוניזם איז געקומען פֿון זיין האַרץ און נישט פֿון זיין שכל.

ביים אָנהייב פֿון דער רעוואָלוציע האָט מאַקסים גאָרקי געשריבן פֿלאַם־פֿייערדיקע אַרטיקלען קעגן לענינען און טראָצקין. ער האָט זיך אויסגעדריקט, אַז לענין מאַכט אַן עקספּערימענט אין בלוט און פֿלייש פֿון פּראָלעטאַריאַט.

די קאָמוניסטישע פּרעסע האָט גאָרקין געשטעמפּלט ווי אַ פֿאַררעטער, אָבער לענין האָט אים נישט געלאָזט אַרעסטירן. גאָרקי איז געווען דער איינציקער אָנערקענטער גרויסער שרייבער אין דער מערב־וועלט. דעריבער האָט אים לענין מוחל געווען אַלע זיינע זינד. זינאָוויעוו און אַנדערע פֿירערס האָבן געדריקט אויף לענינען אָנצולערנען גאָרקין, אָבער לענין איז געווען קליגער פֿון זיי. פֿאַרקערט, לענין האָט פֿאַר אים געזאָרגט ער זאָל נישט הונגערן און נישט פֿילן קיין שום נויט; פֿאַרזאָרגט גאָרקין מיט אַ ווילע הינטער מאָסקווע און מיט אַלדאָס גוטס. גאָרקי איז געשיקט געוואָרן קיין איטאַליע צו היילן זיינע טובערקולאָז־קראַנקע לונגען.

גאָרקי האָט זיך באַמיט צו העלפֿן שרייבערס און קינסטלערס מיט אַ שטיקל ברויט, מיט אַ מלבוש און צומאָל באַוואָרנט צו ווערן פֿון די נעגל פֿון דער „טשעקאַ". גאָרקי פֿלעגט זיך איבערשרייבן מיט פֿיל שרייבערס. ער האָט כמעט אַלע זיינע שאַפֿונגען איבערגעשיקט קיין אויסלאַנד, וואו זיי האָבן זייער אַרויסגעגעבן.

נאָך לענינ'ס טויט האָט גאָרקי אָנגעהאַלטן קאָרעקטע באַציאונגען מיט סטאַלינען, וועלכער האָט גאָרקין ביישטענדיק געלויבט, ווי לענין האָט דאָס געטאָן. אָבער סטאַלין האָט אויך באַוואָרנט פֿאַר גאָרקיס באַדערפֿענישן און האָט אים באַזוכט ביי געלעגנהייטן.

די סאָוועטן האָבן אויסגענוצט גאָרקיס פּאָפּולאַריטעט און אים געשיקט קיין אַמעריקע צו זאַמלען געלט. דעם 2טן מײַ, 1906, איז גאָרקי אַרויסגעטראָטן אין דער רוסישער שפּראַך פֿאַר אַ גרויסן עולם פֿון 5,000 מענטשן אין אַמעריקע. ער האָט פֿאַרדאַמט דעם אַנטיסעמיטיזם און דערוויזן, אַז אַ גוט לעבן קען מען נאָר געניסן, ווען ס'איז פֿאַראַן פֿריינדשאַפֿט און גוטע באַציאונגען צווישן די אַמעריקאַנער מאַסן. אין רוסלאַנד איז די יידישע פֿראַגע די וויכטיקסטע פּאָליטישע פֿראַגע. די פֿירערשאַפֿט, וועלכע פֿאַרפֿאָלגט יעדן ייד ווי אַ רעוואָלוציאָנער, איז דער גרעסטער שונא פֿון פֿאָלק.

מאַקסים גאָרקי פֿלעגט זיך איבערשרייבן מיט שלום עליכמען און געלויבט זיינע ביכער. ער האָט אויך געשריבן צו ח. נ. ביאַליקן און אים פֿאָרגעלייגט צו שרייבן אַ בוך פֿאַר קינדער. אין זיין ענטפֿער האָט ביאַליק געשריבן, אַז ער קען שרייבן אַזאַ בוך נאָר אין העברייאיש. גאָרקי האָט געוואָלט אָרגאַניזירן אַ ליטעראַרישן געזעגענונגס אוונט פֿאַר ביאַליקן, אָבער ס'זיינען געווען צו פֿיל קעגנערס.

סטאַלין האָט באַקומען אַ ידיעה פֿון קרוטשקאָוו, גאָרקיס סעקרעטאַר, אַז גאָרקי פּלאַנירט ווידער אַמאָל אַ רייזע קיין איטאַליע, וואו ער וויל פֿאַרעפֿנטלעכן זיין בוך „איך באַשולדיק" קעגן סטאַלינען און זיין בלוטיקן רעזשים. סטאַלין האָט געשיקט גאָרקין אַ מתנה, אַ באָמבאָניערקע. גאָרקי האָט מכבד געווען צוויי סאַניטאַרקעס מיט אַ שאָקאָלאַדקע און אַליין אויך געגעסן. אַלע דריי זיינען שנעל געשטאָרבן. פּראָפֿעסאָר פּלאַטנעוו האָט אויסגעפֿאָרשט און געפֿונען סימנים פֿון סם. נאַטירלעך האָט מען פּראָפֿעסאָר פּלאַטנעוון אָנגעזאָגט צו האַלטן דאָס בסוד.

אין 1938 האָט סטאַלין אָרגאַניזירט אַ גרויסן משפּט און באַשולדיקט אַ ריי פּראָמינענטע פּערזענלעכקייטן אין גאָרקיס מאָרד. צווישן זיי איז געווען פּראָפֿ. פּלאַטנעוו, וועלכער האָט באַקומען 25 יאָר אויף קאַטאָרגע. שפּעטער האָט פּלאַטנעוו דערציילט, אַז גאָרקי איז אומגעבראַכט געוואָרן אויף סטאַלינ'ס באַפֿעל.

צי ס'איז אמת, צי נישט, אַז סטאַלין איז שולדיק אין גאָרקיס מאָרד, האָט סטאַלין אויסגענוצט די געלעגנהייט צו פּטור ווערן פֿון דער אַלטער באָלשעוויסטישער גוואַרדיע, וועמען ער האָט באַשולדיקט אין מאָרדן דעם גרויסן סאָוועטישן שרייבער — די גרעסטע צאָל פֿון די באַשולדיקטע איז אויף זיין באַפֿעל דערמאָרדעט געוואָרן.

94-year-old graduates

By ABIGAIL PICKUS
JUF News

CHICAGO — The calls keep coming in for Sam Janus.

The mayor of Lincolnwood's office is asking him to give a talk, and reporters for papers large and small, are requesting interviews.

But lately Janus has to turn them down.

"I have a lot of work to do," he says, gesturing to a pile of research books on his dining room table for his yet-unfinished paper, which he has to hand in before his graduation from Oakton Community College.

At age 94, it's no wonder Janus has been the focus of so much media attention.

"It isn't anything new, I've been written up before. What do you expect, an old man, like me, going back to school," he says, from his spacious one-bedroom apartment – his self-dubbed "bachelor pad" – in Lincolnwood Place, a Jewish retirement home. He settled there seven years ago after the death of his wife of 60 years.

Like many Jewish immigrants who arrived here from Eastern Europe around the beginning of this century, Janus had to plunge straight into the working world after grammar school – in his case, it was Washburne Grammar School, from which he graduated in 1918 at age 14.

But after a lifetime of work – in men's furnishings for over a decade and then selling jewelry for another 40 years, Janus decided to do what working life had never allowed him to do: go back to school.

"I've always admired people who had an education. I wanted to follow in their footsteps," he says.

Which was why, at the age of 82, he completed his high school equivalency from Truman College, and went on to work toward his associate's degree in liberal arts from Oakton.

Janus took one course a quarter for nine years to obtain his associate's degree. Ever the optimist, he is now planning to attend Northeastern University in the fall, to finally get that college degree.

"So, what do you want to know? Shoot," Janus asks.

After all, he has lived through nearly an entire century.

Back to school

In 1912, at the age of 7, Janus came to Chicago from Ukraine with his father, who was avoiding being drafted into the Russo-Japanese War. They sailed steerage class in a boat that took more than three weeks to cross the ocean.

His family – they later sent for his mother and young brothers – eventually settled in the Maxwell-Street area, the "Jewish ghetto." They lived in a fourth-floor walk-up with no bath. To wash up, they had go down the block and use the public bathhouse.

To chronicle everything he's lived through, or to talk about how the world has changed over the past 90 years, is not something Janus has time to do, especially with his paper on the 20th century's impact on the environment, looming over his head.

"If I were to give you the details of how I got here and why it would take all afternoon," he says.

Yet, pulling out a paper assignment he wrote on the history of the 20th century, he says, "I've lived through most of it," referring to Prohibition (the period when he met his wife, Rae) and Al Capone, and everything else on up.

While he says he's tried to stay out of politics, he admits that he's always been an "extreme liberal...I'm for the underdog."

And he's always been a sports enthusiast.

He still works out three times a week at the Bernard Horwich JCC in West Rogers Park, lifting weights and keeping fit the old-fashioned, calisthenics way.

He even taught an exercise class there not long ago, before people started to drop off, he says. "They started to die, or move to Florida."

Exercising is just par for the course for this former amateur boxer.

"I weighed 135 pounds. then and weigh 135 now," he says, which is evident. Short and trim, and wearing thick glasses, he still cuts a dapper figure, impeccably dressed in a checked shirt and gray dress pants.

As far as this world of ours goes – a techno-savvy, violent, often ruthless world – Janus has no answers.

"It was a much better world when I got here. We didn't have the turmoil, the killings. When I was 14, we'd get into fights, but we didn't use guns," he says.

And when it comes to the what-can-you-teach-us-about-life questions – those hackneyed sound bites seniors are often asked to produce – Janus can only shrug.

"Advice? We're all put together in such different ways," he finally manages. "A lot of people don't get along with anyone. I'm an extrovert, I make friends very easily, I'm always kibitzing and joking."

If a secret to Janus' life must be extracted, humor and affability are certainly it. Forget Dale Carnegie, this man is a natural at making friends and influencing people. And he's a big joke-teller, often delivering his punch lines completely poker-faced, with only the twinkle in his eye giving it away.

"You can't take me seriously," he says, if you take a joke at face value.

Wordplays are his speciality, including a few groaners. But it's worth it to stick around for the spontaneous quips. Like his response to whether he's planning a party for his graduation. "Sure," he says, without missing a beat.

"I've hired out the Chicago stadium."

Beneath the humor, however, Janus reveals a questioning soul, one that stands before God and implores, why?

"Often times I wonder, where is the justice? Here I am alive, and my two younger brothers are gone," he says.

Facing the end of his life, Janus doesn't seem to want to weigh himself down with such overwhelming questions, he says. After all, he has his family nearby – a daughter and son-in-law, four grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.

He also has his studying, his excursions to the library to "dig" for books, his workouts, and, ultimately, his joy of life, he adds.

"I'm not afraid to die," he says. "I've lived a long life. I'm very fortunate. I have things to look forward to.

"You must remember, I am now living on bonus years – my plans are from day to day. I'm fortunate to go to the gym and take workouts, and I hope to stay healthy until I check out."

SINGLES EVENTS

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Israeli Consul completing term

By DIANE KOVEN
Ottawa Correspondent

OTTAWA — Israeli Consul Chen Ivri will be completing his three-year term in Canada and returning to Israel at the beginning of August.

Ivri's role has included assisting the ambassador in a variety of areas and representing him in his absence. Primarily, Ivri developed and strengthened political ties between Canada and Israel, working with our Ministry of Foreign Affairs and other government departments.

The establishment of a friendship group with Canadian MPs has been one of Ivri's accomplishments.

MPs have been invited to the ambassador's residence to hear lecturers from Israel on a variety of topics and to participate in discussions in many fields.

In addition, Ivri helped organize delegations of Canadians, both politicians and academics, who were sent to Israel to see what the country is all about.

Ivri remembers the excitement of his arrival in Canada in July, 1996, when, after only two days in the country, he was part of the delegation which signed the Free Trade Agreement between Canada and Israel.

"I am going home with a very good feeling," he says. "Many things have been achieved in these years, the Free Trade Agreement being perhaps the most important."

During Ivri's term, there have been formal dialogues between the Israeli and Canadian foreign affairs ministries. Agreements were signed in areas such as culture and social security.

Ivri has also forged close ties with the various Jewish organizations and has made friends both in Ottawa and in many of the communities he has visited, he says.

"From time to time, I travelled around to bring messages from Israel to communities all over Canada," he recalls, noting that in spite of the cold climate, he found a warm reception wherever he went.

The Ivri family has been very involved in the local Jewish community and Ivri says they will be leaving with mixed feelings. He, his wife Dalia, and their four sons have become familiar faces at many community events.

The two oldest sons have already returned to Israel, but when the rest of the family leaves they will have a daily reminder of their sojourn in Canada – the youngest son Ben was born here.

Winnipeg rabbi heads to Toronto on interim basis

By MYRON LOVE
Prairies Correspondent

WINNIPEG — Rabbi Peretz Weizman, one of Winnipeg's senior rabbis, has accepted a position as interim spiritual leader of Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Congregation in Toronto.

Rabbi Weizman has been asked to fill a leadership role until the Toronto synagogue engages a senior rabbi for its 1,500-member families.

Thus far, he has given the Beth Emeth a commitment to stay over yom tov – at least until Sukkot – and perhaps a few weeks longer.

Rabbi Weizman has been rabbi emeritus of north Winnipeg's Bnay Abraham for the past five years. He also heads Winnipeg's Vaad Ha'ir.

A holocaust survivor from Lodz, Poland, Rabbi Weizman came to Winnipeg in 1953. He served as spiritual leader of Bnay Abraham Synagogue for 40 years. (Rabbi Louis Berkal, 85, rabbi emeritus of south Winnipeg's Shaarey Zedek Synagogue, is the only rabbi to serve Winnipeg's Jewish community longer.)

Rabbi Weizman had become known to the Beth Emeth congregation because he davens there when he visits his daughter and her family in Toronto.

On at least one occasion, he was invited by Rabbi Joseph Kelman, now rabbi emeritus of Beth Emeth, to give the sermon.

"Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda is a tremendous congregation," Rabbi Weizman says. "It will be a challenge being the rabbi, but I will do my best. I will have to provide real substance, real meat."

For the time being, the Vaad Ha'ir is considering the rabbi's time in Toronto – at least over the holiday period – as vacation time, as he usually goes away during the winter for a month or two, Rabbi Weizman says.

His son, Dr. Sam Weizman, will be filling in for him alongside Cantor Saul Fink at the Bnay Abraham this yom tov.

Jewish teachers receive three paid holy days off

By MYRON LOVE
Prairies Correspondent

WINNIPEG — There has been a break in the ranks of Winnipeg school divisions that have opposed paid religious leave for Jewish teachers on the High Holy Days.

Partly because of the mounting legal costs, Fort Garry School Division in southeast Winnipeg has agreed to give the division's seven Jewish teachers three paid holy days.

The same privilege will be granted to teachers of other faiths whose holy days may also fall on regular school days.

Jewish teachers throughout the public school system in Winnipeg have been fighting for five years to have days off with pay for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.

With the support of the Manitoba Teachers Society, 66 Jewish teachers in four school divisions have been arguing the case in court under the Charter of Rights.

Currently, Winnipeg School Division No. 1, the city's largest school division, allows employees two days off for religious leave, while Assiniboine South School Division allows one religious day off with pay a year (as had Fort Garry). Seven Oaks School Division requires teachers taking religious leave to share the cost of a supply teacher.

The school divisions argued in court that it would be difficult to find enough substitute teachers to fill in, and that the substitute staff are frequently not as competent as the regular classroom teachers.

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Resolution receives a positive response

Continued from page 5

Lastman was the grand marshal. Earlier, the quilt was on display at Dollard des Ormeaux City Hall.

"The People's Resolution is not just motherhood or an 'I love you' to Quebec. It's much deeper," said Suissa, a dentist. "It includes concrete measures to keep this country together and to respect Quebec's place in it.

"We also felt it was important that such a statement be made now during a time of relative peace, and not when there is a crisis."

The resolution was meaty enough that Edmonton actually sought a legal opinion before passing it.

Addressed to the prime minister of Canada, the minister of intergovernmental affairs, the premier of Quebec and all provincial legislatures, the resolution urges "the continuance of a united Canada in accordance with the moral, political, legal and constitutional obligations of our nation.

"We, the people, demand that the government of Canada and all provincial legislatures/assemblies ensure that any future constitutional negotiations not lead to the break-up of our country."

The resolution says the Constitution must give "the province of Quebec, a fundamental and valued partner of the Canadian confederation, the opportunity to promote and protect its culture, civil law tradition and French language."

It does not, however, accord Quebec any special or distinct status. The resolution, in fact, underscores that all provinces are equal and it also stresses the need to protect the official language of minority communities throughout Canada.

It emphasizes that "all Canadians from all provinces [should be] consulted on the issue of national unity."

The response has been very positive, Suissa said. "Some mayors have sent us letters about the French roots in their town, and associations of francophones outside Quebec are in favor of the resolution."

Makovka, a lawyer, believes this effort will show Quebecers that other Canadians do recognize their concerns, and will demonstrate to the separatists that Canadians can also get passionate about their country.

"Any decision about this country's future can't just focus on one side," Makovka said. "We believe the separatists shouldn't have it all when it comes to deciding Canada's future."

Suissa and Makovka said they think they are making an impact in Quebec. There were articles about TCU in *Le Devoir* and *Le Journal de Montréal*, and the television station RDI broadcast the organization's press conference live, during last November's provincial election.

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Maritimes Chabad marks four years in region

HALIFAX — The community gathered here recently to mark four years of public service by Chabad of the Maritimes, as well as the fifth anniversary of the passing of the Lubavitcher Rebbe Menachem Mendel Schneerson.

"The success achieved has largely been due to the efforts of the many dedicated partners who have joined forces for the growth and furtherance of local Yiddishkeit," said Rabbi Mendel Feldman, regional director.

Rabbi Mendel Feldman

Speaking on behalf of the many volunteers of the local Chabad branch, Rabbi Feldman pledged to tirelessly continue their endeavors to increase Jewish awareness "through innovative activities and programs for all ages of the local Jewish community."

The guest speaker at the celebration was Rabbi Moshe New, rabbi and executive director of the Montreal Torah Centre.

"The dedicated men and women of Lubavitch have truly risen to the challenge of keeping their wonderful Rebbe's legacy of absolute and unconditional acceptance of every single Jew vibrantly alive," he said.

Rabbi New added that in the Rebbe's holistic view, "when we give generously of our time or finances, we are essentially really helping ourselves, for in truth, every Jew is an intrinsic part of the other."

After dinner, the guests saw a video that described 81 new Chabad institutions currently under contruction from Toronto to Tel Aviv.

The programs under the administration of Chabad of Halifax include a day camp, adult education programs, holiday awareness projects, kosher catering and publications.

Scene in Ottawa

By G.K. SIMCOE

Contrary to firmly entrenched beliefs shared by Canadians from coast to coast, parliamentarians do not sit by the pool all summer long...well, perhaps some do! For the most part, however, MPs and their colleagues in the Senate are busy with any number of projects.

One favorite summer pastime is the party "task-force." This generic initiative, often dubbed a "make work project" by the chronically cynical, finds politicians travelling around the country seeking some elusive insight into problems that they were not able to attend to during the previous parliamentary session.

This summer, the keen observer can actually detect a revealing trend. Four of the five parties represented in the House have embarked on tours aimed at improving their popularity in strategic parts of the country.

The Liberals have put together an eleven-person parliamentary task force to determine why the Natural Governing Party (NGP) cannot buy a seat west of Portage and Main. Reformers – who, as we'll see in a moment, should be preoccupied with their own problems – have taken to dogging that roaming band of Liberal troubadours, loading up town-hall meetings and clogging the local phone-in talk shows featuring Liberal guests with hostile anti-Eastern Establishment callers.

Not especially nice, but certainly very effective. At least, head of the Liberal party task force, MP John Harvard, and company, get points for honestly confronting reality. Brian Mulroney has a better chance of a speedy rehabilitation out west than does the NGP!

For their part, the Reformers are furiously treading water, going nowhere fast. Preston's forces "won" the internal party referendum on a United Alternative by the skin of their teeth, and the effort to parlay that victory into a new political machine that could credibly challenge the Liberals in Ontario is floundering.

As we have had occasion to note in the past, Manning has an awful lot riding on the success of the United Alternative. If it sinks, so does he. To stretch the swimming metaphor just a bit more, our advice to Preston is that he would do better to sign up for a Red Cross lifesaving course this summer. Both he and his party are in desperate need.

Next week, we'll look at the Tory and BQ summer revival efforts!

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www.veahavta.org

Tragedy brings Israelis, Palestinians together

Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

JERUSALEM — Two Palestinian construction workers died and nine were injured – two of them critically – when a building collapsed last week in the town of El-Bireh, on the main road linking Ramallah and Jerusalem.

Israeli rescue units were called in to help the Palestinians extricate the casualties and search for possible survivors among the ruins.

The mid-morning tragedy sent Palestinians at nearby shops running to assist, Israeli troops across the border piling into jeeps and medics from nearby Jewish settlements jumping into their ambulances.

Israeli and Palestinian security officers dressed in olive green uniforms with matching berets, formed a human chain to lift many tons of steel and concrete. The top floor of the building had collapsed during construction work.

Ambulances bearing red crescents and red stars of David hustled the injured to Palestinian and Israeli hospitals. Rescue workers – some, Israelis, veterans of last year's embassy bombings in Kenya – carefully extracted partially buried workers.

For some, it was hard to resist seeing a wider significance to the collaboration, coming just days after Israel swore in a new government dedicated to reviving peace talks with the Palestinians.

The tragedy prompted the first-ever phone call between the speakers of the two parliaments: Knesset speaker Avraham Burg called his Palestinian counterpart, Ahmed Qureia, to express his condolences.

Qureia thanked Burg for the assistance the Israelis extended – and said he hoped the phone call marked the beginning of bilateral relations between the two legislatures.

"We are all, after all, human beings," said settler spokesman Aharon Domb.

After more than five hours of work, the Israeli commander confirmed the suspicions of the searchers. "We have reached the bottom of the rubble and we haven't found anyone," said Col. Gal Hirsch.

Moshe Eisenbach, a haredi volunteer who gathers body parts for identification, said he was relieved he was left idle that day.

Israelis and Palestinians look for survivors. [RNS photo]

Abdullah phones Barak

By DANIEL SOBELMAN
Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

JERUSALEM —King Abdullah of Jordan called Prime Minister Ehud Barak last week to congratulate him on taking office and express satisfaction with the new government's declarations.

In the phone call, Abdullah added that Barak's words show a real intention to advance the peace process on all tracks. Abdullah also expressed his happiness at the Syrian Foreign Ministry's response to Barak's comments, and emphasized that Damascus is interested and serious about attaining peace in the region.

He said they should take advantage of the positive atmosphere in the region to move forward and establish a real peace.

In Syria, meanwhile, the media broadcast the Foreign Ministry's comments, which included a statement that Syria "shared Barak's [peace] interests," and that it would respond to Israel's every step with a step of its own.

An article in Syria's *Tashrin* newspaper yesterday argued that "The just and comprehensive peace is within reach if the Israeli officials maintain their stands, and translate their words into actions. We remind our readers that Syria was the one to first use the term the 'peace of the brave.'"

Meanwhile, Russia has sent its head of the Middle East division of the Foreign Ministry to the United States to meet with his counterpart in the State Department, hoping to discuss Syrian President Hafez Assad's recent visit in Russia and the U.S.'s attitude toward Syria and Russian-Syrian relations.

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Agents Wanted

Israel, U.S. won't be at the table in Geneva

By JULIA GOLDMAN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

NEW YORK — If representatives of 188 countries meet in Geneva on July 15, Israel will be on everyone's mind.

Israeli officials, however, won't be there.

The meeting is being convened specifically to discuss the enforcement of the Fourth Geneva Convention in "occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem."

It is being organized at the request of the United Nations General Assembly, which in February, voted overwhelmingly to convene the signatories to the Convention, the treaty governing the treatment of civilians during wartime.

Of the parties to the Convention, only Israel and the United States have firmly and publicly stated that they will not participate.

Canada announced last month that it will work with Switzerland to postpone the conference. [*CJN*, July 1].

Canada opted to have the gathering, joining 115 other countries that voted for the Arab-sponsored resolution at the UN.

Because there is no precedent for such a conference, some of the most fundamental questions concerning its procedures and goals have yet to be answered. And it is not clear whether the conference will be held as planned.

It would be the first meeting of the parties to the Convention for any reason since the treaty was adopted in 1949.

Israel and the United States have criticized the meeting as a political manipulation of humanitarian law aimed at forcing Israel's hand on the issue of settlements.

The Palestinians have strong support from the more than 100 countries in the Non-Aligned Movement at the UN for holding the meeting.

But some European states, Germany foremost among them, are pushing for a delay, as the meeting would come just as Israel's new government is being formed.

Still, the European Union has yet to come to a consensus on the matter.

Dore Gold, Israel's UN ambassador, called the Geneva meeting "an anachronistic mechanism that singles out Israel" and ignores the "unparalleled risks" Israel has made under the Oslo peace accords.

Moreover, he said, "it destroys the foundations of international humanitarian law," most recently defended in the war in Kosovo.

Israel's opposition to the meeting also has a symbolic basis.

The Fourth Geneva Convention was adopted in the wake of World War II to protect civilians from the kinds of force, intimidation, and transfer of populations that characterized Nazi expansionist aggression.

To apply the convention today "to Israeli construction in the territories, would be singularly biased and an impediment to peace," B'nai B'rith International President Richard Heideman wrote in a June 14 letter to 188 world leaders.

Israel's outgoing ambassador to the United States, Zalman Shoval, called the planned Geneva conference "basically immoral."

Neither Labor nor Likud, he said in an interview, takes an "all or nothing" position. "It's a question of degree."

Switzerland, which is responsible for making preparations for the conference, has surveyed the parties and is organizing consultations with representatives of a select group of nations to gauge international opinion about the purpose of the meeting.

So far, a Swiss diplomatic source said, the majority response indicates clear support for the conference to be held, but little else.

Who will chair the meeting, who will pay for it and even what aim the conference is expected to achieve, all have yet to be determined.

The Palestinians recognize the uniqueness of the Geneva initiative, but Marwan Jilani, counsellor to the Palestinian observer at the UN, said that lack of precedence is no reason not to convene the parties.

"The policies and practices of the Israeli government are of serious concern to the whole international community," he said, although they "might not seem to some people as serious as what's happening in other places around the world."

Israeli settlement policies during the last three decades, he said, are "the only case of settler colonization in our present time."

The Non-Aligned Movement, representing what is taken to be the Palestinian position, has said the conference should conclude with a declaration that cites, among other points, "the existence of grave breaches and serious violations by Israel of the Fourth Geneva Convention" and the affirmation of the applicability of the Convention to "occupied Palestinian territory."

The movement is also calling for a resolution to be issued at the conference's conclusion, but how or even if such a resolution would be enforced is unclear.

Jilani said that in pressing for the meeting, the Palestinians "are not calling for sanctions against Israel, nor are we calling to establish criminal courts for Israel's pursuing policies against the Palestinian people.

"What we are saying, is that the international community has the responsibility to discourage settlements in the occupied territory."

As of July 1, the European Union was reportedly holding meetings with the Palestinians to work out a compromise that would limit the discussion to reaffirming the applicability of the Fourth Geneva Convention to the territories.

Israel maintains that those geographic areas have no current fixed legal status. The question of whether or not it is, in fact, "Palestinian," is to be determined by the Oslo peace accords.

Certainly, an Israeli diplomatic source said, Israel does not view the Har Choma neighborhood in southeastern Jerusalem as Palestinian land.

The current push for the Geneva meeting began in earnest in 1997, when the UN General Assembly – for the first time in 15 years – convened an emergency special session to discuss Israel's plans to build housing units at Har Choma, which the Palestinians call Jabal Abu Ghneim.

Palestinian riots and a terror attack on Israel followed groundbreaking at the site in March 1997, leading to an impasse in the peace process that lasted for nearly two years.

Israel and the United States say that by bringing international pressure to bear on a question intended for final-status negotiations, the Geneva meeting may serve to undermine the Israeli-Palestinian peace process.

Permanent-status negotiations are "the place where the settlements issue should be addressed," U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs Martin Indyk told reporters, "not in some international forum which doesn't have the basis in the [Geneva] Conventions for a meeting and which cannot produce a positive result by its very nature."

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Israel trip opens MP's eyes

Continued from page 1

MP Daniel Turp, Bloc Québécois, said he too had "his eyes opened" as a result of this trip. He said that while Canada is only a middle power, it "should be an honest broker [in the peace process]. The contribution might be modest, but Canada could play a role, and should."

MPs Diana Ablonczy, Peter Adams and Carmen Provenzano also took part in the trip.

"Canada has to provide whatever support it can to enable the parties – Israel and its neighbors – to talk," said Moshe Ronen, CJC president, who was in attendance at the wedding of David Levy's daughter Orly last week in Petah Tikvah.

Ronen, a friend of Levy's, met with Prime Minister Ehud Barak at the wedding ceremony.

"Barak seemed quite impressed with [Prime Minister Jean] Chrétien's interest in the Middle East," Ronen reported. "We haven't seen Chrétien very active in Middle East politics, and maybe this is a signal of the kind of continuing supportive role that Canada and Chrétien want to play. I think Barak warmly received that. He told me that he felt very positive about that.

"It was a very positive exchange," said Ronen about his 15-minutes with Barak. "An interesting beginning of what I hope will be a strong relationship between Canadian Jewry and the new government, and particulary the new prime minister."

From left, Peter Adams, Ovid Jackson, Daniel Turp, Senator Marie Poulin, Lorne Nystrom, Shimon Peres, Sue Barnes, Monte Solberg, Sarkis Assadourian and Carmen Provenzano. [CIC photo]

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Note that you may be included even if you did not have a Swiss bank account, and that this Settlement is different from the Swiss Humanitarian Fund.

Who Is Affected by the Settlement

You are affected by the Settlement if you fit into one of the following five Settlement Classes. Four Classes consist of "Victims or Targets of Nazi Persecution" (any individual, business or group persecuted or targeted for persecution by the Nazi Regime or its agents, because they were or were believed to be **Jewish, Romani, Jehovah's Witness, homosexual, or physically or mentally disabled or handicapped**), AND who:

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2. May have claims against Swiss Entities relating to assets looted or taken by the Nazi Regime*, OR
3. Performed slave labor for entities that may have deposited the revenues or proceeds of that labor with or transacted that profit through Swiss Entities, OR
4. Unsuccessfully sought entry into Switzerland to avoid Nazi persecution, or after gaining entry, were mistreated, and may have related claims against any Swiss Entity.

The fifth Settlement Class includes any individual, whether or not a Victim or Target of Nazi Persecution, who performed slave labor in a work site, wherever located, owned or controlled by a Swiss Entity.

All Settlement Classes include heirs and successors of the persons and entities described above.

Even if you're not sure whether you are a member of one of the Settlement Classes, you should request a Mailed Notice and Initial Questionnaire. For example, if you performed slave labor, you may not know whether revenue or proceeds of that labor were deposited with Swiss Entities; you may still be a Settlement Class member.

How and When Claims will be Paid

No claims process or Plan of Allocation has yet been established. The Mailed Notice explains how you can make suggestions.

To receive further notice of a claims process, and ensure that you are able to file a claim, you must either mail a request for such notice to the address below, or complete and return the Initial Questionnaire attached to the Mailed Notice.

If the Court gives final approval of the Settlement, a Plan of Allocation will be adopted and the Fund will be disbursed. **Not all Settlement Class members who apply will be eligible to receive payments.**

If You Do Not Want to Participate

If you do not wish to participate in or be bound by the Settlement, you must exclude yourself by writing a letter so indicating, to the address given in the Mailed Notice, by October 22, 1999. If you do not, you will be barred from prosecuting any legal action against Swiss Entities relating to the settled disputes. If you exclude yourself, you will NOT be able to claim a portion of the Fund.

How to Comment or Object

You may comment on the terms of the Settlement by October 22, 1999. The Mailed Notice describes how to submit comments or objections. You have the right to appear at the November 29, 1999 hearing in person or through counsel, although you do not have to.

Who Represents You

The Court appointed attorneys as Settlement Class Counsel, and appointed Settlement Class Representatives, including Holocaust survivors, the World Jewish Restitution Organization ("WJRO"), and the World Council of Orthodox Jewish Communities. You do not have to personally pay the Court appointed attorneys. Certain attorneys will apply to the Court for reimbursement of their costs, up to about .2% of the Fund. Certain Plaintiffs' attorneys will also apply for fees, up to at most 1.8% of the Fund. The Court may award a lower amount. Most attorneys will not apply for fees, and counsel for the WJRO will not apply for fees or costs.

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The Settlement of this case (In re Holocaust Victim Assets Litigation, Master File No. CV-96-4849) concludes all legal actions and disputes against Swiss Entities relating to the Holocaust, World War II, Victims or Targets of Nazi Persecution, the Nazi Regime, treatment of refugees, or any related thing. The term "Swiss Entities" (or "Releasees") includes Credit Suisse and UBS AG (successor to Union Bank of Switzerland and Swiss Bank Corporation), and their former and current corporate parents, subsidiaries, affiliates, and branches; the Swiss National Bank; other Swiss Banks; the Swiss Bankers Association; the Swiss Confederation (including the Swiss government); all business concerns headquartered, organized or incorporated in Switzerland as of October 3, 1996; and certain other affiliates of Swiss concerns described in the Mailed Notice. Certain claims against various Swiss insurance companies listed in the Mailed Notice are not included in this Settlement.

* The second Settlement Class also includes claims against Swiss Entities relating to "Cloaked Assets," which are assets disguised by a Swiss Entity for the benefit of an Axis company or person associated with the Nazi Regime, between 1933 and 1946.

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CJN Rosh Hashanah Photo Contest

The CJN announces its fifth annual Rosh Hashanah photo contest. We are asking readers to submit their own original photographs either of Israel or on any Jewish theme in their community.

Anyone can enter except *CJN* employees or members of their families.

A maximum of three photos per entrant may be submitted. Please write your name, address and phone number on the back of each photo. We can only return the photos if you provide a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

You may mail or deliver your photos to: *The CJN* Rosh Hashanah Contest, The Canadian Jewish News, 1500 Don Mills Road, Suite 205, Toronto, Ont., M3B 3K4.

The contest closes at 5 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 16, 1999.

The judges will choose three photographs which, in their opinion, are the most expressive and evocative. These three photos will be published in *The CJN* Rosh Hashanah issue, Sept. 9, 1999. Each of the "winning" photographers will receive a cheque for $100.

We will undoubtedly receive many worthy submissions. But only three will be selected as the "winners." The decisions of the judges will be final. The odds of winning depend upon the number and the quality of submissions received.

Winning entrants will be notified by telephone before Shabbat on Aug. 27, 1999.

Any litigation respecting the conduct and awarding of a prize in this contest may be submitted to the Régie des Loteries et courses du Québec.

Signs from Syria hint at seismic shift

By DOUGLAS DAVIS
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

Syrian leader Hafez al-Assad, who has constructed his regime based on hostility to Israel, now says he is interested in talking about peace.

Opinion

As Assad changes course, his credibility will rest on his ability to convince his political foes and his own long-suffering population that Israel is not, after all, the "spawn of the devil."

While he was apparently unable to bring himself to make these commitments to former Israeli prime minister Yitzhak Rabin, who was prepared to hand back the strategically important Golan in a peace treaty, Assad now appears to believe he has more to gain than lose by making peace with Israel.

In a carefully calibrated interview with British journalist and Syria specialist Patrick Seale, Assad spoke with unprecedented warmth and enthusiasm about new Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak.

"He seems to be a strong and honest man," Assad said about Barak. "As the election results show, he evidently has wide support. It is clear that he wants to achieve peace with Syria. He is moving forward at a well-studied plan."

Barak, he added "is a leader who, I feel sure, can accomplish whatever he decides to do."

Writing in the London-based *al-Hayat*, Seale, who is regarded as Assad's unofficial spokesman in the West, said he had gained the "overwhelming impression that a genuine will for peace exists on both sides.

"Never before have Israel and Syria been so ready for a settlement," he said.

Assad's determination appeared to have been reinforced by a senior Syrian commentator, who, like Seale, used the Arabic media in London – the clearinghouse of Arab-Israeli exchanges – to send a thinly disguised message from Damascus to Jerusalem.

Writing in the Saudi-owned *Asharq al-Awsat* last week, Ghassan al-Imam launched a scathing attack on Iran, accusing it of attempting to sabotage the nascent Israeli-Syrian peace prospects by ordering last month's Hezbollah bombardment on northern Israel.

Not only did Imam pin the blame for the assault on Iran but he also went out of his way to clear Syria of any complicity in the Hezbollah offensive.

He also threw down a challenge to Tehran: If, in the context of peace with Israel, Iran is unable to move from a military to a moral, spiritual posture in Lebanon, Tehran will find itself in conflict with Damascus.

If Imam's charges presage the beginning of a rift in the 20-year-old alliance between secular, Arab Syria and Islamic, non-Arab Iran, analysts believe this could produce a seismic shift in the geopolitical and geostrategic dispositions of several states in the region, including Israel.

Imam said there was no doubt that the Hezbollah attack on Israel was "prompted by the Iranian leadership – most probably without prior consultation with either the Lebanese or the Syrians."

"In the past," he wrote, "Syria turned a blind eye to Iranian sponsored military activity in Lebanon, primarily because it served its own interests in undermining Israeli occupation of the south.

Not anymore, apparently.

What has caused Assad to change his mind and risk so much for a peace deal with Israel?

First, said one senior Western diplomatic source, Assad has witnessed the peace treaties between Israel and Egypt, Israel and Jordan, and now the prospect of a final settlement with the Palestinians.

"Quite simply, he does not want to be left out," said the source.

Second, without a replacement for his old Soviet patron, he recognizes that the days of closed, controlled societies are over and that Syria's survival depends on integration into the global marketplace – economically, politically and diplomatically.

Third, he wants to improve Syria's strategic relationship with the West, rehabilitate his country and abandon bad old habits, like sponsoring international terrorism.

"He cannot afford to go on being a pariah," said the source.

Fourth, he wants not only to retrieve the Golan Heights but also to win de jure recognition from the United States and Israel for Syria's continued domination of Lebanon, where some 40,000 Syrian troops are deployed and about one million Syrian citizens now live.

Not least, said the source, Assad is ailing and wants to move quickly now to establish peace with Israel as an accomplished fact that he can leave to his son and heir-apparent, Bashar.

Assad is aware that Bashar's succession is not certain. By all accounts, the former ophthalmologist is a quick study, but he does not have his father's natural authority. He is still considered to lack the necessary political, economic and military skills, and, perhaps most important, a solid power base in the military.

Assad, says the source, has seen the peaceful succession of Jordan's King Abdullah following Hussein's death and is thought to ascribe at least some of the durability of the Hashemite throne to its powerful strategic ties to Israel.

The Week in Israel

July 5

• The brother of Eli Cohen, who was hanged in Syria in 1965 for spying on behalf of Israel, sent a letter to Syrian president Hafez al-Assad asking for permission to visit Cohen's grave.

July 6

• Prime Minister Ehud Barak assured President Bill Clinton during a phone call that he intends to implement the Wye agreement with the Palestinians.

• Avraham Burg, Labor party veteran and former head of the Jewish Agency, was elected Speaker of the Knesset.

• Peace with the Palestinians, Syria and Lebanon are of equal importance to Israel, Barak said during his inaugural parliamentary address as prime minister. His comments were viewed as an attempt to quell Palestinian fears that he will give priority to peace with Syria.

July 7

• Barak announced that he would meet with Egyptian president Hosni Mubarak on Friday and with Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat on Sunday.

July 8

• Haim Ramon, newly appointed minister for Jerusalem affairs, said that he was in favor of having an Israeli Arab legislator sit on the Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee of the Knesset. Knesset Speaker Avraham Burg was among those supporting Ramon's position, with, it was believed, the tacit support of the prime minister.

• Israelis can choose between Jewish calendar or secular dating systems for inscriptions on their tombstones, the Supreme Court ruled in response to a petition on the matter.

July 9

• Wild animals in the Negev, Arava and Judean Desert are at risk due to the water shortages caused by severe draught this year. In many places in the Judean Desert, the water supplies dried up months before they normally would have.

Files from JTA and Ha'aretz.

Arts & Travel

Baycrest hosts exhibit of Judaica textile art

BY BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
CJN Staff

TORONTO — Torah covers in bright hues of fuchsia and orange, applique Torah ark curtains in deep blues and reds, embroidered chupahs, and hand-woven prayer shawls are all part of an exhibition of Judaica textile art by local artisan Elaine Glassman.

The exhibition, which is Glassman's first, recently opened at the Silverman Heritage Museum at Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care and runs until Aug. 21.

The Toronto-born Glassman, a grandmother of four, was thrilled to have her work on display.

Elaine Glassman's exhibition runs until Aug. 21

"The very exciting thing is to see everything together. I very rarely see more than one piece in my studio at a time," she said, explaining that almost all of her work is commissioned, and the pieces are sent off to clients as soon as they're completed.

Her work, on loan from religious institutions as far away as Florida and Wisconsin, filled all the display cases of the Silverman museum, which is located in the lobby of Baycrest Centre.

Glassman said she was astounded by the number of items collected. "I can't believe there is so much. I didn't think I'd have enough to fill a case."

Indeed, all the display cases were filled with an array of Torah mantles. Some are woven in brightly colored wools, while others are made with applique and and embroidery.

One of the most notable, a denim Torah cover with the story of the seven days of creation in bright applique, was designed for a Reform camp in Wisconsin, Glassman said. "It was specifically done for young people."

She pointed with pride to the colorful tallit she wove 22 years ago for her father, on the occasion of her daughter Michelle's bat mitzvah "It's been washed many times, Glassman said. "My father wears it weekly."

One of her larger projects – a model size was on display– is a chupah she made for Holy Blossom Temple in 1996. The project was commissioned by the sisterhood on the occasion of the temple's 75th anniversary.

Glassman sewed 700 leaves with silver and gold backing on to a 7½-foot square canopy made of a see-through polyester. She said she wanted the design to replicate the chupah of biblical times – the ceremony took place outdoors under a canopy of branches.

Glassman moved to a farm in Uxbridge with her husband Allan, after their four children were grown. There she has space for her weaving looms, and clients are even invited to participate in the weaving of their tallitot.

Glassman trained to be an interior designer at the Ontario College of Art, but she said she "always wanted to be a craftsperson."

She said she loves whimsical art, and along with her textiles several of her humorous papier mache figures are also on display. She recreated a scene from the old Kensington market, with a merchant complete with all his wares.

"I need some kind of expression that's just fun," she said.

Glassman, who is on the museum committee at Baycrest, was toasted in speeches of introduction by two fellow committee members, Sheila Zeldin and Anna Van Delman.

Summing up her Judaica work, Glassman said that she loves expressing joyfulness in her liturgical pieces – she uses color to "uplift the soul and spirit."

Musician arranges unique festival

By KATHRYN KATES
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Lawrence Cherney, artistic director of Northern Encounters '99, Celebrating the Arts and Culture of the Circumpolar Nations, which runs until July 19, credits his early teenage summers at Camp White Pine for giving him his first taste of the wilderness.

This experience, he says, led him to the concept of a biennial festival, presenting Toronto with music, theatre, film, dance and visual arts from Northern Canada, Russia, Greenland, Finland, Norway and Sweden.

Born and raised in Peterborough, Ont., Cherney was introduced to music through his mother, an amateur pianist, and his father, a music lover.

At age five, Cherney began studying piano, and by his teens, he was anxious to expand his musical knowledge.

"I came home from school with a trombone under my arm, and my father suggested I ask to take the oboe, because it sounded so beautiful. As a dutiful son, I listened and that was the beginning of the end. Maybe he regrets it, because if he hadn't opened his mouth, I would have followed him into the furniture business," he says.

The budding oboist commuted to Toronto for lessons with Perry Bauman, first oboist for the Toronto Symphony Orchestra. In 1962 and '63, he went to the Interlochen Michigan Summer Music Camp, then spent the next two years playing with our National Youth Orchestra.

Having no intention of becoming a professional musician, Cherney enrolled at University of Toronto, majoring in philosophy. "After university, I realized I wanted to play oboe more than anything else. So, I went out and got a job with the National Ballet Orchestra," Cherney says.

After a two-year-stint, he joined the National Arts Centre Orchestra. By 1972, he became a founding member of the York Winds Quintet, touring North America Europe and Israel.

Since 1982, Cherney has travelled the world as a soloist, guest artist and recording artist for international radio programs and on several record labels, garnering him three Juno nominations.

In addition to his work on stage, the musician, gifted with his father's entrepreneurial streak, developed a number of ideas regarding concert programming.

According to Cherney, performing and programming are closely related, "When you perform a piece of music you are bringing something to life. When you create a program, your instrument is the program."

In 1982, Cherney established and became artistic director for Soundstreams Canada. Soundstream's mandate is "to strengthen public awareness and appreciation of contemporary Canadian music and music theatre, by commissioning, developing and producing and disseminating both Canadian and international works."

Soundstream's successful projects in Canada and internationally included Stravinsky 100th Year Celebrations, Musical Mondays at Toronto's Young Peoples Theatre,

Continued on page 31

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Arts & Travel

Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

SUMMER LITERARY COLUMN, PART I

I picked up the *New Yorker's* Summer Fiction Issue recently, delighted to see that **Nathan Englander**, the 28-year-old author of the recent short story collection *For the Relief of Unbearable Urges*, had made it onto that magazine's list of 20 Writers for the 21st Century.

This comes as no great surprise. Englander's first published work is a fine string of pearls that has deservedly achieved a rich measure of critical acclaim.

Not since **J.D. Salinger**, it seems, has any offering of nine stories so enchanted critics. For reasons that will become obvious, the book should be particularly enthralling for fans of modern Jewish literature.

Englander, whose chief preoccupation is with Jewish characters and concerns, stakes out an ambitious chunk of literary territory with this debut collection. He seems to be walking a well-marked trail defined by the likes of **Isaac Babel**, **Bernard Malamud** and **Isaac Bashevis Singer**.

He was raised in a modern Orthodox home in New York and now lives in Jerusalem. His stories are confidently infused with biblical allusion and knowledge of Jewish law and lore, which provides the standard by which his characters interpret and judge themselves.

Paralleling the Bible narrative, the stories are arranged in a rough historical chronology. The first piece, *The Twenty-Seventh Man*, brilliantly focuses on a purge of 26 Yiddish writers in Stalinist Russia – actually 27, since a clerical error has placed an extra name on the list.

The bleak ironic humor here is *Gogolian*, veering towards the *Kafkaesque*. For instance: after the condemned writers are imprisoned, a guard hears a great racket and opens a peephole "to find that a symposium had broken loose."

The Twenty-Seventh man mentally composes a story in prison, supposedly a masterpiece, and recites it to his cell mates before all are executed. Englander's omniscient, all-seeing but invisible narrator alone survives to tell this wonderful Möbius strip of a tale.

In the second story, *The Tumblers*, Englander (like Singer before him) revisits Chelm, the legendary city of fools of Yiddish culture. Only now it is not some quaint, benign and comically backward village, but a town infested by Nazis.

On board a train, a group of Chelm Jews escapes destruction by wearing underwear and posing as circus acrobats. At one point, they flee and a gun is fired, but "only Mendel looked back at the sound of the shot; the others had learned the lessons of Sodom."

The five middle stories concern various absurd or incommensurate aspects of Jewish life in America, at least the Brooklyn suburb of Royal Hills. In *Reunion*, a mental patient befriends his rabbi's brother in an asylum, ultimately demonstrating his own greater humanity.

The Wig takes us into the ultra-frum reality, but ultra-romantic fantasy world of an Orthodox wig and hair salon. Here – as in *The Last One Way*, which concerns the plight of an agunah – Englander impresses us with his representation of the female point of view.

The Gilgul of Park Avenue introduces a mystical rabbi-cum-charlatan reminiscent of the impish rabbi in Bernard Malamud's classic story, *The Silver Crown*. Trouble erupts when Charles Luger, a New York gentile riding a taxi one evening, suddenly "understood he was the bearer of a Jewish soul. Ping! Like that it came. Like a knife against a glass."

If being a gentile with a Jewish soul causes major strife in one story, its corollary – a fat, bearded Jew disguised as a department-store Santa Claus – causes colossal consternation in the story *Reb Kringle*, whose title character loses it in front of children, parents and elves. In this piece, the irony threatens to dissolve into farce.

The last two stories, *For the Relief of Unbearable Urges* and *In This Way We Are Wise*, transport us to the promised land of Israel. An Orthodox Jerusalemite whose beloved wife won't touch him gets a rabbinical dispensation (another impish rabbi!) to see a prostitute. Afterwards he suffers so great a sense of defilement that his sexual organ feels on fire – "and yet he would not be consumed."

One reviewer, while acknowledging Englander's exceptional skill, found the final story, a first-person account of a close encounter with a terrorist bomb in Jerusalem, unworthy.

It's certainly different than the others. But what better way for Englander to round out the collection than by bringing his Jewish strife into the CNN-style present? Here, as in the first two stories, the strife is again national, rather than individualistic. And the author simultaneously broadens his range through the use of the first-person narrator.

As the *New Yorker* has indicated, Englander is a masterful writer who promises to play an important part in the future of American fiction – and Jewish fiction in particular.

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Klezmer band is Beyond the Pale

By DAVID SILVERBERG
Student Intern

TORONTO — When Eric Stein performs with his klezmer band, he finds it gratifying to look out at the audience and spot his 90-year-old bubbie, smiling with encouragement.

"She heard this music when she was in a Polish shtetl," says Stein, 26. "She is my link to the Old World."

Stein, who plays mandolin in the band Beyond The Pale, describes the music as "swingin' gypsy klezgrass. It's klezmer and bluegrass. It's folk music in overdrive. It's hard-driving country music."

The group will be appearing at Free Times Cafe on College Street on Aug. 8 and at the Sounds in the City Concert Series at Nathan Phillips Square on Aug. 25.

Stein and two other musicians – guitarist Josh Engel and bassist Bret Higgins – started Beyond The Pale, which was originally conceived as an acoustic-oriented trio, in 1998.

Eric Stein

The group quickly developed a diverse repertoire that incorporates jazz and European ethnic folk styles.

Violinist Anne Lindsay, who has played with fiddle great Natalie McMaster, recently joined the band to round out its ethnic Jewish feel, Stein says. "There's no other band like us."

Indeed, Beyond The Pale combines klezmer, gypsy, '30s-style jazz, bluegrass and reggae to create an eclectic, energetic fusion.

Stein says many songs originate from improvisation. "We know how to build a jam to a climax. Some songs are just searing jams."

The group has played at such Toronto venues as C'est What, Hyland Theatre, Rex Hotel and The Comfort Zone, and has appeared on Citytv's *Breakfast Television*.

The group has also performed at bars and clubs in Montreal, Guelph, London, Brantford and Waterloo, and it will make its American debut in New York City at Calumet Arts Cafe on Aug. 27.

The band appeared at this year's DuMaurier Jazz and North by Northeast festivals, and it will also be at the KlezKanada Festival, which takes place north of Montreal Aug. 17 to 22.

Stein says he loves live performances. "It's a real rush for me." He adds that he would like to do more festivals.

He says his band will play almost anywhere, from bar mitzvahs to retirement homes. "We've played for teens to 70-year-olds."

Stein says he enjoys playing the mandolin because he finds it to be a versatile instrument which lends itself to eastern European music.

He says he is inspired by mandolin greats Dave Tarras and David Grisman, while Django Reinhardt and Stephane Grapelli inspire Beyond The Pale's energetic style. He cites Brave Old World as his favorite klezmer band.

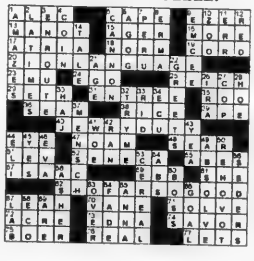
The klezmer band has even appealed to youth. He notes that Beyond The Pale had teenage heads bobbing to the music during a March 1999 event called Coloring Ourselves: A Festival of Jewish Student Creativity.

Stein credits the students' response to "the hip edge of our music."

"There's a bias that klezmer music comes with religious baggage," he says. "But klezmer may inspire and lead someone to inner discovery."

The music of Beyond The Pale is "drenched with soul," Stein says, adding that the group plans to release its first independent CD, in early 2000.

ANSWERS TO THIS WEEK'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE.



Trinidad and Tobago heats up at Carnival time

By KATHRYN KATES
Special to The CJN

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO — When it's Carnival time here, you can dance on the street, see spectacular shows, and parade with energetic masqueraders. But forget about sleeping!

The Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, just off the coast of Venezuela boasts an ethnically diverse population of 1.3 million predominantly African and Indian residents, in addition to some Chinese, Lebanese, Europeans and Amerindians. At Carnival time, burdens are forgotten, barriers fall, and everybody in this cultural mosaic comes together to party!

Carnival's history is as colorful as the revelers' costumes. Some trace the festival's roots to the rites of Bacchus in ancient Greece, some to its position in the Christian calendar, marking Lent, while others, emphasize the importance of the African rhythms wafting through the Carnival air.

Many believe that in the 19th century, the working population mimicked the colonial authorities' fancy balls by creating a cast of unflattering characters still seen during Carnival today.

Although Carnival's masquerading takes place on the Monday and Tuesday prior to Ash Wednesday, preparations begin months before. Local competitions held in advance use costumes that are literally one-person floats, some even created with pyrotechnics.

This nation has an abundance of artistic talent. During the days leading up to Carnival, tourists can check out the rehearsals where large steelbands beat upon transformed oil drums, or the Calypso tents that offer the singers a stage to show their soul.

Competitions are staged throughout the country with the finalists strutting their stuff at the Queen's Park Savannah. Tickets can be purchased for the King's and Queen's Semi Final Costume Extravaganza, the Junior Parade of Bands, the National Panaorama Finals and the Dimanche Gras, where competition finalists share the spotlight with Trinidad and Tobago's top musical talents, including the legendary calypsonians' Mighty Sparrow and Lord Kitchener, the reigning Calypso Monarch Singing Sandra, and star David Rudder.

Carnival is celebrated throughout the islands, but the largest fête is in Port of Spain, the capital of Trinidad. The constitution is suspended during Carnival, and all inhibitions go by the wayside.

Every year at 2 a.m., Carnival Monday begins with J'Ouvert, where thousands congregate on the street, dancing alongside a favorite floating steelband. Be forewarned this Jump Up gets messy, so wear throw-away clothes because mud and paint may be flowing in your direction.

You can enjoy Carnival as a spectator, or play band (wear a costume) and party in a mas (masquerade) camp. Through the Trinidad and Tobago Tourism Web site, one can pre-join a mas band and select a costume. The average costume costs from $150 to $250 (Cdn). The more elaborate king and queen outfits are priced from $600 to $1,000.

Onlookers can catch the thousands upon thousands adorned in the most creative of designs parade for hours and hours across the Queen's Park Savannah stage... gyrating for all to see.

Each year over 5,000 tourists come to this festival. The streets are made safe by the police and army adorned with the Star of David. This symbol of protection, borrowed from the Jewish State, is emblazoned on the uniforms' buttons and caps.

Carnival 2000 next March 5 and 6, promises to be the most spectacular to date. Hotel and airline reservations are currently being taken. Both Air Canada and BWIA fly to Trinidad. A number of hotels offer special Carnival packages.

The unspoiled island of Tobago, is the place many Carnival revelers go to recuperate. Its rainforest is the oldest forest reserve in the western hemisphere dating back to 1776. Attractions include the Botanic Gardens, Fort King George and the Tobago Museum in Scarborough.

Eco travellers will enjoy the glass bottom boat rides to the seabird sanctuaries on the offshore islands of Little Tobago and St. Giles. Island activities include snorkeling, scuba and hiking.

For information contact Trinidad and Tobago Tourism at 416-485-8724 or 1-800-535-5617, or fax 416-485-8256. The Web site is www.tidco.co.tt.

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Oboist arranges Northern Encounters

Continued from page 29

Encounters at CBC's Glenn Gould Studio and Northern Encounters, 1997.

Cherney's efforts were rewarded in 1993, as the first recipient of the Chalmers Music Award for his outstanding contribution to Canadian music creativity, carrying with it a $20,000 tax free prize.

Cool sounds of the north will be wafting through Toronto's warm July air when Northern Encounters '99's many talents venture south. Many events are free and will be held at the Gallery of Ontario, The Ontario College of Art and Design, Metro Square, Nathan Phillips Square, Solar Stage, BCE Place and the McMichael Canadian Art Collection in Kleinburg.

Northern Encounters '99 features aboriginal music inspired by the creation of Canada's newest territory, Nunavut. Festival highlights include the Circumpolar Sampler on July 17 at 7 p.m. at Bravo! Studios, featuring world music influenced by rock and jazz performed by Canada's Edward Snowball; Finland's Wimme Saari; Anders Hagberg and Ingo Juuso from Sweden; and Norway's Transjoik. Tickets cost $20.

Tupiq, Inuktitut for The Carving Tent, will feature over 20 of Northern Canada's best visual artists on display and at work at the Kleinburg's McMichael Canadian Art Collection from July 7-12, and the Ontario College of Art and Design from July 13-16.

Topping off the festival's diverse programming is Russian theatre artist Olga Alesandrova at Solar Stage, a free showing of the Inuit film *Lypa* at the Art Gallery of Ontario, artist workshops, family events and exotic food tasting.

The Northern Encounters '99 Information Hotline is 979-1282.

Finjan to perform

Brott conducts Klezmer Extravaganza

TORONTO — Boris Brott's Summer Music Festival and National Academy Orchestra returns to the Ford Centre for the Performing Arts with Winnipeg's' klezmer band Finjan.

"Klezmer Extravaganza" will include work by Prokofiev's *Overture on Hebrew Themes*, Srul Irving Glick's *Psalm* and Sid Robinovitch's *Suite for Klezmer Band and Orchestra*.

Finjan, accompanied by the National Academy Orchestra under the baton of Brott will be performing the *Suite for Klezmer Band and Orchestra* written for them by Robinovitch. They will also perform a number of their "hits" including *Abi Gezunt*, *Odessa Bulgar*, *Kolamenyka* and *Roumania* in special arrangements with the orchestra.

Brott's work has brought him world renown and Canada's highest honor the Order of Canada. He was assistant to Leonard Bernstein in New York and is frequently a guest conductor with orchestras around the world. He founded the National Academy Orchestra in 1988.

Tickets for the July 28, 8p.m. event are $18 and $25. ($15 and $22 for students and seniors.) Call TicketMaster 870-8000.

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Health

Youth lend seniors a hand as Baycrest Centre volunteers

TORONTO — Efraim Klamph, 14, wants to understand what it is like to be old.

Efraim is one of 200 youths who will volunteer in a variety of programs as a summer youth volunteer at Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care.

"I want to understand how the elderly act and feel," says Efraim, whose mother was a youth volunteer at Baycrest in the 1960s. "And I want to help them."

At the orientation, Efraim heard a Baycrest therapeutic recreationist talk about some of the challenges older people face, such as failing health and loneliness.

The instructor asked the group of students how they would respond to a senior who can't hear what they're saying. One student replied, "get them a hearing aid," another suggested "use sign language." Efraim said, "just talk a little louder."

He participated in a sensory deprivation exercise, in which he put on ear muffs to dull his hearing, goggles to impair his eye sight, and winter mitts to reduce his grip. He then navigated a walker along the hallway.

Sylvia Klein, 92, a Baycrest resident, pushed her walker over to Efraim and squeezed his hand.

"I think the students are wonderful," she said. "Parents should teach their children to help old people and to respect them."

"We have a growing elderly population in Canada, and it's important that our youth not feel estranged from them, but interested in their well-being and in interacting with them," says Baycrest volunteer co-ordinator Sheri Jonas.

"The students gain practical job skills, develop leadership abilities and gain independence while learning firsthand the challenges facing our elderly population."

Asked if his mother encouraged him to volunteer at Baycrest, Efraim nodded, but said he didn't need much prodding.

"I want to understand the lifestyle of seniors and learn as much about them as I can."

Baycrest summer youth volunteer Efraim Klamph, 14, wearing mitts and earmuffs to impair his hand grip and hearing, uses a walker to experience what it's like to be an elderly person. Sylvia Klein, 92, who lives at the Jewish Home for the Aged, looks on.

Soy foods proving healthy

TORONTO — Soy foods likely play a key role in preventing heart disease, according to a University of Toronto (U of T) study.

The results were published in the June issue of the journal *Metabolism.*

Researchers were able to reduce the levels of "bad" cholesterol – while still preserving "good" cholesterol levels – in healthy middle-aged men and women by feeding them modest amounts of soy foods over two one-month periods.

"We're only beginning to understand the potentially powerful health benefits of soy," says David Jenkins, a professor of nutritional sciences at U of T and director of the risk factor modification centre at St. Michael's Hospital.

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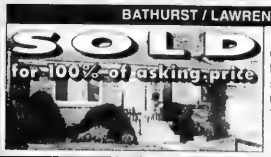

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Brick, 2 storey, approx. 2,000 sq. ft. w/fin. bsmnt. apt.! Commercial/residential. $459K. Great investment! D. Maglietta** 226-1987

YONGE/MT. PLEASANT/EGLINTON $439K
Live and/or work from this detached brick 2 storey, approx. 2,000 sq. ft. + finished basement. 5 car parking. D. Maglietta** 226-1987

YONGE BLVD. & WILSON!!! $429,900
3 bedrooms, 3 baths, renovated. Call David Manuel* 488-2875

1ST AD: DOWNTOWN INCOME $399,000!
Large Victorian renovated duplex, hardwood floors, 2 fireplaces, parking. Richard Sherman** 866-9999/226-1987

AVENUE/LAWRENCE - NEW LISTING!
Detached 3 bedrooms, 2 storey, $379,900! Tobi Smith* 488-2875

CENTRAL PROPERTIES CONT'D.

144 GOULDING AVENUE! 4+2 BEDROOMS, 4 BATHS
$366,888! Yonge N./Finch! Reno. 4+2 bdrms , 4 baths, exec. s/s! Nanny ste.! Fabulous 50 x 132'! Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

3 CORWIN BATHURST/WILSON HUGE RED.
Guaranteed best value in area, 2 storey, 3 bedrooms, finished basement, 50 ft. lot, walk to shul. Ruth Silver* 226-1987

PRIME BUILDING LOT $284,900
Yonge/Churchill, 40 x 197.5 ft. David Manuel* 488-2875

ARLINGTON & VAUGHAN
3 unit income property, $279,900. David Manuel* 488-2875

486 DREWRY AVENUE! 3+2 BEDROOMS, 2 BATHS
$279,900! Bathurst N./Finch! Spacious bungalow! Central air! Garage! 45 x 134' lot! Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

BAYVIEW PROPERTIES

VENDOR SAYS "TRY YOUR BEST OFFER"
This magnificent stone residence is approx. 5,000 sq. ft. on 75 x 150' lot. Triple garage & pool. $999K. Dina Maglietta** 226-1987

1ST AD! PRIME BEAVERHALL DRIVE!
Upgrd. home with large principal rms. Marilyn Merrick* 488-2875

NORTH PROPERTIES

38 MAIMONIDES COURT! 4+1 BEDROOMS, 5 BATHS
$599K! Bathurst/Atkinson cul-de-sac! Custom finishes! Fabulous pie-shaped lot! Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

28 MAIMONIDES COURT! NOW $449K!
This is not a misprint! Unbelievable! 4+1 bdrms., 4 baths, mn. fam.+lib.+lau.+2pce.! Wow! Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

CONDOMINIUMS

ST. CLAIR/AVENUE RD. $469,000
Unique 2 bedrooms + den, 1 suite per floor, citywide views. Richard Sherman** 226-1987/866-9999

OUT OF TOWN PROPERTIES

COTTAGE LAKE KUSHOG!! (MINDEN)
100 ft. lake front, fireplace. David Manuel* 488-2875

BUSINESS FOR SALE (IC &I)

APPROX. 8,000 SQ. FT. BUILDING DOWNTOWN
145 King St., St. Catharines. Zoned commercial/residential/ business. Great income pot! Only $399K! Dina Maglietta** 226-1987

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Sheldon Laiwint
Broker
782-0888

JUST LISTED. BATHURST/LAWRENCE. $339,000. Beautiful 2 storey, 3 bedrooms, 2 kitchens, finished basement, close to all. 45 ft. x 120 ft. lot.

COURTLAND, 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, needs TLC, $179,900.

BATHURST & 407, 5 bdrms., 3,680 sq. ft., 2 kitchens, w/o from basement to ravine, open concept, $534,900.

Call **Saul Goldkind**
Sutton Group Admiral Realty
416-739-7200

28 Chieftain Cres.
$995,000 Bayview/Fifeshire.Reno'd 6 BR, main flr. fam. rm., lg. eat-in kit., private huge lot, 139' x 210', gleaming hdwd floors, circular drive with double garage, walk to synagogue, schools and park.

ELLI DAVIS
#1 Sales Rep. in Canada Since 1987 for Royal LePage R.E.S. Ltd.
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10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

Clark/New Westminster, Spac. 4 bdrm. home, kosher kit., close to shuls and schools. $310,000. 905-761-5762.

Steeles/Hilda - 4 bdrm. semi, 2100 sq.ft. Call Lily 733-2095.

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

ROYAL LEPAGE

85 Skymark Drive
$458,000 DVP/Don Mills/Finch Outstanding 2 bdrms+fam. rm. on high floor with many upgrades incld: etched glass drs., open balc., bevelled mirrors, travertine flrs., lrg eat-in kit., 4 walk-outs, tandem pkg for 2 cars!!

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65 SKYMARK DRIVE "THE ELEGANCE"
$362,000. Approx. 2,205 sq. ft. of luxury living. Two bdrms., den & balcony. Parquet floors, renovated eat-in kitchen & 2 car parking.
MARILYN FIELDS
(416) 925-9191
Chestnut Park Real Estate Ltd.

3000 Bathurst-2 bdr, 2 bth, upgrades, pkg., excellent cond., 3 appl. $215,500. Call 364-1063.

Bath./Clark - 2 bdrm., 2 bth., 5 appl., sun rm, kit. w/window. 1,250 s.f. Private sale. Leave a message at 905-889-9575.

LUXURY 2 bdr. condo. 1,632 sq.ft. Ensuite lau. rm., 2 store rms., 2 pkg. spaces. Quiet, secure bldg. 10 Prue at Bathurst. Adj. to shul. 416-783-7249.

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BATHURST MANOR
House fit for a prince. Reduced to $399,900 - Custom built by owner, 4 bedrooms, den, family room + basement apt. Great location fits professional people.

BATHURST/REJANE
$229,000. First time buyer, 3 bedrooms, detached, 2 baths, walkout to garden, garage, long possession. Buy now and save.

HOME OF DISTINCTION
Drewry/Gardenia. 3,600 sq. ft. plus bsmnt., 4+2 bedrooms, 5 baths - 3 ensuites, jacuzzi + sauna. Incredible home.

SALLY ROSEN, Sales Rep.
(905) 884-4425
CENTURY 21 SMITH LTD. BROKER

SEIDMAN
REAL ESTATE LIMITED REALTOR
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SHEPPARD - WILMINGTON.
$269,900. 3 bdrms., 2 baths, L-shaped liv/din, fin. bsmt. w/priv. entr, lge lot, dble dr. Steps to all

BUILDING LOT 67' X 132'
Willowdale. Build or renovate existing home. A-1 buy.

AVENUE RD./401
Store + 2 apts, fully rented. A-1 loc., good income, don't miss!

BATHURST-SHEPPARD
1st time offer. Custom-built, 2 stry, 5 bdrms, 5 baths, den, fam rm., w/o from kit., mn. flr. lau., fin. lower level, 2 car gar, prof. landsc, steps to all. Don't miss!

A. & D. SEIDMAN 633-7373

30 CONDOMINIUMS FOR SALE

SANTEE REALTY INC. (416) 441-2003

SKYMARK
DON MILLS & FINCH (TORONTO)

SKYMARK II: penthouse GONE a kind.
SKYMARK II: open c[GONE] 2 bedrooms. Going, going
ELEGANCE: South exposure, 1,775 square feet, 2 bedrooms + family room. For our updated inventory, contact Santee Leung, F.R.I., Skymark Specialist

THE MULTI-LINGUAL CONNECTION

265 RIDLEY
2 bedrooms, corner unit, hardwood floors, California shutters, balcony, approximately 1,300 sq. ft. **$279,900.**
SANDRA KROLL,
Sales Representative
Re/Max Realtron Realty Inc.
(416) 222-8600

35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

Bath./Steeles - 1 bdrm., 2 bth., 1250 s.f., sec., pool, tennis, etc. Avail. Nov. 1. 416-736-7718

40 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE/ RENT

100 Antibes - 3 bdrm., 2 bth., for rent or sale. 416-638-0647.

65 ACCOMMODATION/ SWAP/EXCHANGE

Furn room free rent for evening companionship & some household help for senior lady, female only. 781-7840 or 782-8481.

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

Aventura Bch. Resort, 1 bdrm. studio w/kit., ocean front, sec. & fac., high flr. Low rates. Wkly & mo. avail. 305-262-3955 or 305-975-7442 or 305-271-7820.

Bal Harbour, The Plaza. Ocean side, 2 bdrm., 2 bth., designer furn., kosher kit., winter season rental. Dav/eve, 212-570-2228.

Hemispheres - 2 bdrm., 2 bth., oceanfront, high flr., furn., tennis, etc. Yearly rental only. Call 416-963-8469

CENTURY VILLAGE - Boca
2 bedrooms, 2 baths, beautiful apt. Winter season '99/2000. $1,900/month.
(416) 963-8064

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

Hollybrook, 2 bdrm., 2 bth., fully furn beautiful condo, free golf, PGA course. 416-756-9805.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

BATHURST WILSON

CONVENIENT NORTH YORK LOCATION

NEWLY DECORATED SPACIOUS 1 & 2 BDRMS.

- Large balconies
- Central air conditioning and heating
- Hardwood Floors
- Sunken living rooms
- Surveillance cameras and card access system
- Outdoor swimming pool
- Close to conveniences and TTC
- Underground parking available

125 Neptune Dr.
(416) 787-7171

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960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377 or 631-0388 - Super

Bath/Glengrove - furn., bright lge. bsmnt. bach, A/C, sep. entr., steps to TTC, shuls. $636 inclusive. 416-722-1577.

Bayview/John - Cozy 1 bdrm., bsmnt. apt. in townhouse. Avail. Sept. 1. $550+. 905-707-0147.

Eldorado, 2500 Bathurst, lux. apts., lge. suites, immediate. 416-783-0542, 416-787-9451.

Lge. lux. 3 bdrm. avail immed. Bath./Wilson. $1150. 787-6886.

105 COTTAGE FOR SALE

Belle Ewart - Lakefront, shared lot, 3 bdrm., equipped, no agents. 905-881-3317.

125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE

Boca Raton, active adult community, 3 flr elev. cor. condo, 2 bdrm, 2 bth., air, newly remodeled, new kit., new tiled bath w/bide, new GE appl, encl patio (computer room). Dec. furn. & equipped incl. Compaq Presario computer. Possible sale/lease option. 561-488-3173 or email: frugal4@juno.com

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

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1-800-561-MOVE

232 BUSINESS FOR SALE

Kosher BAKERY
FOR SALE.
Bathurst & Lawrence area.
Call 416-789-0785.

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Dry Cleaner looking for a career minded individual who is willing to take on various tasks and responsibilities. Must be able to work in a team environment. Fluent English is an asset. Yonge & St.Clair. 413-7900

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Canadian Jewish news

seeks a full-time, advertising sales representative to join its Toronto sales team.

Job responsibilities include prospecting for new local and national advertisers, selling and booking display advertising space as well as servicing retail and organizational accounts.

Applicants must have a sales, advertising and/or print media background, good interpersonal and English language skills, basic familiarity with the Jewish community and an ability to work to deadlines. Computer experience an asset. Salary plus commission.

Fax résumé to (416) 391-0949

PARTY PLANNER/ FUNCTION COORDINATOR
For Kosher Banquet Hall. Immediate opening. Salary commensurate w/experience. Fax résumé: **(905) 669-6243.**

Editorial Assistant
York Univ.
Major editorial work for manuscript publication on Can. Jewry. Editorial exp. & appropriate Univ. ed. (min. bachelor level). **Prof. Joseph Levy (416) 736-2100 x 33898**

E.C.E./Assistant E.C.E, exper, for Richmond Hill pre-school, a.m. position only. Hebrew or knowledge of Jewish heritage req'd. Fax resume to 905-886-0059 or phone 905-737-3336.

There are positions available for youth leaders at the Leonard M. Effron Village Shul Youth Centre for Shabbat mornings. Please call 416-789-9887.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

EC Access Employ. Agency
Filipino owned.
Nannies/ Hskprs/Companions.
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Housekeepers and Health Care Companions
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416-789-3070 or 398-6110.

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"Five stars above the rest"
Housekeepers, elderly care, nannies, cleaning ladies, party helpers. 905-771-6543.

High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

Lady w/13 years exper avail to care for elderly, kids.431-4997

Nannies, live-in &out, full &part-time, cleaning. In-home elderly care by RN's & nurses aides. Bonded, refs. **416-224-9907. Servicing Toronto since 1985.** ***NUMBER 1 DOMESTICS.***

Nanny avail to care for elderly, live-in or out. References avail. 416-249-4089 or 246-9761.

Your Other Hands Cleaning Service. Residential & commercial cleaning. Great work, affordable prices. **905-660-8780** http://members.home.net/bwgordon

255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

Full time live-out nanny for Avenue/Eglinton area. For 2 & 3 yr old girls. Starting September. Hebrew an asset. Salary negotiable. Call 416-486-7858 or fax resume to 705-327-7120.

257 HEALTHCARE AVAILABLE

If you are a senior & need an experienced nurse to help you bath, cut your finger & toe nails and take care of other special nursing needs, call 875-9226.

257 HEALTHCARE AVAILABLE

WESTERN HEALTHCARE
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Warm loving care in the comfort of your home. Provided by...
✥ RN, RPN, PSW, Homemaker
✓ Live In/Live out Companion
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✓ Child Care
✓ Homemaking Services
SERVICES GUARANTEED OR IT'S FREE. CALL NOW!

Yiddish, German & Hebrew speaking HCA lady avail. Very exper. Live-out, flexible hours. Refs. 905-882-2049.

259 SENIORS

Ahavath Achim Retirement Home. The home with a Neshama. Planned activities, 24 hr. supervision. For information contact Joseph or Louise Sahar, office (416) 398-5486 or (905) 660-4831.

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

Bringing People Together. Choose from a huge selection photos & bios. 1 on 1 personal service. Ruth at 905-731-5204.

264 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mia & Stan Miller and **Raya & Raphael** Anshilevich are thrilled to announce the engagement of their children, **Beverley Gayle Miller** to **Samuel Anshilevich** on June 26, 1999. Proud grandparents, Mary Arenstein, Bella Miller, Natalie Maschavich & Jacob Anshilevich. Wedding to take place August 20, 2000.

270 PERSONALS

Jewish couple, mid 50's, straight, n/smkrs., would like to meet same for socializing, coffee, shows, dinner, dancing, outings. Thornhill or North York. Call Babs, 905-731-6163.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Refined, youthful straight woman, 60's, n/smkr., easy to be with, seeks same for traveling companion. CJN Box 7199.

DJF, early 50's, n/smkr., enjoys movies, theatre, travel, seeks SJM, 55-60, witty, w/similar interests. CJN Box # 7198.

*** CJN Boxes for Personal Companions Wanted ads are valid for 30 (thirty) days only (from 1st publication date). Replies must be received within this time frame in order to be forwarded to the correct CJN Box #.**

Replying to a Companion ad with a CJN Box Number?

Address your mail to:

The Canadian Jewish News
1500 Don Mills Rd.
Suite 205
North York, Ontario
M3B 3K4
Box # _____

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

CLASSIFIED ADS/ SERVICE DIRECTORY ADS
·CUSTOMER SERVICE·

The CJN requires that advertisers check their advertisement upon publication, as *The CJN* will not be responsible for more than one incorrect insertion, and there shall be no liability for non-insertion of any advertisement. Liability for errors in advertisements is limited to the amount paid for the space occupying the error. All copy is subject to the approval of the management of *The CJN*. *The CJN* reserves the right to classify all advertisements.

Service Directory & Classified Ad Deadlines are Wednesday, 8 days previous to the issue, by 4 pm.

330 OBITUARIES

Benarroch, Abraham (Mr. Albert) - Sarah Benarroch and her children, Simon, Jaime, Ivette, Mercedes, Mimi & Judith announce the passing of their husband and father, Abraham on Fri, June 25, 1999 in Caracas, Venezuela. Grandfather of Rebecca Bouzaglo & Sarah Moryousef of Toronto. If you wish to contact the family our fax number is 011-582-781-5829 or email benarroch.a@adiittle.com

YAD VASHEM
at Landmark Monuments
Memorializing Life for over 20 Years
3429 Bathurst (corner of Melrose)
(416) 782-8995

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330 OBITUARIES

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3173 BATHURST ST. *(just north of Lawrence)* (416) 787-0319

BRAUN, Carol - on June 18, 1999, late of 16 Tillplain Rd
ECKLER, Ian - on June 19, 1999, late of 45 Dunfield Rd., #816
SMITH, Morris - on June 20, 1999, late of 644 Sheppard Ave. E. #1221
BELL, Paul - on June 21, 1999, late of 57 Bainbridge Ave
BERMAN, Mitzie - on June 21, 1999, late of 3131 Bridletown Circle, #1603
MALACH, Anita - on June 21, 1999, late of 85 Skymark Dr., #2703
FANTL, Henry - on June 22, 1999, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
KARRY, Shawn - on June 22, 1999, late of 1167 Willowbrook Rd.
RUBINSTEIN, Anne - on June 22, 1999, late of 397 Whitmore Ave.
DRUE, Estelle - on June 23, 1999, late of 21 Meadowbrook Rd., #3.
HENRY, Philip - on June 23, 1999, late of 240 Heath St. W., #302.
MAYEROVITCH, Morty - on June 23, 1999, late of 111 Glenmanor Way
MILLER, Dorothy - on June 23, 1999, late of 120 Shelborne Ave., #407
GREENBERG, Mary - on June 24, 1999, late of 100 Canyon Ave., #903.
TWARD, Garsh - on June 24, 1999, late of 48 Argonne Cres.
KING, Judith - on June 25, 1999, late of 29 Reidmount Ave.
BASCH, Lily - on June 26, 1999, late of 35 Widdicombe Hill, #608.
LAXTON, Mildred - on June 26, 1999, late of 575 Avenue Rd., #1101.
PYZER, Sarah - on June 26, 1999, late of 840 Eglinton Ave. W., #309.
GOLDWASSER, Celia - on June 27, 1999, late of 55 Ameer.
KAUFMAN, Charles - on June 27, 1999, late of 7 Overdale Rd.
SILVERSTEIN, Vickii - on June 27, 1999, late of 215 Wynford Dr., #2204.
MERETSKY, Betty - on June 28, 1999, late of 7300 Yonge St., #308.
PIVNICK, Eva - on June 28, 1999, late of 55 Ameer, #106
WROCK, Esther - on June 28, 1999, late of 20 Forest Ridge Rd.
BAYER, Dorothy - on June 29, 1999, late of 6200 Bathurst St., #1504.
STARKMAN, Sara - on June 30, 1999, late of 3636 Bathurst St., #1005.
GERSTL, Jak - on July 1, 1999, late of 6 Pannahill Rd.

KOSZOREK, Godel - on June 18, 1999, late of 5935 Bathurst St
KATES, Garry - on June 21, 1999, late of 500 Queen St. E., #4
SHERMAN, Abie - on June 21, 1999, late of 3560 Bathurst St
MILAVSKY, Reveka - on June 22, 1999, late of 3560 Bathurst St
GERTZBEIN, David - on June 23, 1999, late of 4455 Bathurst St., #112
CHERNOFF, Jack - on June 29, 1999, late of 176 Combe Ave
ROTENBERG, Belle - on June 26, 1999, late of 111 Ridelle Ave., #403

LUBLIN, Arthur - on June 24, 1999, late of 300 Antibes Dr
STEIN, Frank Mayer - on June 24, 1999, late of 569 Sheppard Ave. W
SCHWOK, Dora - on June 25, 1999, late of 550 Cummer Ave
FELDMAN, Sylvia - on June 26, 1999, late of 3560 Bathurst St
OHANA, David - on June 26, 1999, late of 569 Sheppard Ave. W.
POSNER, Harriet - on June 26, 1999, late of 2 Covington Rd
GLADSHTEYN, Mikhaylo - on June 27, 1999, late of 16 Elgin St.
SACKS, Bessie - on June 28, 1999, late of 150 Neptune Dr
STRASFELD, Maria - on June 28, 1999
BLUM, Shmuel - on June 30, 1999, late of 5935 Bathurst St.
CHARNY, Irving David- on June 30, 1999, late of 6200 Bathurst St.

HEBREW BASIC BURIAL

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Steeles Memorial Chapel

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

IT PAY$ TO ADVERTISE IN THE CJN CLASSIFIEDS
CALL TANYA AT (416) 391-1636
For Advertising Rates
CJN Classifieds Really Work!

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
HARRY MOSES LIGHTMAN ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, July 25th, 11:15 a.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Beth David Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
STEWART ROTHMAN ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, July 25th, 11:00 a.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Beth Torah Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
MIRA GREENSPAN ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, July 18th, 12 noon
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Bathurst South of Steeles
Stashiver Young Men's Society Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
EVA VAJDA ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, July 18th, 11:30 a.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Shaar Shalom Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
MORRIS ALBOM ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, July 18th at 11:00 a.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Sha'ar Shalom Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

335 UNVEILINGS

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Lasting Memorials
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Quality — Value — Service

The unveiling of a monument in loving memory of the late
Walter Milton Gangel ז"ל
cherished husband, father, brother and grandfather
will take place
Sunday, July 25th at 10:30 a.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
986 Wilson Avenue
T.I.B.A. Section
Our relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
RAY SHER ז"ל
loving wife, devoted mother and grandmother
will take place
Sunday, July 18th at 10:30 a.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Adath Israel Section
Friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
RUTH FRANKEL ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, July 18th, 10:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Beth Torah Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
MARGARET LEBI ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, July 25th, 11:30 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Ahavat Achim Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

338 SHIVA CATERING

KING SOLOMON'S CATERING COR 630-0666 SHIVA CATERING

NEW — The Canadian Jewish News

The Meeting Place

A Service for those seeking friendship & romance !!!

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Look for *The Meeting Place* every week in The Canadian Jewish News

Its Always FREE to pick up your voice messages!

Composer celebrates God's gift of music every day

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Composer Srul Irving Glick, who is this year's composer-in-residence at the Boris Brott Spring and Summer Festival in Hamilton, sees his music as an instrument for reaching out to other people.

"Our life is a gift of God and our job here is to celebrate that gift from day to day," Glick said in a recent interview. "And my personal job is not only to celebrate my life, [but] to take the gift of music that was given to me and to share it with the world."

As he approaches his 65th birthday on Sept.18, Glick, one of Canada's most prolific and internationally acclaimed composers, a conductor and a teacher, spoke about his music and his spiritual growth despite the adversity he has faced – a traumatic shooting five years ago and his bout with cancer.

During the Brott summer festival, which presents musical programs until the end of August, Glick will host intimate and interactive explorations of his music, and speak about the influences behind it.

His works will be showcased at the festival's run-out concert, Klezmer Extravaganza, to be held at the Ford Centre for the Performing Arts on July 28.

His composition, *Triumph of the Spirit for Choir and Orchestra*, will be featured as part of the grand finale concert, entitled The Sacred and the Profane, to be held at Hamilton Place on Aug. 21.

In addition to the festival, Glick's works will be performed in a number of different venues. On Aug. 2 and Aug. 3, *Klezmer Wedding* will be performed in Bonn and Ulm, Germany, with Giora Freidman as the clarinet soloist. On Oct. 24, *Sing Unto the Lord a New Song*, will be sung by the Amadeus Choir at the Ford Centre's Weston Recital Hall.

In addition, numerous concerts honoring Glick on his 65th birthday will be held throughout the world, and within the next few months, he will have completed two disks of his music, which will include recordings of such works as *The Klezmer Wedding*, *The Old Toronto Klezmer Suite* and his *Piano Sonata*.

Glick, the composer-in-residence at Beth Tikvah Synagogue, where he has been choir director since 1969, said two main influences stimulated his love of Jewish music.

His father was a chazzan, and during his teenage years, he was involved in the Zionist organization, where he learned hundreds of Israeli and Jewish folksongs and dances, he said.

The versatility of Glick's music, from chamber music to oratorio, for orchestra, vocal and choral, always with an overtone reflecting his deep and passionate love of Judaism and his belief that Judaism is a way of getting to God, integrates contemporary music, Hebraic lyricism and classical composition techniques.

While studying in Paris in 1961, Glick composed two works that reflected two of the influences in his life. *Suite Hebraique No. 1* is an expression of music from Jewish life, while *Sinfonia Concertante for String Quartet and String Orchestra* is a contemporary western composition.

His first Canadian commission, *Elegy For Orchestra*, was performed by the East York Orchestra in 1964 with Milton Barnes conducting.

From 1962 to 1986, he was a producer at CBC, where his programming and recording won him seven Grand Prix du Disque awards and a Juno.

His music has brought him numerous other prizes, including the J.I. Segal Award for his contribution to Jewish music in Canada, and two gold Solomon Schecter awards for best musical program for a synagogue in North America.

In 1993, Glick received a Governor General's Medal for his contribution to Canadian culture, and in 1994, he was appointed a Member of the Order of Canada for his service to Canada and to humanity at large.

Glick said he is aware of the pain and suffering and the evil in the world. "One can see the world in darkness or turn it to see the light and beauty, with the realization that every moment is priceless."

His beliefs were tested several years ago when he was shot leaving Beth Tikvah Synagogue after a choir rehearsal.

Srul Irving Glick

"The sheer perverseness and unexpectedness of this event forced me to re-examine my deepest feelings about life and my place in it," he said.

More recently, Glick underwent eight months of chemotherapy for multiple myeloma. He said he is now in full remission.

Glick often integrates the works of poets and great scholars. For the Toronto Mendelssohn Choir's anniversary concert, Great Hymns and Anthems, he included Avinu Malkeinu and other traditional Jewish prayers, and he framed them with texts from Jeremiah, and the words of Rav Abraham Isaac Kook and Canadian poet Donia Clenman, in a translation by Rabbi Ben Zion Bokser.

He says some people dream their whole lives that they are going to do something for someone. "What I am getting back from people is much more than gratifying. I feel that I am touching people in the deepest places of their hearts and soul, and people are expressing to me their gratitude for my music."

The *Meeting Place*

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Attractive Jewish female, 38, 5'6", brown hair & eyes, down to earth, family oriented. Seeking an educated male, well groomed, intelligent, 37-44, sensitive, active, likes to have fun. AD#1846

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Divorced Jewish female, early 50's, affectionate, financially secure, independent, great sense of humour, enjoy dining out, long walks, music, sports. Seeking a male, over 55, with a great sense of humour. AD#2046

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Single Jewish female, 41, 5'8", brown hair, attractive, honest, educated, employed. Seeking a Jewish male, 45-48, independent, honest, good personality, with similar interests. AD#1414

LONG TERM RELATIONSHIP
Divorced female, early 50's, fair hair, green eyes, attractive, slender, non smoker or drinker, kind, caring, great sense of humour, good family values, enjoy travelling, long walks, quiet times. Seeking a male, 45-60. AD#1545

ONE AND ONLY
Single Jewish female, youthful, 5'5", attractive, brown shoulder length hair, brown eyes, non smoker, kind, sincere. Seeking a handsome Jewish male, kind, funny, warm, sensitive, established. AD#1357

LONG LASTING RELATIONSHIP
Single female, European, attractive, enjoy outdoors, the beach, movies, fishing, cooking, dancing, trailers. Seeking an established male, late 50's. AD#1327

OPEN MINDED
Single female, over 40, charming, independent, intelligent, cultured, giving and forgiving. Seeking a male, Orthodox, open minded and understanding, who would like to learn. AD#1473

KNIGHT IN SHINING ARMOR
Single female, 36, 5'4", attractive, slim brunette, enjoy cottage life, theater, country. Seeking a professional male, 35-44, who is intelligent, interesting, attractive, inside and out. AD#1561

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SERIOUS RELATIONSHIP
Single Jewish male, 45, 5'10", slim, active, widower, affectionate. Seeking a female, who is kind and fun loving. AD#2049

THE PHOENIX RISES
Divorced male, 50's, young looking, attorney, entrepreneur, slim, trim, 5'8", dark, athletic, marshall arts master, Palmid, Chacham, Kamballist, wish to return to Orthodoxy and study. Seeking a female, 30-50, slender, attractive, wise, supportive, for long term relationship. AD#1104

BUSINESS DEGREE
Single male, 46, conservative looking, have a Business Degree, love the stock market, enjoy dancing, antique, country, art auctions. Seeking a female, who is nice, with similar interests, children are welcome, and non-slim female are OK! AD#1477

ONE WAY TO LOVE
Single Jewish male, 37, good looking, compassionate, fun to be with, with a great sense of humour. Seeking a female, 29-37, who is a Jewish lively and bubbly. AD#1562

THE RIGHT STUFF
Single male, 45, 5'8", Jewish, professional, sincere, intelligent, affectionate, down to earth, family oriented. Seeking a Jewish female, 38-46, with similar qualities, for a meaningful relationship. AD#1378

LADY OF HIS DREAM
Single male, 40, slim, 5'11", 165lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, sincere, hopeless romantic, enjoy walking on the beach, bowling, tennis, swimming, sports, 60's music. Seeking a slim, attractive female, with a great sense of humour. AD#1610

WARM AND CARING
Single white male, 57, romantic, self employed, businessman, enjoy travelling, movies, quiet times, good conversation. Seeking a female with similar interests. AD#2044

SERIOUS RELATIONSHIP
Single male, 50's, young looking, 5'8", slim, professional, trim, world explorer, strong, well educated. Seeking a slender female, 25-45, intelligent, compassionate, attractive, very wise and adventurous. AD#2045

ONCE BITTEN, TWICE SHY
Single male, financially secure, from the Thornhill area, handsome, 50's. Seeking a female, good looking, good sense of humour, slim, age not important, picture a must after contact made, financially secure enough to escape winters is a definite plus. AD#1810

OPEN MIND
Single Jewish male, 48, 5'11", young looking, handsome, emotionally fit, dark brown hair, good shape, enjoy travelling, art, photography, writing. Seeking a female, 36-44, sensitive, intelligent, attractive, slim, good communicator, with an open, curious mind. AD#1648

SOULMATE
Israeli male, 6'1", 160ibs, compassionate, enjoy the country side, night shows, classical music, dancing, dining. Seeking a female, 47-54 years of age with similar interests. AD#1012

LANE-WAY TO LOVE
Jewish male, 37, 5'9", attractive, compassionate, enjoy theater, conversation, fun. Seeking a female, 26-37, with similar interests. AD#1194

UNCONVENTIONAL
Single male, 36, 6', have a Master degree, professional, enjoy camping, cycling, travelling, film, dining out, cooking. Seeking a female, under 40, no children, down to earth, caring, chatty, mid size, unconventional. AD#1083

WITTY
Single Jewish male, 40, bright, witty, kind hearted, enjoy long walks, theater, hiking, travelling, table tennis and other games. Seeking a female with similar interests. AD#1066

EASY GOING
Jamaican male, 48, 160ibs, enjoy house work, gardening, music, down to earth, good sense of humour. Seeking a female with similar interests. AD#1230

CALL ME
Single Jewish male, attractive, 36, 5'10", 190ibs, enjoy tennis, reading, movies, dining. Seeking a Jewish female, 28-45, fit, outgoing, with a good personality. AD#1192

MR. NICE MAN
Single Jewish male, non smoker, seeking a slim, attractive female, 65+, with a great sense of humour, who likes sports and travelling. AD#1292

AFFECTIONATE
Single Jewish male, 42, attractive, honest, sincere, never married, enjoy movies, travelling, sports events, swimming, walking. Seeking a Jewish female, 32-43, up to 5'3", non smoker, attractive, honest, petite. AD#2032

GREAT OUTDOORS
Single male, 25, enjoy walks, camping, sports, biking, outdoors. Seeking a Jewish female, 21-25, similar interests. AD#1055

SOCIALIZING
Single Jewish male, attractive, early 50's, 5'10", caring, compassionate, enjoy dancing, electronics, computers, socializing. Seeking a female, attractive, intelligent, caring, compassionate. AD#1119

SOULMATE
Single male, 6'1", 160lbs, young looking, compassionate, enjoy nature, country site, classical music, dancing, dining out. Seeking a female with similar interests, looking for my soulmate. AD#1005

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Sports

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The Canadian Jewish news

Philanthropist donates skates to Canada Centre

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — "The right tool for the right job" is a truism in the world of home repair and renovations – at least according to noted handyman and television personality, Red Green.

It turns out that Red's reliable advice applies to sporting endeavors as well.

In the gleaming Canada Centre sports and recreation complex in Metulla, Israel, for example, youngsters got their first exposure to the joys of ice skating on ramshackle rental skates that were now falling apart at the seams. Instead of firm support from their blades, they'd teeter around as if they'd just stepped off a roller coaster. No amount of duct tape, no matter how expertly applied, could rescue those old boots from the junk heap.

"It was like having a beautiful car running on bald tires," said Eli Rubenstein, director of young leadership development for UIA Federations Canada. The poor skates probably dissuaded lots of youngsters from pursuing the sport, he speculated.

Enter Canadian businessman and philanthropist, Edward Bronfman. Anxious to see young Israelis get full value from Canada Centre's skating programs, Bronfman arranged for a shipment of 20 quality CCM hockey skates and 400 durable rental skates to be delivered to Metulla. The total value of the contribution is about $18,000 US, or $4 million Canadian, Rubenstein joked.

For Bronfman, whose business interests include the giant holding company, Edper Brascan, shipping skates to Israel was far from his first involvement in Canada Centre. Several years ago, Bronfman was among a group of Canadian philanthropists who helped underwrite the renovation of the facility and the installation of an Olympic-sized skating surface. Overlooking the ice rink is the Edward and Marsha Bronfman Galleria, a restaurant constructed with funds donated by the Bronfmans.

Bronfman was in Metulla recently to tour the facility, meet old friends and view a show mounted on his behalf by Israeli figure skaters. He also met with Metulla's hockey team, said Judith Javor, personal secretary to Canada Centre chair Yossi Goldberg.

Bronfman's latest gift of skates was "for us, like a wonderful bolt from the blue," Javor said.

Over the last few years, Canada Centre has developed hockey, figure skating and short-track speed skating programs that have involved hundreds of young Israelis. It also provides recreational activities for residents of Israel's far north, and it has even led a number of regional schools to include ice skating on their phys. ed. programs, Javor said.

The gift of the new skates will make those programs even more attractive to area residents, she added.

The move to get new skates is directly traceable to a visit one year ago by David Bronfman, Edward's son. The younger Bronfman was on the last day of a 10-day mission to Israel when he decided to stop in and visit Canada Centre.

"I thought to myself, I really should skate, but the skates they had available at the rental desk were by far the worst I'd ever seen. I could barely skate in them. They were a joke, really."

On his return, Bronfman told his father about the situation and the decision was taken to upgrade the centre's stock of skates. Air Canada agreed to ship the gift free of charge and CCM provided the skates at less than wholesale price, Rubenstein said.

For David Bronfman, it was a case of seeing a need and meeting it. "People often respond to a request, but there are opportunities where people can initiate things," he said.

The kids at Canada Centre will certainly put the new skates, which were en route as *The CJN* went to press, to good use, Javor said.

The hockey program in Metulla has proven a success, with kids of all ages. Those under 14 and those who are older each practise three times a week. The hockey program attracts youngsters from the Golan Heights, Kiryat Shmonah, Rosh Pina and other nearby communities, she said.

They are already excited about the upcoming Roger Neilson hockey camp, which will hold its third summer training program in mid-August, she added. Organizers are hoping to accommodate 35 kids in the 14-18 range and 35 under 14. Among them are an expected 15-20 North American skaters, most of them from Canada. The Canada-Israel Experience Centre is handling their arrangements. Cost is $1,395 plus air fare. For more information, contact Rachel Lasry at 416-398-6931.

Figure skating classes have proven even more popular than hockey, with about 400 youngsters enrolled in various classes. There are also about 60 kids taking classes in short track speed skating.

Among the more adept speed skaters is Dennis Zaslavsky, an 18-year-old who finished 24th at the world championships.

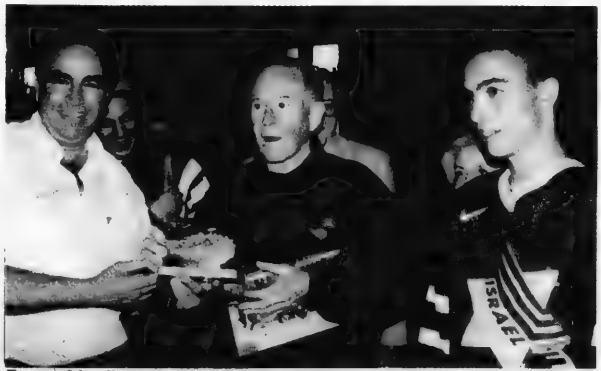
Meanwhile, figure skater Misha Shmerkin is training in the United States, while Israel's world-ranked ice-dancers, Galit Chait and Sergei Sakhnovsky, also train in the United States, Javor said.

The Israeli figure skaters get to strut their stuff on home ice once a year at the Skate Israel competition in Metulla. The event, which will be held from Dec. 4 to 7, has in past years attracted some of the world's best skaters, including men's world champion Alexei Yagudin. For some reason, no North American skater has ever participated in the event, Rubenstein said.

Nevertheless, Canadian Jews continue to stand behind the residents of northern Israeli, he said.

Metulla residents have have had to cope with the area's instability. "It's a tense situation and the people in the north are feeling disheartened. The fact that we have not abandoned them is encouraging to them," Rubenstein said.

Edward Bronfman was presented with a bouquet of flowers by appreciative figures skaters during his recent visit to Canada Centre. [Victor Yagoda photos]



Former Metulla mayor Yossi Goldberg (left) presented Edward Bronfman with an award in gratitude for his support of Canada Centre as Amit Shoham (right), captain of Israel's junior national hockey team, looks on.

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The Inside Back

Malvern Jacobs' stormy demise

As I was saying...

By RON CSILLAG

Malvern Jacobs kicked up more dust after he died than in all his 71 years.

His was a headline-grabbing story: Nearly 500 mourners locked out of a Jewish cemetery, standing around for two hours in the summer swelter, because the Jewishness of the deceased was in doubt. Had this ever happened before?

Came the word: Jacobs could not be buried at Pardes Shalom cemetery on June 28 because Toronto's rabbis (representing the entire religious spectrum) had decreed that he was, in fact, a Christian, even though he'd been born to Jewish parents and considered himself to be a Jew.

Confused? This may help: Jacobs was a Messianic Jew – not the kind that believes in the concept of Moshiach and tries to hasten his arrival through good works – but the kind that worships Jesus. In other words, a Christian, and a graduate of at least two evangelical Christian schools.

Spurned by Pardes Shalom, mourners took the body to York Cemetery in North York, where Jacobs was finally laid to rest.

The media reacted like sharks that had smelled a drop of blood: John Oakley of radio station CFRB excitedly went live, speaking to mourners and family members who'd encountered the closed gates at Pardes Shalom. The Motts, a husband and wife talk radio team, also on CFRB, kept the ball rolling. *The National Post* carried a front-page story; the *Toronto Star* and *Sun* played it inside. CTV National News interviewed "Rabbi" Jeff Forman of Thornhill's City of David, a missionizing Christian congregation, without bothering to explain Forman's credentials or what he represents.

(No one mentioned that the Canada Christian College, where Jacobs was dean of the "Department of Jewish Studies," has long been a source of pain to the Jewish community for its zealotry in missionizing to Jews.)

Only commentator Michael Coren, on his CTS-TV (cable 9) round table talk, came close to one of the central issues in this matter, when he asked panelist Paul Sheldon where and how Sheldon got his smichah (rabbinic ordination). Sheldon said he couldn't recall.

Sheldon is a long-time associate of Aaron Zimmerman, spiritual leader of Toronto's Beth Meyer Congregation, on Sheppard Avenue. They are members of the Association of Independent Rabbis, whose handful of members do not belong, and never have, to either the Toronto Board of Rabbis or the Vaad Harabanim.

I bring this up because it was Zimmerman who officiated at Jacobs' funeral service at Steeles College Memorial Chapel, and it was through his congregation that Jacobs came to claim a plot at Pardes Shalom. Jacobs, as it turns out, belonged to Beth Meyer for years, along with about 25 other family members, all of whom are entitled to plots at Pardes Shalom through their membership.

How did a Christian minister come to belong to a synagogue, even one on the fringes? Jacobs joined the tiny shul in the mid-1980s, Zimmerman told *The CJN*. Asked whether he knew his congregant worshiped Jesus, Zimmerman said, "no, I did not discuss it with him at all." Jacobs, was, according to Zimmerman, a "*baal tshuvah*" – someone who has returned to God. Which God, he didn't say.

What steams Zimmerman more than his late congregant's religious stylings is the fact that Toronto's rabbis did not notify him of the controversy.

"I wasn't notified," Zimmerman protested. "I didn't know anything about it. They [the rabbis] should have called me and said, 'Zimmerman, don't officiate at this funeral because the man [was] Christian.' If I knew, I wouldn't have gone to the funeral.

"The rabbonim, they made a boo-boo, they made a big mistake by not letting Zimmerman know. What are they, so stuck up? Who the hell are they? They are next to God?"

So a rabbi who is outside the mainstream officiates at the funeral of a self-described Jew who is actually a Christian, which the rabbi would not have done had he known the truth about his own congregant of some 15 years.

It's indeed a topsy-turvy world.

VODKA TOMATO SOUP

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2 tblsps olive oil
6 cloves garlic, peeled & crushed
2 medium yellow onions, peeled & chopped
15 large, very ripe tomatoes, cored & chopped (about 18 cups)
4 tblsps Hungarian paprika
4 cups vegetable stock
6 tblsps sour cream
4 tblsps all purpose flour
Kosher salt & black pepper to taste
4 oz. (1/2 cup) vodka

In a large pot, heat oil, add garlic and onions. Sauté until onions are clear. Add tomatoes and paprika, bring to a heavy simmer, turn down heat, cover and simmer slowly for 15 minutes. Add stock, cover and simmer for 45 minutes. Purée mixture. Return soup to simmer.

In a small bowl, combine sour cream and flour mixing well. Whip this mixture into the soup until it is smooth and lump free. Simmer uncovered for another 15 minutes. Add salt and pepper. When ready to serve, add vodka to the pot. Serve immediately. Makes 8 servings.

About Seniors

Dear JESSE,

I am very concerned about my 80-year-old brother. He recently lost his wife, and his health is failing. I am worried about him living on his own. He cannot cook, does not know how to do the laundry, and is not capable of cleaning. What should I do?

BSS

Dear BSS,

I recommend that your brother have a needs assessment in order to determine whether or not he is at risk remaining at home alone. Your local public health unit (CLSC in Quebec) may provide this service.

They, or an agency that serves the elderly, may also offer home care services and/or refer your brother to resources in the community such as Meals on Wheels and cleaning services. In some areas, there are now publicly subsidized, funded cleaning agencies that will provide cleaning services to seniors at a reduced fee.

You may also consider suggesting to your brother the option of leaving his home and moving to a residence. You could suggest that the two of you visit a few residences together to see if he might be interested in this type of living arrangement.

Remember, whatever you do, you must consult with your brother and make sure that he is involved in the decision-making process.

Readers are invited to send any questions they have for Jesse to The CJN. *Jesse represents the management and staff of Jewish Support Services for the Elderly (JSSE) in Montreal.*

The Canadian Jewish news

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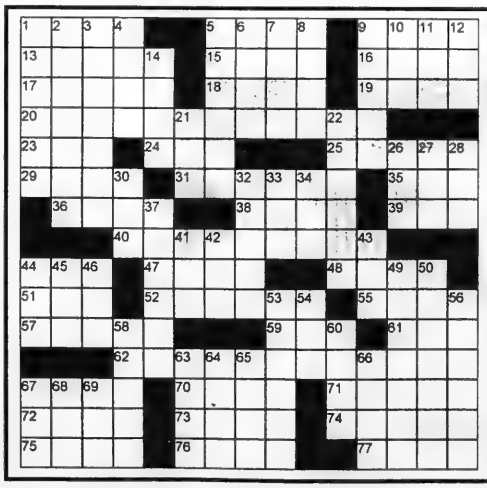

Crossword Puzzle

The Canadian Jewish news

"How's That Again?"

By Matt Gaffney and David Blanco (QSyndicate@aol.com)

Across

1 Guinness or Baldwin
5 ____ Carmel, Israel
9 President Weizman
13 *Mishloach* ____
15 "Ain't She Sweet?" composer Milton
16 "Encore!"
17 Heart chambers
18 One of Carla's "Cheers" customers
19 Plug attachment
20 Hebrew?
23 Aussie bird
24 Narcissist's feature
25 Former Clinton cabinet member Robert
29 One of Cain's brothers
31 Brisket, for instance
35 Noted marsupial, for short
36 Stitchwork
38 Louisiana crop
39 Tarzan pal
40 Mitzvah?
44 Dayan's 1941 loss
47 First name in Linguistics
48 Burn
51 See 58-down
52 New York/Ontario tribe
55 Fortas and Lincoln
57 Sci-fi king Asimov
59 Tide type
61 That ship
62 Jewish musician's boast?
67 One of Jacob's wives
70 Weather ____
71 Figure out
72 Port on the Bay of Haifa
73 Novelist Ferber
74 Take the time to enjoy
75 Turn-of-the-century war
76 Legit
77 Gives the green light

(This week's answers are on page 30.)

Down

1 Wows
2 Paper for which Howard Rosenberg won an '85 Pulitzer
3 In transit
4 Shekel
5 Castle blaster
6 Utterly shocked
7 Ecuador neighbor
8 Humorist Bombeck
9 Billy Crystal at the Oscars, often
10 Bronx draw
11 Be human, maybe
12 Sea crossed by Moses
14 *Oswald's ____: An American Mystery* (Mailer book)
21 Thirteen, for a Bar Mitzvah
22 Says shalom
26 Lyricist Gershwin
27 Beat walker
28 Gardener's tool
30 Leon Uris' *The* ____
32 Skeptical statement
33 Clear (of)
34 Modern European money
37 Good guy
41 Tearjerking sadness
42 Took off
43 Arlen Specter vote
44 He ruled over Israel in Shiloh
45 "What can I do for you?"
46 Juan Peron's wife
49 Free from guilt
50 City southeast of Tel Aviv
53 Kellogg's specialty
54 Sit-up target
56 Spring meals
58 With 51-across, Chaim Potok character
60 George Steinbrenner, to George Costanza
63 George Gershwin's *Someone to Watch ___ Me*
64 Lose vibrancy
65 Tolstoy title word
66 Soccer triumph
67 Workplace for Richard Feynman
68 Italian author Umberto
69 "We ____ Family"

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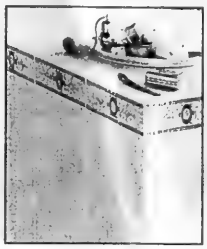

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This Week

National

Battle over the Lord's Prayer far from over. ***Page 3***

New cantor 'breathed the world of liturgy.' ***Page 5***

Former lawyer, Nancy Morris, fulfils dream of being a rabbi. ***Page 17***

On The Rock: it's both easy and difficult being Jewish in Newfoundland. ***Page 23***

Arts

Fringe dance festival the largest of its kind in Canada. ***Page 40***

Sports

Connecticut man, Scott Cohen, 26, sets world karate record. ***Page 50***

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Yom Canada '99

These young Canadians are having a good time in the Kinneret. They were part of the largest summertime gathering of Canadian Jewish youth in Israel for the third annual Yom Canada celebration, a 24-hour event for Canadian teenagers on Israel Experience programs. They come together to have fun and to reinforce common experiences. ***Please see page 21 for more photos.*** ***[Isranet photo]***

Ambassador Berger ends term in Israel

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

TEL AVIV — "There is never a dull moment here," marvelled David Berger, Canada's outgoing ambassador to Israel. "That's what life in Israel is like."

Warming up to the topic, Berger observed, "Israelis say, 'What a country! There's no other country like it.' I've come to appreciate the depths of feelings Israelis have for this tiny country. It's easy to get swept up by the affairs of Israel."

Berger, a 49-year-old former federal parliamentarian, leaves his post at the end of August after four years. During his term of office, which was extended by a year at his request, four Israeli prime ministers came and went, probably a record for a Canadian ambassador in the Jewish state.

Berger, who is fairly fluent in Hebrew, arrived in Tel Aviv in the twilight months of Yitzhak Rabin's premiership. Witnessing the reigns of Rabin's successors, Shimon Peres and Benjamin Netanyahu, Berger will leave just as Ehud Barak settles into his job.

David Berger
[Isranet photo]

He was appointed by Prime Minister Jean Chrétien after vacating his St. Henri-Westmount seat in Montreal to Lucienne Robillard on the eve of the 1995 referendum on Quebec sovereignty.

In Israel, he witnessed a number of historic events: the Oslo 2 agreement, Rabin's assassination, Israel's deployments from the West Bank, elections in the Palestinian self-rule areas, the wave of suicide bombings perpetrated by Islamic fundamentalists, Israel's military offensive in Lebanon (Operation Grapes of Wrath), and last May's general election.

During this tumultuous period, Canada signed a free trade pact with Israel, a development which has led to a 40 percent increase in bilateral trade since 1997.

Continued on page 34

Study links breast cancer with heredity

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Evidence of the hereditary nature of breast cancer in Jewish women is overwhelming, said Dr. Ellen Warner, a medical oncologist at Toronto's Sunnybrook Regional Cancer Centre.

Ashkenazi women who develop breast cancer before the age of 50 have been shown to have a much higher probability of mutations of the BRCA1 or BRCA2 genes, according to a study published last week in *Journal of the National Cancer Institute*.

These mutations are associated with a high lifetime risk of invasive breast cancer.

Warner, who has been involved in the research for this study, said that there are important implications for these women's first and second degree relatives – mothers, daughters, sisters, aunts or grandmothers.

Continued on page 17

INSIDE

Infighting bogs down radical Muslim terrorists.
Please see page 9.

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Jews mourn King Hassan of Morocco — please see page 31

The News in Brief

CANADA

Canada Stays Away

OTTAWA — Canada did not attend a controversial July 15 meeting in Gevena, convened to discuss whether Jewish settlements in Israel's territories violate international law. Michael O'Shaughnessy, a spokesman for the Foreign Affairs department, said Canada stayed away from the conference "because at this time, it was unhelpful to the Mideast peace process." The Swiss-chaired conference attracted delegates from 103 countries, but was adjourned after only 30 minutes, with agreement that it would reconvene only if the situation in the territories flares up. The meeting was triggered by the United Nations' 115-2 vote last February to convene a conference on the applicability of the Geneva Conventions in the territories. Canada backed the resolution, but later said it would work to have the meeting postponed.

ISRAEL

Secret Talks Held

JERUSALEM — Former Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu confirmed reports that he had secretly negotiated with Syria to hand over the Golan Heights. In an Israeli television interview, Netanyahu said Syria agreed to a key Israeli demand to maintain a strategic early-warning station on Mount Hermon. He denied reports that he had agreed to a withdrawal to pre-1967 borders.

Environmental Danger

JERUSALEM — Israel's environment is near collapse, according to a new report. The country's air, water and transportation systems are in dire need of environmental improvements, and as a result, one in 10 of Israeli children suffers from asthma, according to the report, which was sponsored by the Israel Economic Forum. The report recommended several ways to improve the environment, including increased education, vehicle emission regulations and a polluters' tax.

WORLD

Turkish Offer

JERUSALEM — Israeli officials welcomed a Turkish offer to sell the Jewish state water to help solve chronic shortages. During a visit to Israel this month, Turkey's president, Suleyman Demirel, offered to supply the Jewish state with some six billion cubic feet of water a year.

Israeli Astronaut

WASHINGTON — An Israeli astronaut and Israeli cargo will be launched on a U.S. space shuttle next year, President Bill Clinton announced during his meetings here earlier this month with Prime Minister Ehud Barak. The two leaders agreed to establish a committee made up of NASA and the Israel Space Agency for the "development of practical applications in the peaceful use of space."

Barak Mum on Pollard

WASHINGTON — Prime Minister Ehud Barak raised the fate of Jonathan Pollard with President Clinton and proposed separating the Israeli spy's release from the peace process, according to a senior U.S. official. Barak said the matter should be handled privately and refused to answer questions about Pollard in a news conference with Clinton.

Lithuanian Probe

SYDNEY — Lithuania plans to conduct an inquiry into an alleged Nazi war criminal living in Australia. Antanas Gudelis, 87, allegedly commanded various Nazi-sponsored police units that murdered thousands of civilians in Lithuania before he immigrated to Australia in 1949. Australia's Jewish community welcomed the probe.

Argentine Blast Marked

BUENOS AIRES — Argentina's Jews marked the fifth anniversary of the deadly bombing of the Jewish community centre here by reiterating their long-standing calls for the capture of those responsible for the crime. An estimated 3,000 people attended the ceremony this month commemorating the AMIA bombing, which killed 86 people and wounded some 300 others. The commemorations came after an Argentine prosecutor said he is seeking to charge 19 people, 10 of them former police officials, in connection with the bombing.

Alleged Nazi Can Stay: Judge

TORONTO — A judge has ruled that an 81-year-old British Columbia resident can stay in Canada despite allegations that he worked as a guard at a Nazi-run camp in Latvia from 1941 to 1943.

Lawyers for Eduards Podins contended that he was a grocer and had nothing to do with guarding prisoners at the camp near Valmiera, Latvia.

Podins was on the Nazi payroll as an auxiliary police officer, but the judge found that he had actually worked as a shopkeeper.

The judge also ruled that since Podins was not asked about his wartime experience when he entered Canada from Britain in 1959, he cannot be accused of lying about his wartime record.

The judge further ruled that although inmates were subject to forced labor, beatings and at least one execution, the camp should be considered a prison camp and did not show the "systematic brutality" of a concentration camp.

"We are concerned that the judge seems to have imposed a higher standard of evidence for a Nazi war criminal than is currently required for ordinary immigrants and refugees," remarked Jewish community legal activist David Matas.

Ottawa has initiated denaturalization and deportation proceedings against about 15 Nazi war crimes suspects.

Including the latest ruling, the federal war-crimes unit has lost three of the last six cases brought to trial. Another six cases are in progress.

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Lord's Prayer battle not over

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

Both sides say they will appeal the decision of a human rights tribunal that heard a complaint regarding the daily recitation of the Lord's Prayer in some Saskatoon classrooms, whatever that ruling will be.

However, the lawyer representing the nine parents who launched the complaint in 1993 says the school board's opposition to discontinuing the prayer appears to be softening.

Dan Shapiro told *The CJN* that recent published reports in the area have indicated that of the seven trustees on the Saskatoon public school board, four have said they would support suspension of the Lord's Prayer, which would obviate the need for a legal appeal.

However, Lindsay Fast, chair of the Saskatoon Board of Education, had nothing to say.

"I will make my comments at the board table. Goodbye," Fast told *The CJN*.

Four days of testimony wrapped up in Saskatoon earlier this month to hear the complaint, brought by parents from Muslim, Unitarian and Jewish backgrounds, who want the prayer dropped, alleging it discriminates against non-Christians.

Roughly one-fifth of Saskatoon's 550 public classrooms begin their day with the Lord's Prayer. Some teachers include Bible readings.

The board allows non-Christian children to leave the class during opening exercises, or not participate.

The school board argued that religious instruction was guaranteed to Saskatchewan when it agreed to join Confederation in 1905. The board says the province's human rights commission has no jurisdiction in this case because the human rights code cannot impinge on the Constitution.

The board says it would consider a new policy allowing multi-faith prayers, but that can't happen under existing law.

Please see related item on page 12.

Both the lawyer representing the board and its director said the current practice will continue until the law changes.

The retired judge who heard the case said the board's refusal to drop the Lord's Prayer is "a formidable obstacle" to resolving the issue.

Intervening in the case were the local Jewish community and B'nai Brith Canada.

Forcing children to recite the Lord's Prayer is a "coercive" act, which renders the whole point of religious exercise "meaningless," testified Rabbi Roger Pavey, spiritual leader of Saskatoon's Congregation Agudas Israel.

Prayer should be voluntary, he told the tribunal.

Rabbi Pavey said that current options – allowing non-Christian children to leave the classroom during prayers, simply not to participate in them, or to quietly say their own prayers – should be unacceptable to all faiths.

The school board "is undermining its own stated values of tolerance and self-esteem by labeling some children as deviant or forcing them to recite the prayer," he said.

Also testifying was Grant Scharfstein, president of Congregation Agudas Israel, who said the Jewish community has been trying to stop the recitation of the Lord's Prayer in classrooms since 1953, with no results.

He said his own children still recite the prayer because they don't want to be singled out.

Scharfstein recounted his own experience growing up in Niacam, a small town east of Saskatoon. One day, after being exempted from prayer by an understanding teacher, he was punched by a classmate on the way home, and called "a dirty Jew."

"It's an incident I certainly won't forget," he said. "I don't want my children going through that."

Mandatory recitation of the Lord's Prayer can harm a child's self-esteem, Karen Mock, an educational psychologist and director of B'nai Brith Canada's League for Human Rights, told the hearing.

Non-Christian children might come to believe their faith is inferior, a feeling that could be bolstered by their exclusion from the classroom, Mock stated.

And in order for children to develop healthy self-esteem about to which cultural or religious group they belong, they need to know they are "equally valued by the powers-that-be," she added.

Otherwise, "Kids will go home to their parents and say, 'Why do I have to be Jewish? I don't want to be Jewish.'

"What the board is doing goes against everything educators know today about children and learning. [It's] saying it's okay to make one group of children feel bad, while elevating another."

Mock also pointed out that Calgary's school board ended the recitation of the Lord's Prayer 29 years ago, despite facing the same laws as Saskatchewan and the same guarantees when it entered Confederation.

As well, she noted that Manitoba, British Columbia and Ontario have all ended prayers in public classrooms.

Shapiro said the commission chair did not indicate when he would hand down a ruling.

Cops train in online hate

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The Canadian branch of the Simon Wiesenthal Center (SWC) recently launched a new initiative in its ongoing battle against Internet hate sites.

The centre is now offering two-day Internet training sessions to Canadian police departments, free of charge.

Detective-Constable David Johnson of the Guelph City Police hadn't used the Internet much because he wasn't very literate on it, he told *The CJN*.

As a member of the persons crime unit, Johnson deals with hate crimes and other criminal cases. His recent training "came in pretty handy" when he was faced with investigations that involved online threats. "Now I know my way around."

Johnson has also passed on some of the "little tricks" he learned to a couple of his colleagues.

In the past five years, the number of hate sites on the Internet has grown from 50 to almost 2,000, said Sol Littman, SWC's Canadian director.

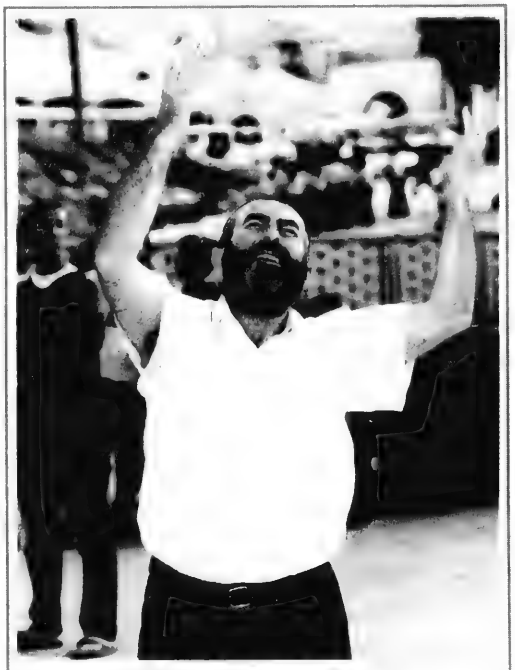
They have become more sophisticated in terms of graphics, and depict "terribly nasty stuff," said Littman.

The Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission's recent decision that the Internet need not come under its jurisdiction, was a factor prompting the SWC's new initiative.

"If you're going to depend on existing laws involving hate, pornography, etc., then somebody has to enforce those laws," explained Littman.

"We discovered that the police did not have the technical knowledge to do the kind of monitoring job we were doing," he said.

Working in small groups at SWC headquarters with the centre's Internet specialist Abbee Corb, the officers from a number of locations in the province have learned their way around search engines, chat rooms and hate sites.



OVERCOME BY EMOTION
The emotion of the day seems to envelop this worshipper last week during his prayers on Tisha b'Av at the Western Wall. *(Isranet photo)*

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From the editor's desk

Will peace find a harbor?

The election of Ehud Barak to the prime ministership of Israel has, as expected, breathed fresh life into the formerly limp sails of the peace process.

In the week leading up to his swearing-in at the Knesset, Barak conducted indirect talks, as it were, through the medium of British journalist Patrick Seale, with Syrian President Hafez al-Assad.

In the week following his swearing-in, Barak met with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, Jordan's King Abdullah and PNC Chairman Yasser Arafat.

After his meeting with Arafat, Barak returned to Israel only long enough to pack his bags for a six-day visit in the United States which included extensive talks with President Bill Clinton, administration officials and leaders of Congress.

On his way home from the United States, Prime Minister Barak stopped off in London to pay a visit to Britain's prime minister Tony Blair.

By all accounts, Barak succeeded at each stop in leaving his host with a feeling of impending movement and forward momentum.

But even if the sails on the ship are at full billow and the captain is steering with new direction, there is no guarantee of a final harbor.

Some of the narrows – Jerusalem, repatriation, water, borders – may simply prove impassable.

For the time being at least, there does appear to be sufficient good will, as well as an element of urgency, among various key leaders, to try earnestly to "reach shore."

There are at least three reasons for the sense of urgency.

First, it is undoubtedly due in part, to the fact that two of the Arab leaders – Yasser Arafat and Hafez al-Assad – are in failing health, and they want to "settle matters" before they yield power to their respective successors.

Arafat especially, by far the more publicly visible of the two leaders, looks and sounds increasingly frail in each photo opportunity. At times, he even appears disoriented on camera.

Second, it no doubt also arises from the fact that President Clinton would like to achieve a significant foreign policy success, such as peace between Arabs and Israelis, before the end of his presidency.

Third, Ehud Barak genuinely believes that peace is urgently needed for its own sake, that it is attainable, and that the change in government has put in place a new psychological climate to enable the parties to grasp it right now.

Grasping, however, is how best to describe the announced public gesture of "goodwill" two weeks ago by the Palestinians towards the newly elected Israeli prime minister.

On July 15, the much heralded UN special conference met in Geneva to examine Israel's record toward the Palestinians of the West Bank and Gaza, in accordance with the Fourth Geneva Convention on the treatment of civilian populations during times of war.

The meeting lasted 30 minutes before it adjourned.

Palestinian Authority Planning Minister Nabil Shaath said the adjournment amounted to a "benefit of the doubt to Barak."

UN still inhospitable to Israel

Israeli foreign ministry spokesperson Yitzhak Lior spoke more to the truth when he said of the Palestinian acceptance of the adjournment, "When they saw it was disintegrating, they opted probably to present it as a kind of a gesture toward the new prime minister."

Even though nothing concrete was achieved at the meeting, it did nevertheless, still manage to leave on the record the possibility of reconvening in the future and the consensus statement "reaffirming the applicability of the Fourth Geneva Convention to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem."

The adjournment, therefore, was at best, a nuisance and an irritant to the government of Israel. At worst, it was merely a respite in the inevitable continuation of the tactics of demonization and delegitimization of the Jewish State.

A number of worrisome and deeply regrettable conclusions flow from the adjournment.

- The Geneva Convention is still left "on the UN's table," to be served at a later date, like a chicken bone to get stuck in Israel's throat.
- Jerusalem too, is still left on the table.
- The UN is still, fundamentally inhospitable to Israel. The entire February and July ploy provides further proof of the assertion by Arnold Beichman in the June 27 issue of the *Washington Times* that "the UN is at its most malevolent in its mistreatment of Israel."

The adjournment thus goes hand-in-hand with the Palestinians' recent avowed determination to resurrect UN General Assembly Resolution 181, the resolution in 1947 that partitioned Palestine into Jewish and Arab sectors and which called for separate, international status for Jerusalem.

We will continue to monitor and respond to the attempt by the Palestinians to wrest Jerusalem away from the Jews.

Where indeed is the harbor for peace in the middle east? *MBD*

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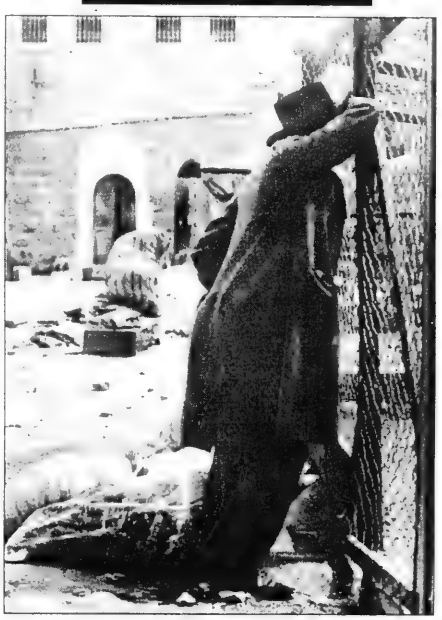

MELANCHOLY ANNIVERSARY

Seventy years ago, on the 18th day of Av, 59 men, women and children were murdered by Arabs who attacked the Jews of Hebron. One of the men who survived the attack is seen in this archival photo.

Greater Toronto Area

New cantor 'breathed the world of liturgy'

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue's new cantor has made a name for himself in the world of Jewish music by intertwining Sephardi and Ashkenazi elements in his work.

"Maybe we are different in culture – one eats gefilte fish, one eats hot, spicy fish on Friday night – but the Jewish neshama is one," said Moroccan-born Cantor Aaron Bensoussan in a recent interview at Beth Emeth.

A veteran of the stage – and bimah – in North America, Europe, Israel and Australia, the 45-year-old lyric tenor has an eclectic musical repertoire that includes cantorial, Yiddish, Israeli, chassidic, Ladino, Broadway and operatic pieces, along with his own Sephardi compositions.

Of his almost half-dozen recordings, the newest is *Keter Zohar*, a melding of jazz with Moroccan folklore music. In the works is a CD by the musical group, Sons of Sepharad, which also includes fellow Moroccan Gerard Edery and the cantor's colleague Alberto Mizrahi.

Cantor Bensoussan is set to move here next week with his wife Phyllis, an audiologist, and their four-year-old son. The cantor served for the past 11 years at Temple Beth Sholom, a Conservative synagogue in Roslyn Heights, NY.

As a child, he "breathed the world of liturgy" in Mogador, an Atlantic seaport in French Morocco, known – according to *Encyclopaedia Judaica* – for its Jewish musicians.

The Bensoussan family traces its history to pre-Inquisition Spain and before that to Fez, Morocco, where an ancestor taught Maimonides in the mid-1100s.

Cantor Aaron Bensoussan

Cantor Bensoussan remembers Mogador as a "Sephardic shtetl" with a close-knit Jewish community. "There was a warmth you cannot duplicate," he said.

He recalls the air being filled with the aroma of *dafina*, the Moroccan equivalent of cholent, as he walked home from synagogue with his father every Saturday.

The cantor's Ashkenazi influence came later, after the family emigrated to New York in 1968. He spent about five years at an Ashkenazi yeshiva in Chicago, and received his cantorial training primarily at the Jewish Theological Seminary of America.

Music has been a part of Cantor Bensoussan's life as long as he can remember. He learned to play the *oud* (Arabic lute) and the *darbouka* (Arabic hand drum) as a child.

His father was a businessman with musical aptitude who was well versed in chazzanut. He served as one of the cantor's early teachers along with some of Mogador's master musicians.

"I always wanted to be a singer," said Cantor Bensoussan. But it wasn't until he was 18, when he heard renowned Cantor David Koussevitsky, that he decided to pursue a career as a cantor.

"I love the stage, I love being a cantor, and I love people," said Cantor Bensoussan, who believes his career has combined the best of all worlds for him.

His early training in Sephardi liturgy, with its intricate trills, proved to be a good base for his cantorial studies.

The cantor's musical style, in his student days, was conventionally Ashkenazi, but over the years, he has incorporated an eclectic variety of musical elements – many reflecting his Sephardi background – into the liturgy.

"I have a good feeling that I will bring something new to [Beth Emeth] and the synagogue will bring something new to me," he said.

"I feel very fortunate to continue the tradition of Beth Emeth of having high standards of music," he added, referring to his predecessor, Cantor Louis Danto, who retired last year.

Cantor Bensoussan is looking forward to living in Toronto, with its cosmopolitan population.

"As an artist and as a cantor," he said, "I breathe better when I see a variety of people." The mix of cultures and musical backgrounds inspires him, he explained.

"If I accomplished something in my life, it's to bring the Ashkenazi and Sephardi worlds as close as I can." Cantor Bensoussan said. "They actually work beautifully together."

Joint project for haredi youth

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A team of Israeli social workers was in Toronto recently to examine the feasibility of a joint project aimed at ultra-Orthodox adolescents at risk.

The week-long trip formed the first phase of what organizers hope will be a collaborative effort between the Department of Social Services of the Municipality of Jerusalem; the University of Toronto's social work faculty; and Jewish Family & Child Service (JF&CS).

The Israelis – three social workers, a rabbi and a volunteer – met with their Canadian counterparts to explore common ground; namely, to identify social problems related to high-risk youth in the haredi community, and to find ways to deliver services.

Haredi rabbis approve effort

A study prepared by Jerusalem social workers says children in haredi families experience the same social ills as products of less religious homes: family problems, violence, dropping out of school, vagrancy, criminal behavior, drug abuse and sexual promiscuity.

Haredim comprise about 10 percent of Israel's population, but nearly one-third of Jerusalem's residents. Traditionally, the haredi community has spurned outside help, and developed its own social service system, despite underfunding and the stigma attached to dealing with family problems.

But Zippi Leffler, director of the Child, Youth & Family division of Jerusalem's department of social services, says haredim are increasingly turning to civic authorities for help.

And, she adds, secular authorities are learning how to deal with a community that has closed itself off from the outside world.

"You don't have to be Orthodox to be open-minded. It helps to know their language and culture, and not to bring personal beliefs into the situation," she told *The CJN*. It's taken "years" to establish mutual trust, she added.

Even haredi rabbis have given the effort their stamp of approval, Leffler said, proving that bridges can be gapped.

Of a caseload of 300 adolescents treated by the Jerusalem unit, about 50 are from haredi families. The unit has established several programs for them, including a 14-bed hostel for male youths, a therapeutic and educational centre for young women, a shelter for up to five females in need of an emergency facility, a group home, and a community treatment program in Jerusalem's haredi neighborhoods.

The relationship between the Jerusalem unit and JF&CS goes back a decade, when local social worker Avraham Friedman spent a sabbatical year in Israel, where he developed a model for social service provision to haredi families.

Last summer, Jerusalem's social services department initiated contact with JF&CS and U of T's social work department to promote a joint venture in the treatment of problems in the haredi community. The university would contribute the research component.

Locally, says JF&CS executive director Gordon Wolfe, problems with youth in ultra-Orthodox families have included violence, eating disorders and trouble arising from the rejection of religious values.

Both Wolfe and Leffler agree that haredi families here and in Israel share many similarities, including a reluctance to reach out for help. And both Toronto and Jerusalem are noticing a growing incidence of reported adolescent behavioral problems in their respective haredi communities.

Some of the issues discussed here included:

- how to deal with clashes between halachah and secular law, as well as professional codes of conduct; and similarly, dealing with the many cultural clashes which would arise;
- how to overcome suspicion and mistrust on the part of haredi families;
- adapting solutions for haredi adolescents which are compatible with their community's lifestyle;
- identifying potential partners in delivery of services, including volunteers, agencies, rabbis and governments;
- monitoring, follow-up and evaluation of programs;
- and examining the possibility of a vocational yeshiva designed for haredi youth who drop out of traditional yeshivot.

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JULY 1999

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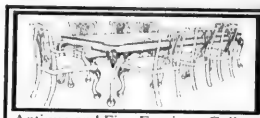
Esther Malet, Barry Malet and Dennis Malet extend their sincere thanks and appreciation to family and friends for their thoughtfulness, support and comfort following the recent loss of their beloved husband, father and grandfather.

Chaim (Harvey) Malet ז"ל



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Local teacher wins PM award

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO – That old red schoolhouse sure ain't what it used to be. Just ask Sholom Eisenstat, team leader for information and broadbased technology at Don Mills Collegiate Institute.

The 43-year-old Toronto born Eisenstat, together with Tito Faria, created CyberARTS, an integrated arts program that combines computer science, visual arts and communication technology.

So successful is CyberARTS that it led to Don Mills C.I. being awarded the prestigious Prime Minister's Award for Achievement in Education. Faria and Eisenstat plan to use the $1,000 award for scholarships for students who have "used technology with excellence," Eisenstat said.

The Prime Minister's Award for Achievement in Education "honour outstanding elementary and secondary school teachers in all disciplines who best equip their students to meet the challenges of a changing society and knowledge-based economy," according to a media release.

Up to 15 certificates of excellence, which includes a financial award of $5,000 are awarded, along with up to 50 certificates of achievement. This year, 15 excellence and 52 achievement awards were presented.

The two were nominated by Don Mills C.I. principal Miriam Pearlman. "Just being nominated was enough of a compliment," Eisenstat said. "Winning was the icing. We were very proud – it blew us away."

Eisenstat, who was educated at McGill University and the Hebrew University, has taught at Winnipeg's Joseph Wolinsky Collegiate and United Synagogue Day School and CHAT in Toronto. He is visibly excited about CyberARTS.

Sholom Eisenstat

Students, who must apply to take the course, work on a series of projects, using a variety of different technologies. For instance, Eisenstat explained, one project was to design a playground. Students researched the subject in books and on the Internet, prepared drawings, and finished by building a scale model.

In their senior year, Eisenstat said, students compile a portfolio, using physical, digital and video technology. "It teaches that you can't necessarily trust technology. A person might go into a job interview, prepared to show their accomplishments on a video, but find that the office has no video machine, so they have to present a printed document."

The students use this portfolio when applying for the four-day-a-week co-op program in the last semester. "They are much sought after," Eisenstat said, noting that many are hired for summer or part-time jobs.

The students, who work in teams of three or four, decide what tools are best to use for any particular project, such as a website, or a video. They are evaluated in three ways: by themselves, by their peers and by the teachers.

"Our goal is to produce well-educated kids, who can get up and talk about what they have learned," said Eisenstat.

He took particular relish in talking about the school's participation in the G8 conference in 1998 in Birmingham, England. CyberARTS students were invited to represent Canada at a youth summit that paralleled the leaders' conference.

"We established a multi-grade, multi-age, multi-credit course for 60 students," Eisenstat explained. Over the Internet, they polled Canadian youth about what they felt the delegation should talk about. Results were tabulated, issues were extensively researched, and background papers were written.

Four students actually went to the youth conference in Birmingham, accompanied by 15 other students and some teachers. The highlight was a video conference at 5 a.m. Toronto time on a Saturday morning.

"Everyone was [there] but me – it nearly killed me," lamented Eisenstat, who is shomer Shabbat.

Questions were sent from the delegates in England to the Don Mills classroom, and the answers were e-mailed back. "They could see on the video the paper with the answers being handed to the delegates," he said.

Sheva Strolovitch, of the Hebrew Academy in Cote St. Luc, also won a certificate of achievement.

JWI EXECUTIVE

Jewish Women International's executive for 1999-2000 includes from left, Dena Levant, vice-president; Charlotte Lefler, vice-president; Beverley Mandel, president; Noreen Shelson, immediate past president; Francine Fogel, president-elect.

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Leadership retreat prepares volunteers for campaign

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

JACKSON'S POINT, ONT. — "It's the stories that get me," said David Weinberg, explaining his commitment to his volunteer leadership role in UJA Federation's Campaign 2000.

One of 125 people to attend an afternoon-long leadership retreat in preparation for this year's campaign, Weinberg, who co-chairs the campaign's fashion division, became involved as a UJA canvasser shortly after his oldest child was born.

At the retreat, held at the cottage of Debbie and Warren Kimel, over half a dozen speakers told compelling stories relating to the three cornerstones of this year's campaign: fortifying Jewish identity, assisting the vulnerable and rescuing Jews in danger.

But the story that spoke most powerfully to Weinberg, as a father of young children, was about a boy whose life was turned around by Orr Shalom Children's Homes, a 20-year-old Israeli non-profit organization, and beneficiary of campaign funds.

Orr Shalom operates a network of "family group homes" run by couples for up to 10 children. The organization has one religious group home and is seeking Bedouin house parents and social workers for Arab children.

The boy whose story touched Weinberg was born to a street prostitute. By the time he entered Orr Shalom's Eilat location (a beneficiary of Toronto community funding), he was a depressed, bitter, neglected and under-achieving 12-year-old, said Haim Feingold, executive director of the organization.

Over five years at Orr Shalom, the youngster made such progress that the IDF recently offered him an opportunity to take preliminary steps toward becoming a pilot.

"We're trying to break the cycle for these kids," said Feingold. All the Orr Shalom children – victims of abuse and neglect – receive therapy, he said. "We try to make them into a mentsch."

Six hundred eighty thousand children in Israel live under the poverty line, he noted. "This is the dark side of the land of milk and honey."

Among the other speakers were Benjamin Ish-Shalom, chair of Israel's Institute for Jewish Studies, which develops and runs conversion programs; Seymour Epstein, new executive director of the Board of Jewish Education; Eric Kirsh, supervisor, special resources, Jewish Family & Child Service (JF&CS); and Clive Lessem, New York-based North American representative of the Jewish Agency for Israel, who discussed Israel's rescue of Jews and non-Jews from Kosovo and Ethiopia.

Kirsh noted that JF&CS is the only registered Jewish children's aid society in North America.

Among its success stories is a family of three siblings who have become crown wards and are "thriving" in a Jewish foster home. "We'll basically grow these kids up," he said. "They'll be raised in the Jewish community."

Such stories "remind us why we do the work we do," said Debbie Kimel, a vice-chair of the campaign.

Ish-Shalom told of a young oleh who represents the problems faced by 360,000 immigrants from the former Soviet Union who are not halachically Jewish.

Ish-Shalom happened to hear the young man's distraught girlfriend on a call-in radio show when he was waiting to hear a news broadcast.

The young couple, who wanted to marry, feared the reaction of her traditional parents should they find out he wasn't Jewish.

The boyfriend, who considered himself a relatively traditional Jew before learning of his halachic status, was devastated after being referred by the rabbinical court to a yeshiva to study for a year before the rabbis would even consider his case.

The story ended happily after Ish-Shalom intervened, with the help of Israel's special conversion court, with which his institute works. (The institute operates under the auspices of the Israeli government and the Jewish Agency for Israel, which is funded by UJA Federation worldwide.)

Ed Segalowitz, UJA Federation's vice-president, planning and allocations, said that despite the range of programming supported by campaign funds, "we still have to do more."

Among the local priorities he cited for which funds are not yet available, were pre-school speech and language testing and respite for caregivers of seniors and special needs children.

Campaign money raised here supports both local and overseas programs. Last year's Toronto campaign raised $40.5 million. A target of $50 million annually, by the end of 2001, has been set.

On the Israeli and international scene, Israelis have become counterparts of Canadian donors. Joe Dushansky discussed the Spirit of Israel campaign, of which he is director general.

The campaign, a Jewish Agency partner, has 39,000 donors in its data base since its inception 18 months ago, Dushansky said.

A side benefit, in addition to the social services the Israeli campaign supports, is to make the Israel-Diaspora relationship more a relationship of equals, he said.

Campaign 2000 will be launched August 30 under the chairmanship of David Engel and Mel Wolfond.

'One of the miracles of the century'

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Benjamin Ish-Shalom calls the goings-on at the recently opened Institute for Jewish Studies "one of the miracles of the century." He may not be far off the mark, given the political and religious realities of life in Israel.

At the low-profile institute's two branches, representatives of all denominations prepare students for conversion to Judaism (to take place under Orthodox auspices). The controversial idea was proposed by the Ne'eman Committee in 1998.

Ish-Shalom, 46, chairs the institute's seven-member board, which includes representatives of Orthodox, Conservative and Reform Judaism.

A soft-spoken academic with a PhD in Jewish Thought from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Ish-Shalom has a Hesder yeshiva background, which means he combined yeshiva study with army service.

He was brought to Toronto recently by UJA Federation, which funds the Jewish Agency for Israel. (The institute is a joint project of the Jewish Agency and the Israeli government.)

A fifth-generation Jerusalemite on his mother's side, Ish-Shalom is the founder and rector of Beit Morasha of Jerusalem – The Centre for Advanced Jewish Studies, which trains educational and lay leadership from Israel and the Diaspora.

Ish-Shalom's father, a Holocaust survivor, hebraicized the name Friedmann (German for "man of peace"), on making aliyah.

At Ish-Shalom's suggestion, board members agreed that all decisions be reached by consensus, not voting, to foster co-operation, and avoid a situation whereby the Orthodox members take advantage of being a majority.

"It is a very unique framework," said Ish-Shalom.

Remarkably, it appears to be working. According to Ish-Shalom, there is full respect and trust among the board members.

Thus far, the institute has 35 students in Beersheva, 22 in Karmiel. The one-year course includes Jewish concepts, customs, ideas and values. Teachers and students are all olim from the former Soviet Union, and four more branches are in the works.

Yes, there has been resistance, said Ish-Shalom, but there has also been support. He is optimistic.

"With a little goodwill and a reasonable approach, with a lot of empathy and sympathy, we can solve many, many problems...The common basis we share is much larger than the issues that divide us."

Based on his contacts with Israel's chief rabbis and the rabbinical court system, Ish-Shalom expects to receive co-operation once the institute's students complete their course next year.

Creating a 'common gate' to Judaism

"But you have to understand," he cautioned, "that we cannot force any rabbinical court to decide in advance what will be the result of a particular process. The rabbinical court is a sovereign institution, and should be. We have to respect that. Otherwise there is no meaning to that concept."

Ish-Shalom himself is not a rabbi. A university professor who has taught at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and as a visiting professor at Yeshiva University, he is troubled by the gaps between Israeli and Diaspora Jewry, and between secular and religious Jews.

When the Israeli government offered him the institute position, he felt he couldn't refuse. "It's a mission, actually. I know the responsibility, and I feel I can fulfil it."

In the past half dozen years, noted Ish-Shalom, Israel has taken in about one million olim from the former Soviet Union. Of those, almost a third – 360,000 people – are not halachically Jewish.

But they are "in fact an integral part of our people," he said. "They suffered in Russia because of their so-called Jewishness. We are responsible for them."

Although he doesn't anticipate institute students will have to adopt the most stringently Orthodox observances to qualify for conversion, Ish-Shalom makes it clear there are expectations incumbent on them.

"To become Jewish means to be committed to something, not to adopt a theoretical set of beliefs. It means to oblige yourself to a certain way of life, to become a full partner in a large family of Jews."

The conversion courts with which he works, which are run under the auspices of the chief rabbinate, treat Russian olim "in a polite and constructive way," Ish-Shalom said.

"They don't raise difficulties that the convert cannot overcome, but they challenge him, of course, and they should. If he wants to join the Jewish people, he should understand that this has some ramifications. [Similarly], if a person wants to become a Canadian citizen, he should meet some criteria.

"We have to make [the convert's] way to Judaism very comfortable, yet responsible...and not prevent him from joining us by creating such difficulties that he cannot overcome."

Ish-Shalom's hope is that he will help break down stereotypes among Jews from different backgrounds, facilitate integration into Israeli Jewish society for institute students, and create "one common gate" to Judaism that will be recognized by all the denominations.

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Dry Bones
DON'T THINK OF IT AS TOO MANY MINISTERS IN THE GOVERNMENT
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A helpful stand

On Feb. 9, the United Nations General Assembly convened a rare "emergency special session" to excoriate Israel, once again, over its settlements in the West Bank. The session resulted in the unprecedented decision to call a meeting of the countries that signed the Fourth Geneva Convention, dealing with the protection of civilian populations in times of war, to discuss the situation of the Palestinians under Israel's "occupation" of the West Bank and Gaza.

At the time, we described the Palestinian-inspired procedure as "a transparent attempt to demonize Israel…and…to circumvent the Oslo process." We therefore condemned the government of Canada for supporting the decision.

On July 15, some five months after the vote in the UN, that meeting took place in Geneva. After little more than half an hour, the meeting adjourned; 103 countries attended. Canada did not, because it considered the conference "unhelpful to the peace process."

We commend the government of Canada for essentially reversing its originally flawed decision and for taking a stand that was, indeed, helpful to the peace process.

The juxtaposition of poignant opposites

Sometimes, through the unanticipated juxtaposition of life's poignant opposites, we are able to edge a little bit closer to an insight about our own lives, about all life. For example, the famous image of the final farewell salute by tiny 3-year-old John Kennedy to the coffin that bore the body of his murdered father, was a juxtaposition of poignant opposites. The youngster, barely more than a toddler, standing at attention – so adult, so composed – was caught in a larger grief that he could not possibly understand.That image was like the adjusted focus on a camera lens; it helped us see a fuller dimension of the assassination in Dallas.

Tragically, that 3-year-old boy was destined to live only to the age of 39. Though we in Canada are more removed from the tragedy than our American neighbors, we are not so removed as to fail to notice these very sad juxtaposed opposites: a good, decent and promising life that ended "unfairly," unfulfilled, far too soon.

In truth, the juxtaposition of poignant opposites is ubiquitous.

We can see them, for example, in God's infinite signatures everywhere in the world, as well as in man's infinite attempts everywhere in the world, either to seek or to abjure God: perhaps a spectacular sunset, purple, mauve and crimson, inevitably retreating into the far horizon at the end of a day; or a slow-moving, sleepy river coursing deep and fresh through uncut rock; a child stricken with terminal illness; war.

But most of the time, we rarely notice.

That is why when we do, such as with the terrible crash into the ocean last week of John Kennedy, his wife Carolyn and her sister Lauren Bessette, we stop to catch our breath and to reflect, at least for the moment, upon the deeper truths of our own and of all existence.

WISDOM OF THE AGES

After forty days and forty nights, God gave [Moses] two tablets of stone, the tablets of the covenant. ***(Parshat Ekev)***

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Writers defend courteousness of young people

With regard to Rabbi Gunther Plaut's comments in "Rise for the aged" (*CJN* July 8), re the lack of courtesy on the part of young people and people in general today, I too am a senior and caregiver. My husband had a stroke a number of years ago and now walks with a walker.

I am totally amazed at how considerate and courteous the young, the old and in between, have been.

They never fail to run to hold open a door, they get up from their seats to offer assistance, move chairs out of the way, etc.

This group of people consist of the scruffy teens to the well dressed middle class.

It has given me a new insight into how helpful and considerate people really are.

Peggy Goldsbie
Toronto

My husband and I travelled alone recently in Prague and Budapest, spending a great deal of time on the subway systems of both cities. One of the things that made a great impression on us was the fact that upon barely passing through the doors of the subway car, a young person would immediately stand up and offer us their seat, not once or twice, but without fail, every time. At first we were concerned and laughed to one another that perhaps we looked old and decrepit, only to realize that this was to be the norm. We asked our hosts in Prague whether the young people were taught this respect in school, and his answer was that this was simply proper upbringing and that children are taught respect for their elders at home.

Selma Sedlezky
Montreal

Likes choices available to Orthodox girls

I object to the tone of Leila Speisman's discussion (*CJN* July 15) of Orthodox girls' education, which I found unnecessarily bleak. In fact, it is a tribute to the seriousness with which Orthodox parents regard their children's education that so many choices are available. Speisman sees the variety of options as a sign of division in the community, and appears critical of the more conservative approaches. Why not see the diversity for what it is, an indicator of healthy growth.

Andy Rechtshaffen
Toronto

Objects to rabbi's endorsement of candidate

It was reported (*CJN*, June 10), that during the recent Ontario provincial election, Rabbi Solomon Domb of B'nai Shalom North Synagogue issued an open letter to hundreds of Thornhill residents in support of the Conservative party candidate (Tina Molinari). I object to the rabbi's conduct.

The rabbi of a congregation should refrain from issuing public letters in support of any one candidate or political party. It causes offence to many members of the congregation when their rabbi uses his high office to assist the campaign of only one candidate.

Allan Kaufman
Toronto

Seeks Russian father who left Israel in 1989

I am searching for my father, Sitkovsky (Sitkovski, Sitkowsky, etc.) Boris Vladimirovich, birthday, October 30, 1945, birth-place, USSR, Ukraine, Odessa city.

In 1974 year he went to Israel and remained there until 1989.

Igor Sitkovsky
Segedskaya str. 13 apt. 11
270009, Odessa, Ukraine

Jewish leader evacuated because of KLA

I would like to comment on the news about the Jewish leader evacuated from Kosovo. (*CJN*, July 8)

North American Jews, geared towards condemnation of the Serbian people responsible for the policies conducted in Kosovo, stumble when they have to face the reality of the relationship between Jews in Yugoslavia and the Serbian people.

Chedar Prlincevic had to be evacuated as a result of the vacuum caused by withdrawal of Serbian police. The rogue para-military group of Albanians (I assume, as it is not mentioned in the article) represented a threat to the Jewish leader of Kosovo. I know, in politics morality is universal, and it is always better to be in position of someone who protects universal rights from a long distance, or somewhere up in the sky.

The fact is that on the ground, we as Jews from the Balkans, see history repeating itself. Serbs, Gypsies and Jews had to flee Kosovo or perish once the Kosovo Liberation Army ruled this region.

Mair Musafija
Toronto

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures. Letters sent by e-mail must also include the sender's municipal address.

Perspectives

Radical Muslims bogged down in internal fights

By DOUGLAS DAVIS
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

If ideologies were tradable commodities, panic orders would be going out to sell Islamic radicalism.

As Middle East leaders contemplate the political landscape – after the Israeli elections and before the start of the U.S. presidential campaign – they detect a small window of opportunity to surge ahead with peace talks.

And Islamic extremist movements – for the moment, at least – are being perceived as part of the problem rather than the solution.

Thus, when Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak and Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat met at the Erez crossing between the Gaza Strip and Israel last week, their encounter focused on the single most important issue in the peace-making business: security.

Among aides who attended the meeting were Danny Yatom, former Mossad director and now Barak's chief of staff, and Arafat's intelligence chief, Mohammed Dahlan.

Yatom outlined the latest Israeli intelligence assessment of Hamas; Dahlan confirmed its accuracy.

At least some of Yatom's analysis was based on data derived from an intercepted message between Tehran-based Hamas military leader Imad al-Alami and Hamas military leaders in the territories.

Both Yatom and Dahlan agreed that Hamas is deeply divided between the advocates of "violence now," led by the external leadership of Hamas, Alami and the Amman-based Hamas political bureau chief Khaled Meshal, and the advocates of "prudence now," representing the internal leadership, led by Hamas founder Sheik Ahmed Yassin.

Deep as the divisions are, however, sources do not expect the dispute to split Hamas, which is also riven by accusations of embezzlement and internal corruption.

Quite simply, they say, the message reaching the West Bank and Gaza from their Iranian patrons is "moderation."

Other pressures are also bearing down on the Islamic radicals: Hamas is feeling the heat in Jordan, where its political base appears to be increasingly shaky, while Iran has served notice on Hezbollah that it must prepare to disarm and join Lebanon's political mainstream.

Jordan, which has in the past used its patronage of Hamas as a lever against Arafat, was last week reported to be cracking down on the movement as a prelude to a complete shutdown of its activities in the kingdom.

Jordanian sources say the government is expected to end the organization's "political presence" within a matter of days, ostensibly because it suspects that Hamas is becoming deeply involved "in the Jordan arena" – but also, no doubt, as a gesture to Barak.

The main targets of the crackdown are understood to be Khaled Meshal, the most senior Hamas political official in Jordan – and the subject of a botched Mossad assassination bid last year – and Hamas spokesman Mohammed Nazzal. Both men were abroad last week.

According to the sources, the Jordanian authorities are concerned that the Amman-based political leadership of Hamas is threatening the Muslim Brotherhood in Jordan, another Islamist group militantly opposed to Israel's existence.

First steps aimed at inhibiting the activities of the organization have included rounding up several key Hamas activists and pulling others in for questioning.

The crackdown was apparently triggered by the mysterious emergence of a statement – signed Hamas Cadres in Amman – which was circulated in the Jordanian capital last week.

The statement contained a scathing attack on Hamas' political bureau, which it accused of attempting to take over Jordan's Muslim Brotherhood, and of conspiring against the internal Hamas leadership, particularly Yassin.

The statement also accused the Hamas "clique" in Jordan of using dirty tricks in its bid to seize control of the brotherhood.

Israel's Prime Minister Ehud Barak met last week with King Abdullah of Jordan. The subject of security arrangements was undoubtedly on their agenda. [Israel Sun photo]

These tricks included leaks to the media about internal disputes, bogus statements in the name of brotherhood officials designed to embarrass the leadership, and attempts to incite members of the brotherhood against their executive bureau.

The Hamas leadership has declined to comment on this attack, but the sources confirm that brotherhood leaders recently took steps to sever their organizational ties with Hamas.

In Tehran, meanwhile, Iranian authorities have told Hezbollah spiritual leader Hassan Nasrallah that the countdown to the movement's demilitarization is already under way.

A cover story in the Arabic-language *al-Majalla* this week quoted senior sources close to the Iranian government as saying Nasrallah was told that Hezbollah must start preparing for a purely political role after Israel leaves Lebanon.

The London-based, Saudi-owned newsweekly said a close aide to Iranian President Mohammad Khatami had told the Hezbollah leader that Tehran and Damascus will assist the movement's transition from an ideological militia to a conventional party that is integrated into Lebanese political life.

Khatami is reported to have already started reducing arms supplies to Hezbollah and funding for its military operations. Instead, he has increased financial aid to Hezbollah's educational, cultural and welfare programs, which form the foundations of the movement's political support.

Still quoting its Iranian sources, *al-Majalla* reported that Syria is now closely scrutinizing Iranian arms shipments passing through Damascus en route to Lebanon. And it noted that Syrian officials have recently blocked the transfer of heavy weapons and rockets to Hezbollah.

In a separate interview with the newsweekly, Hezbollah's political bureau head Mohammad Ra'ad hinted that his movement would not impede any decisions taken by Beirut and Damascus in negotiations with Israel.

But he cautioned that the mere start of negotiations between Israel and Syria will not be enough to persuade Hezbollah to halt its military campaign against Israeli forces in south Lebanon.

"The resumption of negotiations does not necessarily mean that agreements are ready for signing," said Ra'ad, a member of the Lebanese Parliament.

"Indeed, resistance operations against the Zionist occupation need to be continued and escalated, "he said. "Experience has shown that they have been effective in undermining and weakening the enemy."

While maintaining Hezbollah's deliberately ambiguous line about its posture in the event of an Israeli pullout from south Lebanon, Ra'ad indicated that the movement would act pragmatically.

When Israel withdraws from Lebanon, "Hezbollah will consider its operational methods in light of changes and developments.

"There is no need to pre-empt things now," he added. "Hezbollah will act in accordance with its assessment of the interests of Lebanon and the Lebanese – and of the special relationship with Syria."

All signs indicate that, with peace in the air, the Islamic radicals are being squeezed and their sources of logistical support are drying up. Equally, however, all bets are off if the revived peace talks falter.

Hamas terrorists are being trained in Iranian camp

By ZE'EV SCHIFF
Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

JERUSALEM — Iran has begun training Hamas terrorists in an exclusive training camp, Shin Bet has discovered. The camp, located not far from Tehran, is run by Pasdaran (Islamic Revolutionary Guards) units, under the control of the conservative, clerical leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, and has nothing to do with the regular Iranian army.

Shin Bet became aware of the Iranian-Hamas connection several months ago, following its arrest of three Hamas terrorists returning from abroad. Two of them were from the Gaza area, and one from the West Bank.

During the course of their interrogation, the three admitted that they had received guerrilla warfare training in Iran, and had, upon completion of their training, returned home to begin operations. The three men are still under arrest, and are awaiting trial at the Israeli Gaza military court.

The Iranian-Hamas link is a new development, since the movement has until now kept Iran at arm's length, fearing to compromise its independence. The smaller and more radical Islamic Jihad movement has been co-operating with Iran for some time, and has received funding and training from that country.

The fact that Iran has begun training Hamas fighters is a further escalation of Iranian involvement in the planning and carrying out of terror attacks against Israel.

Hamas is currently the largest and most dangerous terror organization operating in Israel, and targets both Israeli civilians and military personnel. It is vehemently opposed to the peace process, and over the past several years has carried out several bloody suicide bombing attacks, targeting buses, major open-air markets and malls.

Hezbollah still remains Iran's main ally in the region. Iran has nurtured this organization ever since its inception, following Israel's 1982-84 invasion and subsequent occupation of southern and central Lebanon.

Iran supplies Hezbollah with all its funding, arms, logistical and training requirements. The latter includes basic and advanced training of junior and senior commanders, and a wide range of professional military training including sabotage, communications, guerrilla warfare and other key military skills.

The training camps used to be in Lebanon itself, but were relocated to Iran following the deaths of several Pasdaran personnel in IAF bombing attacks on their camps in Lebanon. Most of the supplies are flown to Syrian airports, and from there transferred to Hezbollah units in Lebanon.

All these activities, including the training camps in Iran, are under the complete control of the Pasdaran, which answers not to the government, but solely to the country's conservative clerical leadership headed by the Ayatollah Ali Khamenei.

The camp at which Hamas terrorists were trained has also been used to train Balkan Islamic fighters.

Opinions

On being a refugee again

I was a refugee once. Though that experience happened more than 60 years ago, it became fresh and painful once again when I visited Kosovo refugees in a Canadian holding centre.

Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

Camp Borden, an army post near Barrie, received us unlike any military installation I had ever seen. From the moment we arrived, we never saw a single soldier. It was at first difficult to know that this was not another housing development with the usual mix of people. But after a while, I knew that I was elsewhere. I saw lots of older people and children, but few younger men; war and ethnic cleansing had left their mark. Camp Borden's calm atmosphere could not hide the past altogether.

The children seemed to adapt themselves to their environment. They shouted "Hi!" at us, and did so with enthusiasm. Their linguistic education was evidently well on its way, and their friendliness was a sign of saying "thank you." Being the recipient of such gratitude, and not from children only, made me feel both happy and awkward.

We were also struck by the way these children behaved. They were polite, restrained and orderly. They stood in line at chow time without pushing. Was this due to their upbringing or to the environment in which we saw them? I'd like to think it was the former.

We were interviewing adults with the help of interpreters, though sometimes these were not required, the interviewees being able to converse in understandable and often expert English. We learned that they came from different backgrounds: professionals, manual laborers, business people, and all too few students. Did they hope to go back to Kosovo? Many said yes, while some wanted to wait and see how things would turn out back home. "Not yet," some answered. "Still too many land mines" said others. I remembered suddenly that such were my own feelings when I had escaped from the Nazis. I too, had needed to wait and see whether the insanity that had engulfed the German people would soon run its course and allow me to go back.

Learning to live in a foreign environment and making peace with one's displacement takes years. Like many of the people at Camp Borden, I too had not been sure where members of my family were. When I was being married in Cincinnati, my dad was in hiding somewhere in Berlin; and I did not rediscover whereabouts of uncles and cousins until years later.

Those charged with making life bearable at Camp Borden deserve our commendation and admiration. Phil Norrad, regional manager of Canada's immigration services, like his staff and the volunteers of the Canadian Red Cross, finds the work with Kosovars rewarding. "Our government has indicated that Kosovar refugees will generally qualify for permanent residence in Canada." Good for us – we have learned from our dreadful mishandling of the Jewish refugee problem in the '30s and '40s. Never again "one is too many, he says."

I learned a good deal about myself when I visited Camp Borden. My own memories of once having been a refugee were more alive than I had anticipated. I came as a visitor and left as a onetime refugee.

The exhaustion of summer counselling

I am very tired. I wish I could claim that my lethargic nature is the result of staying up until the wee hours of morn. Alas, it is not. My sleepiness is due to 60 young adults I face five days a week at the day camp where I work.

Jennifer Fox in Thornhill

The last time I attended camp I was 15 and going into Grade 10. The following year I didn't leave the world of summer camp, but switched sides from camper to counsellor and have remained there for the last six years.

The camp counsellor is a peculiar position. You're expected to entertain, teach, and discipline without having the you-must-respect-me persona adults possess. Sometimes my campers hang on my every word, but more often than not I could vanish into air and they wouldn't even notice.

Most people can name their counsellors from years of day and overnight camps. This puzzles me, as I can't recall a single one of my numerous day camp counsellors. The counsellors from my two years at Northland B'nai Brith in Haliburton, Ont., are all a blur and the staff from my three years at Camp Kadimah in Nova Scotia, have begun to fade.

For me camp is what you do, not who you're with. I may not remember who it was who tried to teach me to water-ski, but I do recall the feeling of my arms being pulled from their sockets and the boat dragging me across the water, because I didn't know to let go.

I'm not sure what her name was, but I remember walking for two hours with a heavy backpack bearing down on me before the trip leader scratched her head and declared, "We must have taken a wrong turn somewhere, let's walk back to camp."

This is what I hope I leave to the 200 kids I will see over the months of July and August – a memory of action. I doubt they'll remember me, as I won't remember all of them. I want them to take away a memory of something they did in the two weeks I was their counsellor.

Doing is the reason why I'm always so tired during the summer. It takes a lot of energy to survive the demands of kids for seven hours a day. When I come home exhausted, my friends comment that perhaps having kids of my own is beyond my capabilities. I reply, however, the trick is not to have 10 kids of the same age at the same time.

Each year brings a new batch of kids and with them I'm exposed to a new fashion or musical trend of the younger set. There is one constant, however. Every year there's the popular boys and girls that everyone flocks to, the troublemakers who drive both counsellors and campers nuts, and the misfits who stick together and don't quite mesh with anyone else.

Some days I'll see the shy girl sitting off to the side by herself and instantly I'm once again the scared kid who stepped off the bus for the first time and couldn't find a familiar face in sight. For two months every year, I relive bits of my childhood. This doesn't happen with most jobs and I'm not sure if it's a blessing or a curse.

I am fairly certain the summer of '99 will be the last time I work at day camp. The idea of being 22 years old and still at camp doesn't appeal to me. Next summer I plan to take a vacation, or enroll in a few summer courses in an exotic locale, or perhaps I'll take a job that's somehow connected with news media.

The next time I want to think about summer camp is when I send my own kids off for the day into the hands of some sleep-deprived teenager.

Camp is part of fantasy life

As my 13-year-old campers prepare for the first summer Friday night services which they will lead, I rehearse my parts, paying close attention to the words I will utter.

Erica Horn in Montreal

Our theme is creation – the beginning. Just as in the book of Bereshit God created the world in six days and on the seventh He rested, at both the time of the writing of this column and the first Friday night services, we have been at camp for a week and it is time for us to ponder over the beginning of our summer and our first days in our summer home.

We have started the creation of new friendships, new memories and new experiences. However, beginnings are often quite challenging. Prior to my departure I worried over many things: Will I have good campers? What will there be to eat? Will I receive all the privileges I had hoped for?

At the same time, however, I was excited about the opportunities and possibilities which lay ahead.

My camp routine is one of intense and continuous physical activity combined with the devouring of fried foods, Sloppy Joes and bug juice.

Upon my return from Camp Green Lane, on Green Lane Road, in Green Lane, Pa., I normalize my diet, know I must lose the American accent, wake up at a more decent hour and then elect to mope around the house and the city for weeks — missing my camp friends. It seems that beginnings are equally as, if not more difficult than endings.

This past year I applied for numerous internships in the United States in the field of journalism, and for jobs as a madricha on various trips to Israel. I felt I had grown too old for camp. My friends were moving on to bigger and better things – volunteering in hospitals and labs, interning at accounting and law firms, studying for MCATs, LSATs and GREs.

Camp seemed part of a fantasy life. The moment you arrive the rest of the world stops, world crises and affairs disappear – you are lost in time, lost in space. Sunday is Tuesday, midnight is morning and the island of Montreal could drift south of Brazil and we really wouldn't have a clue.

As isolated as we may be at camp, and as much as we would like to believe that having 56 consecutive days where the goal is to have fun are all part of a fantasy and surrealistic world, camp belongs more to the reality.

The horrors of Kosovo which mirror the atrocities of the Holocaust, John F. Kennedy Jr.'s plane gone missing which added further misfortune and tragedy to the Kennedy family name – these things should be the surreal, the unbelievable, the fantasy and not camp.

In hindsight, I realize that my camp-related worries were comparatively trivial to other situations I could be faced with. Moreover, I have learnt that you are never too old for camp – you will have the rest of your life to pursue your career.

My pre-camp jitters only served as gradual preparation for potential adversities.

As it is written, God created the world in six days and on the seventh He rested.

IT'S ALL IN THE SHOULDERS!

A Canadian girl visiting Israel this summer on a program sponsored by the Canada Israel Experience Centre, learns how to shoulder dance from two young Ethiopian girls during the recent Yom Canada celebration at the Amnon Holiday Village in the Galilee on the shores of the Kinneret near Tiberias.

[Isranet photo]

The Kirshner File

The Jews of the Mississippi delta

The fertile delta region of Mississippi, in the northwestern corner of that quintessential southern American state, is a paradigm of the Old South, what with its archetypical plantations and its vast expanse of cotton fields.

Sheldon Kirshner in Toronto

Always isolated, the delta is almost as remote today as it was when that peculiar institution, slavery, was in vogue. Not even an interstate highway runs through it.

And yet the delta, one of the poorest regions in the United States, a place that inspires jokes about rednecks, has a well-established Jewish community, albeit a declining one.

Six years ago, Mike DeWitt, a neophyte filmmaker from Beverly Hills, Calif., decided to make a documentary about the Jews there. The film, *Delta Jews*, which had its world premiere at the New York Jewish Film Festival last January, was screened at the recent Toronto Jewish Film Festival.

"Mississippi," he explained, "was a part of the United States I didn't know, and it intrigued me."

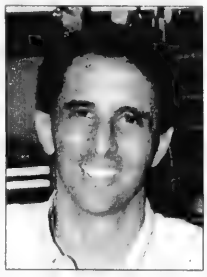
One can understand his sentiments. In the popular imagination, Mississippi has invariably summoned up the spectre of unbridled racism, of Jim Crow laws and of Ku Klux Klan cross burnings. Mississippi, like the rest of the South, has changed for the better in the past three decades, but the stereotypes linger on.

It was into this terrain that DeWitt boldly ventured, first as an English teacher for the Mississippi Teacher Corps in the delta town of Greenwood, and then as the producer and director of *Delta Jews*, the first and so far only movie about this arcane subject.

With funding from various sources, including the Skirball Cultural Centre in Los Angeles and the Mississippi Humanities Council, DeWitt drove around the delta, on and off for 5½ years starting in 1992, interviewing Jews in towns like Greenwood, Indianola, Cleveland, Clarksdale and Vicksburg.

He shot his first scene at the eighth annual Jewish Delta Open, an amateur golf tournament in Greenwood. The sheer unusualness and camaraderie of that event convinced DeWitt, 32, that there was a film to be made about the Jews of the delta.

There was a certain urgency in the project. "It was clear that this was not the kind of film you could make 10 years down the road," said DeWitt. The Jewish population of the delta is down precipitously, from 1,500 in 1945 to 300 today.



Mike DeWitt

Originally from Western Europe, the first Jewish settlers were itinerant peddlers who eventually bought stores and became respectable merchants. A few, like third-generation cotton farmer Ben Lamensdorf, remained on the land.

The Jews of the delta found almost complete acceptance from their Christian neighbors. "They were integrated into local society," said DeWitt, who is Jewish. "They wanted to be part of it. They avoided situations that would set them apart from that society. They were Jews and Southerners."

Anti-Semitism hardly affected them. "Jews assimilated aggressively," said DeWitt. "Besides, they were not there in any great numbers, and were regarded as good citizens."

Nevertheless, the fear of anti-Semitism loomed large. The tumultuous civil rights era of the 1950s and 1960s unleashed hidden prejudices and resentments, prompting Jews to feel vulnerable and, perhaps, marginal. Certainly, they did not appreciate the presence of Jewish civil rights activists from the north in their communities.

According to DeWitt, Jews generally kept a low profile and "went along," acquiescing to the prevailing system of segregation. Indeed, some even joined the White Citizens Councils, which sought to perpetuate it. One of its Jewish members wrote a racist pamphlet entitled *A Jewish View of Segregation*.

"As I made the film, I wondered what I would have done under these circumstances," said DeWitt, who is currently working on a series of programs about American history for Home Box Office. "I hope I would have had the guts to stand against injustice."

Although relatively few Jews, including rabbis, publicly denounced segregation, they tended to be more civil than white gentiles in their day-to-day relations with African-Americans. And they were not as reluctant to give blacks non-menial jobs.

DeWitt is pleased to report that *Delta Jews* – which was shown at the University of Mississippi in Oxford and broadcast on the public educational TV station in Jackson – went down well with the Jews he had interviewed. "They seemed very proud of the film, and this is to their credit because not everything in it is particularly flattering. They said that I got their story right, and this is endlessly satisfying for me."

Racism in South Africa

Institutional racism was the coin of the realm before South Africa finally abandoned apartheid and metamorphosed into a multi-racial democracy. And while non-whites bore the brunt of racist attitudes and practices, South African Jews were hardly immune to its evils.

That, in a nutshell, is the theme of Milton Shain's illuminating book, *The Roots of Anti-Semitism in South Africa* (University of Virginia Press), whose focus is the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

Shain's thesis is that anti-Semitism was an important, though not a defining, element of South African society long before anti-Semitism peaked in the 1930s. The substantial involvement of Jews in trade and speculation in the diamond fields and in the hinterland had aroused the resentment of both Afrikaners and Britons, he writes.

By the 1890s, Jewish traders, particularly those of East European origin, were increasingly seen as exploiters. However, German Jews, who comprised the leadership of the Jewish community until this century, were generally exempt from this stereotype.

The presence of East European Jews in South Africa troubled many whites. They viewed the newcomers as unassimilable, looking askance at their dishevelled appearance, exotic language (Yiddish) and alien manner. But as they adapted themselves to their new surroundings, the distinctions between them and the acculturated German-Jewish establishment faded.

Shain points out that Jewish thrift, enterprise and energy were respected. But he hastens to add that anti-Semitic stereotypes flourished in the popular press.

After the 1917 Bolshevik revolution, Jews were identified with Communism. This was certainly a problem, but a minor one compared to the growing backlash against immigration. As a result of an economic depression in Lithuania – the primary source of Jewish settlers – and restrictive changes in the policies of the United States and Australia, the number of Jewish immigrants to South Africa more than doubled in the 1920s.

Reacting to the influx, the South African government in 1930 passed the Immigration Quota Bill. It stifled the inflow of Jewish migrants.

In closing, Shain claims that anti-Semitism was never "a defining feature" of South African culture. Indeed, the prevalence of anti-Semitism did not prevent Jews from achieving prominence in business, politics and the arts. And more importantly, the white status of Jews was never seriously questioned or threatened.

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Tu B'Av means romance

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

This week we observe one of the less known but fascinating Jewish holidays, Tu B'Av. After finishing the Three weeks of semi-mourning, it's now time for consolation and rejoicing. And in an interesting convergence of old and new, this ancient holiday period has become a popular time for singles' events. Today, Tu B'Av and romance on the Jewish Highway.

The Mishnah (Ta'anit 4:8), surprisingly enough, declares, "There were no greater holidays (yamim tovim) for Israel than Tu B'Av and Yom Kippur, for on them, the girls of Jerusalem used to go out in borrowed white dresses...and dance in the vineyards. What would they say? 'Young man, lift up your eyes and see what you choose for yourself. Do not set your eyes on beauty but set them on good family. Grace is deceitful and beauty is vain. But a woman that fears God, she will be praised...'" **[http://www1.snunit.k12.il/kodesh/mishna/tani04.html]**.

But why now? According to the Talmud, there are six reasons Tu B'Av was made a holiday **[http://www.torah.org/learning/yomtov/3weeks/]**. Among them: Marriage between different tribes of Israel was permitted that day. In the desert, a ban on inter-tribal marriage had insured that land would not pass out of the hands of the tribe it originally belonged to.

According to Virtual Jerusalem, "The ability for all of the tribes to marry each other – necessary to facilitate a deep, fundamental sense of Jewish oneness – is worth celebrating." **[http://www.vjholidays.com/tubav/backgnd.htm]**.

In honor of Tu B'Av, Jewish Family & Life asked couples how they keep romance alive in their marriage **[http://www.jewishlove.com/]**. The same site also held a contest asking people to tell their Jewish love stories. The contest is now closed but you can still read (and share) your own romantic tale. Like the story of Carol and Abie who had known each other for 20 years but only really got to know each other one special summer. Then one day, while Abie was driving home, "he called on the cell phone and said, 'you think we should get married?' That was my romantic proposal. What he may lack in originality, he makes up in sensitivity, support, caring, understanding and affection, and it has been the best year of our lives." **[http://www.jewishfamily.com/scripts/newjfl/forum/forum.asp?ForumID=200]**.

Not too good with words but still want to express your feelings? Since Tu B'Av falls on the 15th of the month, there is always a (romantic) full moon out. Jill Suzanne Jacobs has instructions for building a mobile full of Jewish symbols to complement the holiday **[http://jewishfamily.com/scripts/NewJfl/paper/Article.asp?ArticleID=2300]**.

And for more thoughts on the day, see **[http://www.jewishfamily.com/scripts/NewJfl/paper/Index.asp?ColumnID=71]**.

But what about that pairing of Tu B'Av and Yom Kippur? According to Yosef Abramowitz and Rabbi Susan Silverman, it says a lot about Judaism's unique perspective on relationships **[http://jewishfamily.com/scripts/NewJfl/paper/Article.asp?ArticleID=1270]**.

Tu B'Av, like Yom Kippur, is about introspection and new beginnings concerning our relationships and personal values. On Tu B'Av, the young girls would borrow white dresses so that the young men could not choose among them according to materialistic concerns. Today, we live in a world that is status- and fashion-conscious with ideals of beauty set by television and movies.

"Tu B'Av tells us to look beneath the surface when looking for (or at) a life partner, just as Yom Kippur forces us to look deep into ourselves before God grants us life anew. Like Yom Kippur, it is a time for reflection and introspection. But instead of being an individual process, it is a mutual, shared experience between two people."

Next week, dating and dating advice on the Web.

■■■

Mark Mietkiewicz is a Toronto-based television producer who writes, lectures and teaches about the Jewish Internet. He can be contacted at [highway@home.com].

Lord's Prayer is Jewish

Books
Bernard Baskin

In recent years, courts in Ontario, Manitoba and British Columbia have ruled that recitation of the Lord's Prayer in public schools interferes with the religious-freedom provisions in provincial human rights codes and the national Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

Now the question has arisen in Saskatchewan, where a group of parents who are objecting to the recitation of the prayer have filed a complaint with the province's human rights tribunal. At the heart of the problem is the Saskatchewan Provincial Act of 1905, which dictates that religion be part of the public school system. And religion, of course, almost a century ago meant Christianity.

Many people are upset. Isn't the Lord's Prayer ecumenical in spirit? How can anyone object to its universal teachings and ideals?

The Lord's Prayer, part of the Sermon on the Mount, is the only prayer that Jesus authorized. According to the version in the Book of Matthew, Jesus instructed his followers to pray in this manner. "Our Father Who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven out debtors. And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever."

This simple and succinct prayer was meant to be recited in private. Jesus urges his disciples and followers, "When you pray, go into your room and shut your door and pray to your father who is in secret; and your father who sees in secret will reward you."

Evidently, this was a prayer meant to be intimate and inward-directed, in contrast to public prayer. It was in the vernacular Aramaic tongue in which the common folk were fluent. It is possible it was meant as a protest against fixed, statutory public prayer in general.

How Jewish is the Lord's Prayer? The well-known Christian source, the Interpreter's Bible concludes: "The prayer is thoroughly Jewish and nearly every phrase is paralleled in the Kaddish and the Eighteen Benedictions of the Jewish liturgy. Thus it is Jesus' inspired and original summary of his own people's piety at its best."

Many scholars, Jewish and non-Jewish, have traced almost every idea and formulation in the Lord's Prayer to earlier biblical and rabbinic sources.

In his scholarly study, *Jesus and the Judaism of His Time*, Irving Zeitlin of the University of Toronto makes clear some of the parallels. "Our Father who art in heaven" is a popular expression which is part of many Jewish prayers. In the Kaddish, we find the words, "may the Name be hallowed and may Thy kingdom come. Exalted and sanctified be His great Name in the world which He created ac-

News backgrounder

[Continued on page 13]

Roots & Remembrance

Some lost tribes resurface

By ZE'EV GLICENSTEIN

Recently published in hardcover, *Jews In Places You Never Thought Of*, edited by Karen Primack (Ktav, $29.50 US) reminds us that the Jewish family tree includes many diverse and exotic branches.

Ever heard of the Chuetas of Majorca and other islands off the Mediterranean coast of Spain? Outwardly Catholic, they are considered descendants of hidden Jews who were expelled from Spain in 1492. Their religious practices reflect many Judaic elements. For instance, they fast on Yom Kippur and pray to a deity called Adonai.

And how about the Jews of Sao Tome and Principe, two island nations off the Guinea coast of central Africa? When Portugal expelled its Jews in 1496, the king ordered 2,000 Jewish children to be taken from their parents and sent to these fever- and crocodile-infested islands, which Portugal wanted to colonize. Stories tell of how parents beseeched their children to intermarry and to remain loyal to the laws of Moses.

One year later, only 600 of the child slaves were still alive. Today, their descendants are a distinct minority (recognizable by their white skins) in the islands' population of about 100,000 mostly Creole inhabitants. Efforts are under way, both in Sao Tome and in Israel, to document the roots of this stranded Judaic tribe and reintegrate them into the Jewish mainstream.

While in Thailand several years ago, I visited a Karens hill tribe in a remote mountain village north of Chiang Mai, near the Burmese border. I found a people living in semi-squalid conditions, living in huts and cooking with fire. Electricity had only recently enhanced their rugged agriculturalist way of life.

Unlike neighboring tribes of more recent vintage, the Karens had supposedly been nomads in these mountains since ancient times. They number several millions throughout Burma, Laos and Thailand. According to *Jews In Places You Never Thought Of*, they have Jewish roots and may be connected to the B'nei Menashe or Shinlung, another Judaic tribe in northeast India that also numbers in the millions.

Comprised of chapters from about 45 contributors, *Jews In Places You Never Thought Of* is co-published by Kulanu, a U.S.-based non-profit organization that assists obscure Jewish tribes and gentile peoples attracted to Judaism to learn more about being Jewish, convert halachically if necessary, and make aliyah if desired.

Encountering a group of Inca natives from Peru who had been following the path of Judaism since 1966, Kulanu assisted nearly 300 of them through a beit din conversion and immigration to Israel. Kulanu has also assisted the Abayudaya, a group of native Ugandans who have been practicing Judaism since 1919. Having helped 41 B'nei Menashe to resettle in Israel, Kulanu is pressing Israel's chief rabbinate and Ministry of Interior to accept more.

The book asks questions about many other groups of people in South Africa, Ghana, Nigeria, Italy, Mexico, Brazil, Cape Verde and China. It offers an occasionally fascinating, if somewhat uneven, collection of articles. The e-mail address of Kulanu is: Kulanu@ubmail.ubalt.edu. The Web site can be found at http://www.ubalt.edu/ www/kulanu/ index2.html

* * *

The Jews of Khazaria, by Kevin Alan Brook (Jason Aronson Inc., $35 US) focuses on the Eastern European tribe that embraced Judaism in the 9th century. In this full-fledged academic study, Brook traces the migration of the Khazar people in Hungary, Ukraine and other areas of Europe, and attempts to demonstrate several points that some historians may find contentious.

First, Brook asserts that a large number of the Khazar people converted to Judaism – not just the rulers and nobility. He points out that "many synagogues and yeshivas were established in Khazaria, and the study of Torah and Talmud became commonplace."

Second, the author attempts to show that the Khazars mixed with Slavs and Middle-Eastern Jews, and later intermarried with the Yiddish-speaking Ashkenazi Jews of Eastern Europe.

Also of interest is a new edition of Joan Roland's *The Jewish Communities of India: Identity in a Colonial Era* (Transaction Books, $29.95 US). Roland gives a thoughtful, detailed history of the Bene Israel community of western India, the Baghdadi Jews of Bombay and Calcutta, and the Cochin Jews of the Malabar Coast.

'Improper to recite prayer'

[Continued from page 12]

cording to His will, and may He bring about His kingdom."

The phrase, "Thy will be done as in heaven, so on earth," appears in rabbinic literature. The expression, "Give us this day our daily bread," is found in a similar form in the Hebrew scriptures. In the Shemoneh Esreh prayer (Eighteen Benedictions), "Forgive us our debts" is the sixth blessing.

The phrase, "lead us not into temptation," occurs in a talmudic prayer: "Lead us not into sin or iniquity or temptation."

The closing sentence of the prayer is a later addition, probably taken from the Book of Chronicles, where the chronicler has King David speak these words: "Yours Jehovah is the greatness and the power and the glory and the splendor and the majesty."

It would be unfair and misguided to regard the Lord's Prayer, however, as totally derivative and unoriginal. Joseph Klausner, the eminent Jewish scholar, asserted that Jesus condensed and concentrated important Jewish ethical teachings in a unique manner. "The choice and grouping of the phrases is original and the entire prayer conveys the aura of a singular emphasis."

The Jewish objection to the recitation of the Lord's Prayer is not based so much on what it says, but rather on its origin and the status it has achieved throughout the centuries in Christianity. It is the universal Christian prayer and is closely associated with a distinct history and liturgy. It would be improper for Jews to recite it in the classroom or elsewhere.

NETIVOT HATORAH GOLF CLASSIC

Jonah Turk, Netivot HaTorah golf committee chair presents a cheque to Alan Steinfeld, executive administrator and Reuven Stern, principal. Funds raised from the school's recent golf classic will go towards helping Netivot HaTorah students with special needs. From left is Jonah Turk, Alan Steinfeld, Reuven Stern.

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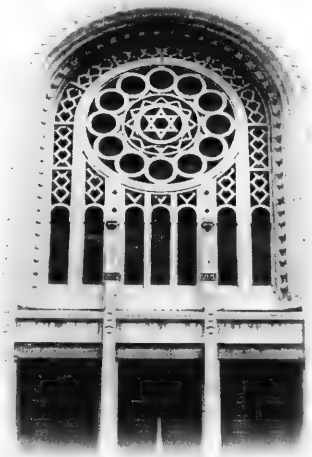

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Apostasy and the right of Jewish burial

By RABBI
J. IMMANUEL SCHOCHET

Recently the media covered a controversy about the burial of a man born Jewish but converted to Christianity, who wished to be buried in a Jewish cemetery.

Guest Voices

The family and friends of the deceased argued that as a "Messianic Jew" he retained Jewish identity and his body should be allowed to rest among Jews. Our community rightly rejected this claim.

The issue created some confusion, even among Jews, because of our principle that a Jew remains a Jew regardless of what he does or fails to do. Thus some clarification is in order.

The Talmud states unequivocally: An Israelite, though he sinned, remains an Israelite. Maimonides thus writes in his famous Epistle to Yemen: "No descendant of Jacob [the patriarch] can ever free himself from this Torah, neither he, nor his children or children's children, whether voluntarily or involuntarily. Nonetheless, he will be punished for negating any of its commands or violating any of its prohibitions."

Rabbi Shlomo Yitzchaki (Rashi) uses this principle as the premise for ruling that even apostates are regarded Jewish in matters of marital and other laws. He is followed in this by most authorities, including the Code of Jewish Law.

Many people, however, miss a crucial point. The inclusiveness of the apostate is only in the negative context of imposing legal stringencies (*chumrot*), and not to favor him with status or legal leniencies.

One could simply summarize the status of the apostate in the following words: The heretic or apostate, by his rejection of Judaism and adoption of another religion, has effectively excommunicated himself. Practically speaking, this means that he loses all privileges of Judaism even while retaining all obligations.

This may be compared to one entitled to natural citizenship by virtue of being born in a country: when betraying his country, he may lose all privileges of his citizenship, yet remains subject to all laws and obligations.

Jewish law spells this out quite clearly: A *meshumad* (apostate) loses his status of being a member of the covenant (Sifra on Leviticus 1:2; Tossafot, Sanhedrin 72b).

The issue becomes more sensitive in context of a Jew accepting Christianity or the basic Christian doctrines. Judaism regards the Christian beliefs in the Trinity, Divine incarnation and that Jesus is a mediator between God and man, as idolatrous.

This is subject to the following qualification: Most authorities (especially of the Ashkenazi tradition) do not regard Christians who follow these doctrines of their faith to be idol-worshippers. Their ruling is based mainly on the fact that Christians do recognize and worship the One Supreme Being who created the universe.

In their view, non-Jews are allowed to add to this the acceptance of another being as a deity or mediator. This is known as the principle of *shituf*, associating another power with that of the Almighty.

For a Jew, however, any form of *shituf* is tantamount to idolatry in the fullest sense of the word. There is then no way that a Jew can ever accept Jesus as a deity, mediator or savior (messiah), or even as a prophet, without betraying Judaism. To call oneself, therefore, a "Hebrew-Christian," a "Jew for Jesus," or in the latest version a "Messianic Jew," is an oxymoron. Just as one cannot be a "Christian Buddhist," or a "Christian for Krishna," one cannot be a "Jew for Jesus."

'He loses all privileges of Judaism'

The fact that they presently use deceptive practices of wearing skullcaps, tzitzit and other symbols of traditional Judaism, or that they have services on the Jewish holy days with readings of the Torah, Kiddush and candlelighting etc., does not change one iota of their idolatrous status or excommunication.

Indeed, if and when any of them decide to return to the fold, Jewish law mandates that they must undergo a form of conversion to regain their Jewishness.

This new type of apostate often argues that Judaism is inconsistent in its judgment about them while continuing to regard non-believing and non-practising Jews as full Jews.

The Jewish position, however, is clearly defined by the rabbis: "Anyone who repudiates idolatry is called a Jew." Or in different terminology: "Repudiation of idolatry is tantamount to acknowledging the whole Torah, all the prophets and all that the prophets were commanded from the time of Adam to the end of time. Acceptance of idolatry is tantamount to repudiating the whole Torah, the prophets and everything that they were commanded from Adam to the end of time."

Maimonides thus rules: A Jew who worships idols (which includes the acceptance of Jesus), is like a gentile in every respect, and is not at all like a Jew who commits a capital offence. Moreover, whoever acknowledges the validity of idolatry, even if he does not worship it, reviles and blasphemes the honored and revered Name of God.

These principles are so intrinsic to Jewish identity that even the Israeli Supreme Court, in the famous case of "Brother Daniel [Rufeisen]," rejected the demand of an apostate to enjoy the privileges of Israel's Law of Return just because he continued to regard himself as Jewish.

Judaism, and Judaism alone, can define legitimate membership in its faith-community. It is the height of absurdity and chutzpah to reject Judaism and then redefine its original tradition. While the doors for tshuvah, for returning to the fold, remain forever open to anyone without exception, those who consciously betray their roots and identity have no place in the midst of their people, whether dead or alive

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Beth Avraham Yoseph (O)	613 Clark Ave. W. (905) 886-3810	7:00 PM	8:45 AM	7:00, 8:00 & 8:45 AM	6:45 & 7:30 AM	8:25 PM
Beth Emeth (C)	100 Elder St. (416) 633-3838	7:00 PM	8:45 AM	7:30 & 8:30 AM	7:30 & 8:15 AM	8:30 PM
Beth Tikvah (C)	3080 Bayview Ave. (416) 221-3433	6:00 PM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	7:15 AM	7:30 PM
Holy Blossom (R)	1950 Bathurst St. (416) 789-3291	6:00 PM	10:30 AM	9:00 AM	----------	6:00 PM
Ohr Somayach / JEP (south) (O)	2939 Bathurst St. (416) 785-5899	7:00 PM	8:30 AM	7:45 AM	Mon. Thurs. 6:35 Tues. Wed. Fri. 6:45	8:25 PM
Shaar Shalom (C)	2 Simonston Blvd. (905) 889-4975	7:00 PM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	7:00 AM	Mon. 8:20 7:00 PM
Shaarei Shomayim (O)	470 Glencairn Ave. (416) 789-3213	7:00 PM	9:00 AM	8:30 AM	7:30 AM	8:25 PM
Village Shul (O)	1072 Eglinton Ave. W (416) 785-1107	7:00 PM	8:45 AM	8:00 AM	7:00 AM	8:25 PM

This is not a comprehensive listing of the synagogues in the Greater Toronto area. The information is provided by the Vaad Harabonim of Toronto and the Toronto Board of Rabbis. The Vaad and the Board will periodically revise the listings. For statutory holidays, please call the Synagogue for any changes in times.

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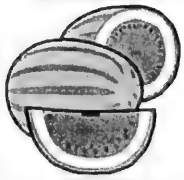

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jewish toronto

Telethons Seek Record Recruitment

UJA Federation is planning to recruit the largest contingent of telethon volunteers in its history. The telethon team, chaired by Rosanne Ain, Dov Altman, and Judy Engel will be recruiting hundreds of past and prospective volunteers for telethon events that raise millions of dollars on behalf of Jews in need.

Campaign 2000 telethons, which start September 13-16 and include Super Sunday on October 17, will be centred on a new *Answer the Call* contest. The name of every donor who picks up the phone by saying, "Hi, UJA. I'm answering the call," and then increases his or her gift, will be entered into a draw for attractive prizes. In addition, the volunteer who initiated the call will also be entered.

The telethon team leaders are planning specially designed volunteer programs, which, according to Altman, will "ensure that a real group closeness develops."

"We want to make sure that the volunteer experience is a positive one. The emphasis this year will not only be on fun, but on volunteer and donor appreciation."

Last year, over 500 people participated in campaign telethons and many of them cited a strong feeling of reward from the experience.

"It is the most direct way to get involved with the community," says Charles Newman, a former Montrealer who has been involved with UJA Federation since arriving two years ago. "What is more appropriate than having one Jew calling another to help? If I can say at the end of the day that I raised thousands of dollars, I can be proud that I have done my bit to help our community."

For Cheryl Jackson, it's a way to be a role model for her children. "The telethon was a great experience both for me and my daughter, Devra," she asserts. "It's wonderful to know that I'm passing on important values to my children. My daughter chose to come and we had a great day together."

Fay Gold, who's been volunteering since the Six-Day War, sees telethoning as her personal opportunity to help the Jewish community. Justine Fields, who came on board two years ago, says she is "proud to be part of something so worthy."

UJA Federation's Campaign 2000, which officially begins August 30, is striving for a fundraising objective of $50 million annually by 2001. The campaign proceeds will be used to assist the vulnerable, strengthen Jewish identity, and rescue Jews in danger.

To help meet the needs of the community into the next century, through UJA Federation telethons, contact Jared Isaacson at (416) 631-5732 to enroll as a telethon volunteer.

volunteer views

Ruth and Harold Margles have a driving desire to help people in need. Ruth has been volunteering for the kosher Meals on Wheels program, operated by Circle of Care, since 1982. Her husband joined the team in 1996. "It's very hands-on work which is extremely satisfying," says Ruth.

Each week, almost 400 meals are delivered across the Greater Toronto Area, but Ruth and Harold like to place a personal stamp on their own route. "We get to know the people, follow their health, living conditions, and then monitor any changes," says Ruth.

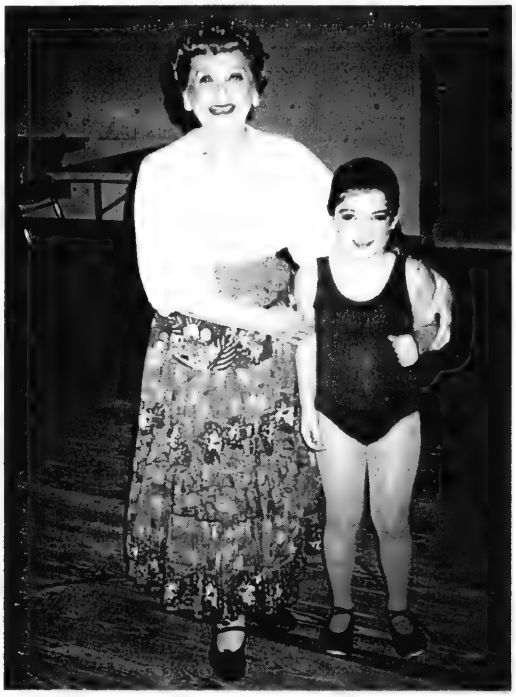
"We are often their primary contact with the outside world," adds Harold. "People need a lot more than just the meals."

Even though each visit is short, Harold and Ruth often stay to help with meal preparation and set-up. "Sometimes we help open the containers for them and have a chat about what's going on in the community," Ruth notes.

The rewards for the Margles are certainly evident by the number of years they've been involved with the program. "The satisfaction of being able to provide help to someone who needs it is indescribable," Ruth claims. "The majority of recipients are seniors who have become quite frail and can't always help themselves, so they're very vulnerable. Some are recovering from hospital stays and are recuperating at home."

The benefit for Harold is the direct contact. "I have always been involved with committees, but became frustrated with the bureaucracy. This gives me the opportunity to have one-to-one contact with people, helping to ease their loneliness and isolation."

For more information on the kosher Meals on Wheels program or to volunteer, call Shelly Rotman at the UJA Federation Volunteer Hotline (416) 635-2883 ext. 137.



GENERATIONS OF DANCERS
Vi Wolf (left) and her great-granddaughter Chelsea Rubin danced in the same program at the Koffler School of Dance Showcase '99, held recently at Leah Posluns Theatre.

Former lawyer fulfils dream of being rabbi

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The burning ambition of rabbinical student Nancy Morris is to serve a community in Europe that sorely needs a rabbi.

To this end, the 38-year-old Montreal-born woman is attending Leo Baeck College in London, England, where she is the only Canadian student. A former lawyer, Morris was recently awarded a $7,500 grant from the Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture.

The New York foundation announced grants totalling more than $3.1 million to support Jewish scholars, educators and communal workers in 33 countries. Morris is the only Canadian winner.

Her goal is to serve the cause of progressive Judaism in Europe, an area of the world in need of rabbis; she is interested in working in France, where she has already made some contacts, or in another part of Europe, she said.

"The prejudice against female rabbis is still strong, especially in Europe," said Morris, "so it's a question of finding the right congregation." She is to be ordained at the end of her training in 2002.

Unlike students from England who must agree to take posts in that country upon ordination, Morris is free to go wherever she likes.

She has already been a rabbinic intern at Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom, in Montreal, and has served Jewish communities in Brataslavia and Vienna.

One of the experiences she remembers keenly was at a Slovak holiday camp where she added a Jewish flavor.

She is currently working with a chaplaincy unit in an inner-city London hospital.

She said that since her experience with a chaplain during her late father's illness, she has always been interested in pastoral counselling of hospital patients.

She said she was attracted to Leo Baeck College by the age range and diversity of the students, who come from all over the world.

Another student there, Grisha Abramovich – he intends to return to his native Beylorussia – also won a $7,500 grant from the Memorial foundation.

Morris' varied career has included work as an immigration officer at Amnesty International, legal work at both a large Toronto law firm and at a legal aid clinic in Montreal. She also served as a small communities liaison officer with Canadian Jewish Congress in Montreal.

Morris received two degrees from McGill University – her law degree in 1993 and her MA in Jewish Studies in 1990. She also studied at Hebrew University from

Nancy Morris

1984-85. She graduated from Concordia University in 1984 with a BA in western civilization and culture.

The daughter of the late Evelyn and David Morris, Morris has three brothers in Toronto – Noah, Michael and Josh.

Breast cancer, heredity linked

Continued from page 1

The study concludes that "testing should be offered to all Jewish women with breast cancer diagnosed before the age of 50 years, or have first or second degree relatives with ovarian or early-onset breast cancer."

Those who are found to have the genetic mutations can take precautions, Warner said, such as frequent breast self-examinations and mammograms, or even prophylactic breast or ovary removal.

The mutations can be found on either the maternal or paternal sides of the family, so it is important to consider the entire family history, Warner said.

Male relatives should also be tested, as the genetic mutation appears to raise the incidence of prostate cancer.

Warner struck a note of caution against relying totally on the genetic testing. "The penetrance (the number of people with the mutations that actually develop breast, ovarian or prostate cancer) ranges from only 30 to 90 percent" she said.

Also, she added, researchers don't know exactly what a negative result means in terms of susceptibility to cancer.

Another point, is that it appears that the BRCA2 gene mutation doesn't cause as much damage in younger women as BRCA1 does.

"That may mean that women with BRCA2 mutation may catch up in later years. The literature suggests that that is what is happening."

There are families that have the mutation and nobody gets these cancers, Warner said. Similarly, there are families where everyone is affected.

The study was conducted by doctors Warner, Steven Narod of Women's College Hospital; William Foulkes, Jewish General Hospital of Montreal; Pamela Goodwin of Mount Sinai Hospital; Wendy Meschino, North York General Hospital; and Paul Goss, Toronto Hospital, Princess Margaret Division.

Funds came from, among other sources, the U.S National Institute of Health, through the Ontario Cancer Genetics Network, the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation, and Cancer Research Society.

Research was conducted at Sunnybrook, Mount Sinai, Women's College, Toronto, and North York General hospitals, and Sir Mortimer B. Davis Jewish General Hospital in Montreal.

Although the results have been published, research is ongoing, Warner said.

People who are concerned, can go to a familial cancer clinic (such as the one at Sunnybrook Regional Cancer Centre) either directly, or through their family doctor or gynecologist, said Warner.

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

CANADIAN SOCIETY FOR YAD VASHEM
News Flash
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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Tuesday, Aug. 3, is deadline for Aug. 12 issue, and Monday, Aug. 9, is deadline for Aug. 19. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax. 391-0829.

Thursday, July 29

DRAMA WORKSHOP

Creative Drama Workshop, Discover, Release and Master Your Personal Resources While Having Fun, with theatre arts specialist **Fran Elliot,** 7-10 p.m., B'nai Brith Building, 15 Hove St. All levels of experience (18 years and older). Wear comfortable clothing. Presented by Medina Theatre Ensemble. Members $10, non-members $15. 785-1074 or 785-0363.

ABOUT KOSOVO

Prof. Hugh Innis speaks about Kosovo, 2 p.m. at Forest Hill Place Retirement Residence, 645 Castlefield Ave. No charge. Reserve. **Marlene** or **Susan**, 785-1511.

Sunday, Aug. 1

JEWISH STORYTELLING

Jewish Storytelling at Beit Habonim, 5 Glen Park Ave., 7:30 p.m., hosted by **Alec Gelcer.** All welcome to listen or tell. $4 donation. Presented by Jewish Storytelling Arts. 440-1330.

Wednesday, Aug. 4

MONTESSORI DAY SCHOOL

A Montessori Jewish Day School is being established in Toronto. The organizing committee meets at 7 p.m. 929-4830.

FOLKDANCE WORKSHOP

Israeli folkdance workshop with teacher/choreographer **Marco Ben-Shimon**, 8-12 p.m., Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 905-771-0363.

Thursday, Aug. 5

THE JEWISH MOSAIC

Forest Hill Place's series, The Jewish Mosaic: Reflections of Other Cultures, features Reflections of India with **Anne Samson,** 2 p.m., 645 Castlefield Ave. Reserve. **Marlene** or **Susan** 785-1511.

And What Else Is New

ORPHAN'S HOME REUNION

A combined reunion of the alumni of two Jewish orphanages in Montreal, the Montefiore and the Montreal Hebrew Orphan's Homes, will be held July 31 and Aug. 1 in Toronto. The orphanages opened in the early 1920s and closed in 1936 and 1942. Alumni will be coming from Florida, California, Ottawa and Montreal. Former residents or anyone wishing information should contact **Myer Gordon** 221-3161.

HEBREW CLASSES

Keren Hatarbut Institute of Jewish Studies, 788 Marlee Ave., fall courses for adults, teenagers and preteens, in conversational Hebrew for beginners, intermediate and advanced students: Tuesday mornings Sept. 14-Dec. 14 and Friday mornings Sept. 17-Dec, 17, Intermediate I; Wednesday mornings Sept. 15-Dec. 15, Intermediate II; Thursday mornings Sept. 16-Dec. 16, Beginners; Thursday evenings Sept. 16-Dec. 16, all levels. Register. **Joseph Klinger** 787-0197.

SPIRITUAL MEDITATION

Montreal composer/meditator **Ken Rabow** offers Jewish Spiritual Meditation classes every week at the Bloor Jewish Community Centre, Mondays at 8:15 p.m., starting Aug. 2. These courses are designed to help people bring spirituality and joy into their everyday lives through Jewish meditation.

Upcoming classes include Music, Moons and Jewish Meditation, and Freilach Meditation.

For information on all classes, 992-1245.

KABBALAH CENTRE

Kabbalah Centre, 678 Sheppard Ave. W. 631-9395.

Ancient teachings of Kabbalah free introductory lecture, Thursday, July 29, 7:30 p.m.

Next course on Kabbalah I, how to interpret the mysteries created by our five senses, begins Wednesday, Aug. 4.

JF & CS GROUPS

Jewish Family & Child Service groups. For registration/information **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

Parenting:1,2,3 Magic, 3-session groups for parents to learn behavior management techniques based on **Thomas Phelan's** book, *1,2,3 Magic.* Groups are age specific and begin in the fall. Call now!

Younger Persons Bereavement Group: living alone, parenting alone, other changing relationships, begins Aug. 18.

Continued on page 19

Sam says it's time to live a little!

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What's New

Continued from page 18

Today's Woman: Making It Happen: self-esteem, interpersonal skills, stress management, time management, begins Aug. 24.

Do Your Kids Have Trouble Making Friends?: Peer social skills program for children ages 6-14 and their parents, begins Oct. 13.

Single Family Challenge: feelings, concerns, skills, strategies, personal needs and parental responsibilities, begins Sept. 21.

VENDORS WANTED

For craft and gift sale being held at Bayview Village Shopping Centre Monday, Oct. 11, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Under the auspices of Beersheba Club, Na'amat Canada. 636-5425 days, **Ruth Jacobson** 493-1089 evenings.

SINGLES SCENE

For 30-50 age group, Midland Boat Cruise, Sunday, Aug. 15. Leaves Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue 8:30 a.m., returns 6 p.m. Cost $32 includes deluxe coach and snacks. Must be prepaid by Wednesday, Aug. 11. Call 633-3838 to reserve. For additional information, call **Rhonda** 905-731-9441.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Baycrest Centre is looking for nurses' station attendants. If you are looking for a good challenge at a fast pace, become a volunteer unit clerk assistant. This is for those who have knowledge of Windows 98 and Microsoft Word 97, have strong communication and telephone skills, and wish evening or weekend volunteering. **Sandy Frankel,** 785-2500, ext. 2576 at Baycrest Department of Volunteer Services.

Be professionally trained as a puppeteer, and educate young people about HIV/AIDS, viruses, drug awareness and substance abuse. The Concerned Kids needs volunteers to help present puppet programs to young people ages 4-14. Must be willing to commit ½ day per week for the school year until June 2000. **Joyce** 636-1656.

French, Hungarian, Spanish and Yiddish speaking volunteers are needed to visit isolated seniors living in their own homes. These seniors have become isolated due to their inability to converse in English. All it takes is two hours a week. **Sandra Kingstone** at Circle of Care 635-2860.

FOR SENIORS

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). July 29, bingo; Sunday, Aug. 1, dance with Teddy Band, for tickets call **Malka Colla** 630-5771; Aug. 5, video; Aug. 12, bingo; Aug. 19, guest speaker **Frank Dimant**, executive vice-president, B'nai Brith; Aug. 26, members meeting. All activities in Hebrew, English, Yiddish. **Jerry Bengall**, president, 905-707-7334 or **Malka Colla**, chair of social committee, 630-5771.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: barbecue party Sunday, Aug. 15, 2-4 p.m.; community garage sale and flea market Sunday, Aug. 22; Casino Rama Wednesdays Aug. 11 and 25. 395-7881.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: Wednesday, Aug. 25, morning cruise, matinee performance of *Move Over Mrs. Markham* at Gryphon Theatre; Tuesday, Oct. 12, *West Side Story* at Stratford. **Lena** 785-5773. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Art Appreciation with **Edith Altschuler,** Art Gallery of Ontario docent, Tuesdays: Aug. 3, The Renaissance and the Baroque; Aug. 10, 18th Century Art-The Age of Rococo.

Low Vision Support Group reviews a taping of Consultation on the Crisis of Vision Loss by **Ben McConnell** and **Ridley Williams**, Tuesday, Aug. 3, 1:15-2:15 p.m.

Wellness lecture marking the International Year of Older Persons 1999, New Packaging for Medications for the Elderly in Canada presented by Pharmacia Medico, Thursday, Aug. 5, 1:15 p.m.

Israeli Folkdancing with **Marco** Wednesdays Aug. 4 and 11, 3:30-4:30 p.m. **Andrea Sturk** ext. 135.

Arthritis Management Clinic with **Bev Tobe**, registered therapist with the Arthritis Society, Thursday, Aug. 5, 1-4 p.m. Make appointment at Wellness Desk, ext. 131.

Afternoon concert, a musical show with **George Frank**, Wednesday, Aug. 4, 1 p.m.

Israeli Club Etrog: Do You speak Hebrew? Join club members every Tuesday at 7 p.m. for movies, lectures, dances, sing-alongs, bingo, picnics. Aug. 3 is a movie. **Anna** ext. 110.

Movie, *You've Got Mail*, Sunday, Aug. 1, 2:30 p.m.

BATHURST JC

Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. 636-1880.

Fifty-Five Plus, Department of Adult Services visit to Cullen Gardens and buffet lunch, Thursday, Aug. 26. Members $29, non-members $34. Price includes transportation and lunch. Bus leaves BJC at 10:30 a.m. and returns 4:30 p.m. Trip is co-sponsored with Bernard Betel Centre. **Teme** ext. 364 or **Janet** ext. 259.

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.

Summer on the Roof: Israeli folkdancing with **Yossi Strauch**, Mondays, beginners 8:15-9 p.m., intermediate 9-10 p.m. $5 at door.

Singer/songwriters **Kathy Goldman** and **Russel Leon** in concert Thursday, July 29, 8-10:30 p.m. Members $4, non-members $6.

SINGLES EVENTS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 20

ABOUT PEOPLE

BEIT HALOCHEM BOARD

Aid to Disabled Veterans of Israel/Beit Halochem Canada announces that **Toby Feldberg** has been re-elected as president at the annual general meeting. Feldberg, a long-standing member of Beit Halochem, has also served many leadership roles in the general community.

The new executive includes **Henry Fischler, Hope Maissner, Irit Nayot, Roberta Pludwinski, Peter Sevitt, Julia Sax** and **Diane Shiffman**. New board members for 1999-2000 are **David Bronfman, Lynn Cutler, Edna Levitt, Linda Levstein** and **Annette Rutman.**

CO-PRESIDENTS

Club Beersheba of Na'amat Toronto recently installed its new executive at a gala closing dinner event. Pictured above are new co-presidents Dasha Vinsky (left) and Sue Goldfarb. [Mollie Rothman photo]

ZAREINU GOLF TOURNAMENT

The Third Annual Zareinu Golf Tournament was held recently at Cherry Downs Golf and Country Club in support of Zareinu Educational Centre of Metropolitan Toronto. Zareinu is committed to providing children with special needs with rehabilitative therapies and special education opportunities. Pictured back row, (from left) Howard Warren, Jeff Cohen, Brian Bossin, Mark Korolnek, Stephen Caffrey. Middle row: Rena Goldstein, Shaindy Cohen, event co-ordinator; Evan Sone, event co-chair. Front row: Steven Cooper, Brian Liss, event co-chair; Jeffrey Lanys, Danny Gordon, chairman of the board, and Stephen Offenheim.

IFCA TEA AND FASHION SHOW

Pictured at National Council of Jewish Women of Canada, Toronto Section, recent annual Israel Family Counselling Association (IFCA) tea and fashion show held at the home of Dr. Arthur and Nancy Ameis, are (from left) Nancy Ameis, hostess; Patty Niles, co-chair; Sara Waxman, honorary chair who spoke of her trip to Israel, where she researched her articles on travel and food for *Flair Magazine*; Marla Thaw, co-chair; Sheila Mostyn, president.

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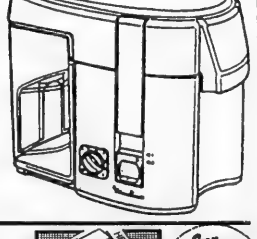

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On Campus

Books changed life of CHAT scholarship winner

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Vivian Koval finds it hard to imagine what people do with their time if they don't read.

The 19-year-old graduate of the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto (CHAT), who recently returned from 10 months of study in Israel, was awarded last year's Dennis Waldman scholarship, based in large part on an impassioned essay she wrote, describing the impact books have had on her life.

The Waldman scholarship is given annually to a graduating high school student, either a public school student intending to pursue Jewish studies at university or a student from a Jewish school intending to pursue university-level work.

Books have "increased my vocabulary, allowed me to live vicariously, introduced me to strange, new worlds, and deeply affected the way I regard the world around me," Koval wrote.

Personal accounts of the Holocaust, which she "devoured" in elementary school, imbued her with gratitude and a sense of responsibility.

She was also affected by books on health and medicine, which she said evoked her determination to make a contribution.

A longtime volunteer, Koval has worked in a hands-on capacity with developmentally disabled adults at the Reena Foundation, and with young patients at Bloorview Hospital and the Hospital for Sick Children.

She also served as vice-president of Yachad, the division of National Conference of Synagogue Youth (NCSY) that integrates developmentally disabled youth with their non-disabled counterparts.

Last summer, Koval worked at a camp for children with severe neurological disorders, the most challenging, stressful task she's ever undertaken. "But the actual work, I was really good at," she said. "I bonded with my kids."

The experience made her realize she'd like to work with disabled children as a career.

While in Israel, where she studied at the women's yeshiva

Vivian Koval

Midreshet Lindenbaum (and for which she also received an NCSY scholarship), Koval volunteered through NCSY, tutoring a Russian-Israeli girl in English.

The Hebrew language and text study skills she acquired at CHAT and Associated Hebrew Schools – from which she graduated as a valedictorian – enabled her to deal with the more extensive work at Midreshet Lindenbaum, she said.

Although she spent long hours in the classroom, learning for the sake of learning, Koval feels she got a real taste of what it's like to live in Israel – dealing with bureaucracy at the bank and post office, shopping at the shuk and preparing her own meals.

"It was a really well-rounded experience, and I grew immeasurably from it, both religiously and as a person," said Koval. "I'd never been to Israel before. It was an amazing way to see it for the first time."

Koval deferred her acceptance and full entrance scholarship to York University, where she will be studying psychology and linguistics this year.

"I was getting more involved in religious observance," she said. "Going to Israel was another step in cementing myself in the kind of lifestyle I want to lead."

JVS program could fold

By BLAIR SANDERSON
Special to The CJN

When you're just beginning to break into your career of choice, you often find yourself searching for a clue as to what will give you an added advantage in impressing potential employers.

Having a mentor is one of the best ways to gain insight into what might give you the edge over the competition.

For young Jews, the Jewish Vocational Service (JVS) of Greater Toronto is offering a program called Career Connections, which brings together students and recent graduates with mentors in their fields of interest.

However, Career Connections is in jeopardy of closing in September due to a lack of funding.

Zac Kaye of Jewish Campus Services, who was involved initially in the program, said it would be a shame if it was discontinued.

"For young people, the economy hasn't changed dramatically," he said. "Accomplishing goals through the resources we have to offer is very useful to them."

Having graduated from Humber College's journalism program two years ago, this reporter has been struggling to find full-time employment while gaining experience from freelance assignments for community newspapers and magazines.

However, since working with Marsha Lederman, host of two daily shows on Toronto radio station Talk 640, this reporter has revamped his resume to reflect accomplishments with various magazines, and feature a portfolio which highlights the most impressive pieces.

From Lederman's perspective, the program is a chance to help out someone who is going through the growing pains she's already experienced.

"Anyone who's had a degree of success should be giving back to the community," Lederman said.

Joel Lupus is in the early stages of the mentor process with David Beron, marketing manager at Nortel. He already has a summer job in between the second and third years of his engineering program at the University of Toronto.

Lupus' mentor is helping him to make the most of his experience working for Ontario Power Generation (previously Ontario Hydro).

"[Beron] said that students are often put into a specific area instead of managing a project," said Lupus, pointing out the importance of getting as diverse an experience as possible through summer jobs or internships.

Beron has had previous experience mentoring in similar programs such as the UJA Federation's leadership development program, as well as at work.

"It has helped me know what questions to ask up front, getting the process moving," said Beron.

While Lupus wants to know how a project is managed, Beron believes that making sure he has the necessary skills for work in the field is an area that is also important.

Kaye said Career Connections was inspired by Hillel programs at American universities, and that looking into sources of funding for those programs might lead to sources for the program here.

Kim Coulter of the JVS, who was also involved in initiating the program, suggested that one idea might be to dovetail the existing program into other youth-oriented programs.

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A Large Summer Jewish Single's Night. Sun., Aug. 1 at 8pm in the Beautiful Banquet Hall of Latin Fever Night Club, 2220 Hwy. 7 at Keele (Use Keele St. entrance). Modern live band, low cash bar. $10 cover. Ladies free from 8-8:30pm. **905-764-3256.**

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YOM CANADA 1999

These photos convey merely a handful of the celebratory scenes from this year's Yom Canada gathering of Canadian teenagers travelling through Israel this summer on Canada Israel Experience programs, which was held on July 12 at the Amnon Holiday Village on the northeastern shore of the Kinneret. Clockwise from lower left, having fun on a banana boat; Charles and Andrea Bronfman meet with some of the youngsters; dressing up in traditional Moroccan garb; a singsong with some of the local Israelis; two girls having their hair plaited by newly found friends of Ethiopian background.

[Isranet photos]

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Shul marks 25th

By DIANE KOVEN
Ottawa Correspondent

OTTAWA — Congregation Machzikei Hadas recently celebrated its silver anniversary in its present location with a gala at the synagogue.

Congregants mingled and reminisced about the old shul on Murray Street and the challenges involved when they moved to their "new" suburban location.

Congratulatory telegrams were read from Prime Minister Jean Chrétien and Governor General Romeo Leblanc.

Deputy Prime Minister Herb Gray, on his way to South Africa to represent the prime minister at the swearing in of the new president, came to offer his best wishes in person.

His greetings, he said, were brought "as deputy prime minister, but especially as a member of this congregation which has a special atmosphere of warmth and family togetherness."

Ontario Liberal leader Dalton McGuinty, who lives near the synagogue, said he considers himself a neighbor of the congregation.

He told this story: "On June 4, [the day after he lost his election bid to become premier of Ontario], I was pictured in the *Globe & Mail* with Rabbi Bulka. Millions of Ontarians were asking themselves: 'Who was that guy with Rabbi Bulka?'"

In response, Rabbi Bulka commented that "this was [McGuinty's] first speech of the next campaign."

Former governor general, Ray Hnatyshyn, who was involved in the presentation to the synagogue of its first coat of arms, said, "I have just [marked] my agenda for 25 years from now when you celebrate your 50th."

Also present to convey their good wishes were Mayor Jim Watson and Deputy Mayor Allan Higdon.

Lorry Greenberg dies at 65

By DIANE KOVEN
Ottawa Correspondent

OTTAWA — The flags at City Hall flew at half-mast on Canada Day in memory of former mayor Lorry Greenberg, who died the day before of heart failure at the age of 65.

Obituary

More than 800 people at the funeral, held at Congregation Agudath Israel, remembered the former mayor with love and affection.

One of four brothers who founded Minto Construction, the largest home builder in the region, Greenberg sold his interest in the company to devote himself to a career in social work, helping to establish the city's Youth Services Bureau.

In the late 1960s he became a city councillor, and in 1974 became the first Jewish mayor of Ottawa.

Greenberg had his first heart attack in 1977, and he left politics the following year to spend more time with his family.

His son Jeff, said at the funeral that his father "came from very humble beginnings and accomplished so much. Is it not remarkable that he was wined and dined at 24 Sussex by former prime minister Pierre Trudeau, who wanted him to run federally, and then sometime later be courted by the Progressive Conservatives?

"They knew, as we did, that he was an honest man of vision and compassion. Quite simply, he cared for people."

Rabbi Arnold Fine said that Greenberg never wore ties, except the one important "tie" – tfillin. Rabbi Fine spoke about Greenberg's devotion to Judaism, noting that no business of any kind was ever conducted on Friday night, a time that remained sacred for his family.

Jeff Greenberg said, "The head of our family table may sit empty, but in our minds and hearts, he will forever be there. His zest for life, his stories, his lessons, his love...will live on."

Lorry Greenberg is survived by his wife Carol, sons Jeff and Roger, daughters Rhonda, Stephanie and Heather, and five grandchildren.

Canadians recall transport

By MOURA WOLPERT
CJN Correspondent

LONDON — More than 1,300 "kinder" gathered here recently to mark the 60th anniversary of the arrival of the Kindertransporte, which had transported about 10,000 children to safety from Nazi Germany.

Those who had remained in England after the war, met with groups from the United States, Israel, Australia and a small contingent from Canada to take part in the three-day reunion, held at the Palace of Westminster.

In the convention hall, where guests ate lunch, each table bore a sign with the name of a German or Austrian city such as Berlin, Duesseldorf, Frankfurt or Vienna, as well as a table for Poland and another for Czechoslovakia.

The "kinder" scanned the tables, searching for long lost friends, and announcements were made: "[Someone] is looking for...from... "If you are here, will you please come forward."

To many, this is what the reunion is all about – finding someone who remembers you when you were a child. Some of the kinder had come to England with a sibling or to join family there, but to many, the other kinder were their only family.

For Vera Kittel of Downsview, who attended the reunion with her husband Fred and daughter Margaret Kittel-Canale, the highlight of the reunion was finding a girlfriend with whom she had stayed in a hostel in Cambridge, and had not seen in 60 years.

Growing up "in a foreign environment, I felt like an outsider," she said. "Today, we all lead very different lives, but we all share the same background."

Lore Jacobs of Hamilton, agreed. "I always considered myself odd, but reading about and hearing what other kids went through, I realized I was not the only one, that others had the same experiences."

For Jacobs, the reunion was "very emotional, very tactful, very touching. We are all like one big family."

Jacobs was accompanied by her son Peter, a physicist at University of California at Berkeley.

Kittel said that it was not until the first reunion in London, in 1989, that many parents began to talk to their children about their experiences. Jacobs, however, says that she and her late husband Erwin, also a teenage refugee, always spoke to their two children about their background.

"None of us talked to our children," said Inge Dux-Hermann, also of Toronto, who had trained as a nurse in England before settling in Canada, as did fellow Torontonian Anne Porter, whose parents survived by hiding in Holland.

Kittel-Canale said it is "important that kids know about their parents' background," and attending the reunion with them is "a very positive experience."

Carol Anne Borgh, whose late mother was also a "kind," came with her father, Gunther Cahn of Toronto. She always wanted to know more about her roots, she said, and has attended several reunions. "I have always been very moved."

In a small group, assembled by Lisa Collier, co-chair of the Toronto gathering, Max Kingston said that he is concerned that Jews don't realize the importance of educating their children about the Holocaust.

Ernest Hurst, who has returned to his native Vienna several times, said that while there, he spoke about what happened in Austria, to teens working on a history project. "They were stunned to meet an actual survivor."

Paul Heimann, originally from Vienna, and his wife Trudi from Czechoslovakia, were both kinder, but met in Toronto.

At the reunion, a bronze plaque was unveiled by the Speaker of the House of Commons, Betty Boothroyd.

"In gratitude to the People and Parliament of the United Kingdom for saving the lives of 10,000 Jewish children and others who fled to this country from Nazi persecution on the Kindertransporte 1938-39," it read.

Activities during the three days included a service led by Chief Rabbi Jonathan Sacks, workshops and lectures on topics including writing one's memoirs, teaching the Holocaust from personal experience, and searching for lost families on the Internet. The group also toured the Houses of Parliament and the Imperial War Museum.

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Coast to Coast

The Rock's Jews are hardy, but feel forgotten

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

ST. JOHN'S — It's tough being Jewish on The Rock.

On the other hand, Newfoundland's tiny Jewish community wouldn't have it any other way.

While communal leaders here grouse that Canada's national Jewish organizations have ignored or forgotten them, they add only a breath later that life here is good: the blue sky, the salt air, the lack of traffic and bustle, virtually no anti-Semitism. As community member David Mercer put it, in that distinctive Newfoundland brogue, "It's both easy and difficult to be Jewish here. We are survivors."

In Newfoundland generally, a sense of isolation from the mainland is considered both good and bad. Good because the province, (always referred to by locals as Newfoundland *and* Labrador) can pursue its unique lifestyle, rich culture and heritage, and generally feel distinct. Privately, many here roll their eyes when the subject of Quebec's demands for distinct society status come up. "You can't get more distinct than here," one community member said emphatically.

And bad because there's still a lingering resentment in Newfoundland over joining Confederation 50 years ago: that as a member of what the United Nations says is the best country to live in the world, Newfoundland is still a have-not province, a place the rest of Canada doesn't seem to care about.

Those feelings seem to spill over into the Jewish community. "We feel ignored by the major Jewish institutions," says Michael Paul, a 45-year-old doctor and president of the Hebrew Congregation of Newfoundland and Labrador, referred to as Beth El Synagogue, now the only shul in St. John's, and the province. There are sporadic visits by community leaders – Canadian Jewish Congress president Moshe Ronen's wife is from St. John's, and Ronen was here for a speaking engagement more than a year ago – and Israel's Montreal-based consul general also comes, but not often.

Jews here are represented on the Atlantic Jewish Council, which provides support for Maritime and Newfoundland Jewry. Messod Salama, a former Torontonian who teaches Spanish at Memorial University, is the Atlantic region representative on the national executive of Canadian Jewish Congress.

The last federal census had much to say. It tallied 422 Jews in Newfoundland, but the synagogue has only 25 families as members. That means there are many unaffiliated Jews here, and those whose transience does not compel them to join the shul. Community lore brims with stories of Jewish sailors and other servicemen from several countries who pass through, en route to more exotic locales.

Numbers are boosted thanks to Memorial University, which supplies several Jewish students and staff for services and activities. Mainlanders are brought here mainly by jobs; that was the case with Paul, who attended McGill and the University of Toronto, and came here 16 years ago. He now maintains a private practice and teaches at Memorial.

Dr. Michael Paul, president of Beth El Synagogue, stands on the bimah.

The Elizabeth Street synagogue was built in 1959, at a time when membership probably hit its highest level – around 100 families. Since then, there's been a steady decline, as young people left for greener pastures, mainly Montreal, Toronto and Ottawa. As older members of the community retired, they too left to be near their children and grandchildren.

In the 1960s, the small synagogues in Stephenville and Corner Brook closed, the Torah scrolls and artifacts from the latter shipped to an Ethiopian congregation in Israel. Since then, the community has continued to shrink. The last rabbi left in 1985, and the synagogue's mikvah is unused.

But there were no long faces when *The CJN* reporter met recently with about a dozen members of the community over tea and cookies. Services are held every Friday night (Jewish tourists are invited to lead them), festivals are celebrated, there are 10 kids in an after-school Hebrew program (there's a search on for a new Hebrew teacher) and as the community's eight-page, photocopied history states, "the fundamentals of Jewish observance and culture [are] cherished."

The community's biggest event takes place every Yom Hashoah. Last April, over 350 people, including several Christian clergy members and local political figures, attended the Holocaust memorial service.

Funds are raised for United Israel Appeal, and the Jewish National Fund maintains the Newfoundland Grove in Israel.

The synagogue was founded on Orthodox principles, but is Conservative in practice. Women are counted as members of the minyan. Kosher meat and foodstuffs are brought in once or twice a year for those who request them, and during Passover, a local grocery arranges the import of kosher products.

No bustle, sea air . make life special

A deal has been struck with the Salvation Army to help maintain the Jewish cemetery on Blackmarsh Road. Graves there hold the remains of several American servicemen and other Jewish sojourners.

Synagogue members, especially Robin McGrath, an award-winning writer and chronicler of Newfoundland Jewry, love to tell the story of how three Polish sailors whose vessel was docked in St. John's had rescued a Torah from Czestochowa, and brought it with them to sell to the community.

And then there was a very famous Jew, Leon Trotsky, who lived briefly in St. John's while en route to Mexico City, where he met an untimely death at the end of an ice pick, courtesy of one of Stalin's hit men.

Synagogue regular June Mercer recalls the days when Russians would jump plane in Gander. In time, Russian Jews outnumbered the community, but they have since moved on.

According to McGrath's well-researched history of the Jews of Newfoundland and Labrador, little is known about early Jewish settlement of the province. Some sources say the first Jews on the island were Simon Solomon, a jeweller and watchmaker who settled in St. John's around 1792, and Israel Palmer, who settled in the George's Brook area in the early 1800s. Solomon became an innkeeper and was appointed Newfoundland's first postmaster, succeeded by his son, William.

The synagogue was founded in 1909 by Israel Perlin, who came to Newfoundland from Russia, via New York, to escape induction into the army. Soon, Perlin was training Jewish emigres from Poland and Russia as itinerant peddlers, supplying them with clothing and other goods to sell to communities along the bay.

Perlin later turned his Henry Street premises over to the community to become the first synagogue. Among the early congregants can be found names like Sidel, Levitz, Rosenburg, Cohen and Granum.

Throughout the '30s and '40s, Jews continued to expand to places like Bell Island, Grand Falls and Corner Brook. During World War II, the community busied itself with providing Jewish religious and social programs for the many American servicemen stationed in the province.

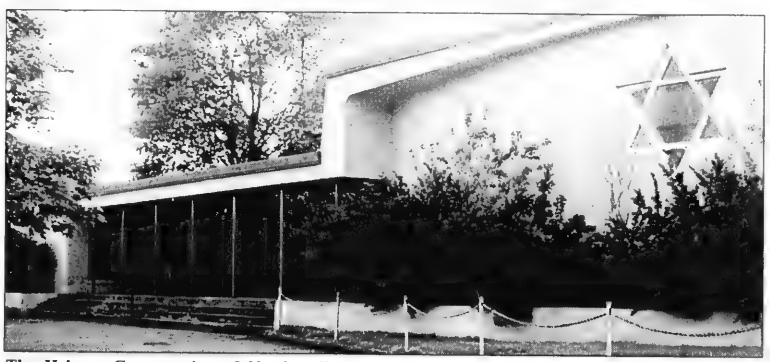
After the war, a new wave of refugees from Europe revitalized the community. Some were Holocaust survivors; there are still several survivors in St. John's, including Rabbi Justin Fromm, who had been the community's spiritual leader in the '50s and '60s but whose advanced years have put him out of commission.

What makes life here so special?

"There's no traffic," offers Claire Salama, who moved here from Toronto with her husband Messod in 1985. "Housing is inexpensive, at least compared to Toronto. This morning, the sky was blue and you could taste the sea air." Salama, a French and Spanish teacher and mother of two, concedes she was apprehensive about moving here from the big city, but as she's discovered, "quality of life does matter."

Sid Epstein, 68, proudly presents himself as the oldest member of the community who was born in Newfoundland. "There's virtually no anti-Semitism here," he says. He remembers being cheerfully exempted from Christian instruction in public school. "It was a great place to grow up."

Indeed, congregants say relations with the general community, churches and politicians, have been more than cordial.



The Hebrew Congregation of Newfoundland and Labrador, known as Beth El Synagogue, on Elizabeth Street, was built in 1959.

Anti-Semitic acts were, and are rare. Once, the synagogue was daubed with a swastika (it coincided with vandalism against a Catholic school). A menorah was once stolen from the shul; its thief later confessed he took it because he was mad at Jews. Why? His friend had been run over by a car in front of the synagogue.

Like all Newfoundlanders, Jews here are a resilient bunch, with a sense of humor and a thick skin. Says community leader Paul: "Our obituary was written many years ago. But we're still here."

שישאר בינינו

גידי קורן וחברים

רפואה של טיכואנה, מקסיקו:

במערב קנדה נפטר ילד בן שלוש עשרה מסרטן עצמות לאחר שסירב לקבל טיפול בתרופות מקובלות. גם הוריו סירבו לכך, כי התרופות גרמו לו לתופעות לוואי קשות. הממשד הרפואי הגיב במהירות ולקח את המשפחה לבית המשפט בטענה שההורים אינם פועלים לטובת האינטרס של הילד. אבל עד שהוכרע המקרה ובית המשפט הורה לטפל בילד, כבר היו לילד גרורות סרטן בריאות ובלתי ניתן היה לעשות הרבה עבורו. מה עשו ההורים? לקחו אותו במסע מפורסם לטיכואנה שבמקסיקו, שם הזריקו לו כל מיני חומרי טבע. הרופאים שם גם טענו ש"אין לו בעצם גרורות בריאות". חזר הילד מטיכואנה במסע ניצחון מכוסה היטב בטלביזיה, אך נפטר ביסורים גדולים אחרי חודשים ספורים. מה הם חושבים לעצמם, כל אוהבי הטבעונות והצמחונות - שרופאים ומדענים אוהבים להציק לאנשים? התרופות לסרטן מאושרות לשימוש על ידי רשויות הממשלה רק אחרי ניסויים מדוקדקים וארוכים. מי שמזלזל בכך - ומעדיף לטפל בעצמו בשיטות של רופאי אליל ממקסיקו - זו בעיה שלו ושיבושם לו. אבל מה הזכות שלו להרוג ילד בן שלוש עשרה? לילד הזה, לו טופל כמו שצריך, היה סיכוי לחיות עד גיל שמונים ותשעים! על פי החוק הקנדי, שהוא גם החוק ברוב מדינות העולם, קטין בן שלוש עשרה איננו יכול להחליט על הפסקת טיפול שיכול להציל את חייו. חובתם של הוריו ושל החברה (דרך רופאיה) לעשות הכל כדי להבטיח שיחיה שנים רבות. בטיפול בסרטן - ככל שהטיפול חזק יותר, -יש יותר סיכוי. אבל, כמובן, טיפול חזק גם כולל סבל קשה. צריך לעזור לילד לעבור את הסבל הזה, לא כמו במקרה הזה שלהורים שלו נגמר והם בחרו בטיכואנה. אבל שישאר בינינו.

שבחי האמא היהודית:

"איך זה שכל כך הרבה יהודים שאי מכיר מצליחים במקצועותיהם, ואיך זה שהם כל כך בעלי אמביציה, ואיך זה שאתם הישראלים אפילו יותר מהיהודים עם חוצפה להצליח ולדבוק במשימה?" כך שאל אותי לא מזמן חבר לא יהודי. חשבתי וחשבתי וחשבתי והינה המסקנה החד משמעית: הכל מתחיל ונגמר במקומו של הילד במשפחה. במשפחה יהודית הילד במרכז העניינים. לפיו ישק דבר. אמא ואבא יילכו יחפים ובלבד שהוא ילמד במקום הכי טוב. כל מילה שהוא אומר - זו הברקה מאלוהים. ילד ישראלי טיפוסי - משפחתו קונה לו דירה לנישואיו. ראיתם כבר ילד קנדי מהמעמד הבינוני שקונים לו דירה? בביקורי בארץ הדבר הכי בולט הוא איך מתנהגים לילדים כמו למלכים: מוצי פוצי, פוצי מוצי, נשיקה מכל דודה או סבנית דודה וכל מכר או חבר טורח שעות לספר לך איך הבן שלו מצטיין בתיכון ואיך הבת שלו השיגה מקום ראשון בכיתה בפיזיקה. כשאדם מתחיל את חייו עם כל כך הרבה חום ותמיכה, הוא מגדל אגו בריא. הוא מפתח ביטחון עצמי, הוא יודע שהוא שווה. אם לא נותנים לו את כל אלה כשהוא קטן - לא יהיה לו את זה אפילו אם יהיה חכם איינשטיין. וכך קורה שגם אנשים מאוד בינוניים מצליחים. לאורך החיים אפשר לראות לא אחת ולא שתיים אנשים מבריקים שיש להם ביטחון עצמי של עלה נידף, ואין הם מגיעים לשום מקום. לעומתם - לישראלי הממוצע יש ביטחון עצמי של שחקן NBA. הוא יודע שהוא יצליח. הוא בטוח שהוא יצליח. הידיעה והביטחון האלה הם שלושת רבעי ההצלחה. אז זהו - מאחורי הצלחה הישראלית עומדים ההורים, ובעיקר האמא היהודית שלנו. אבל שישאר בינינו.

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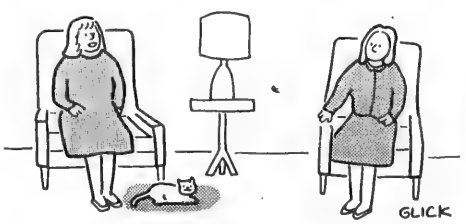


"Kitty acts as though Shabbat is her day of rest. Of course, Kitty acts as though every day is her day of rest."

Agreement in W'peg

By MYRON LOVE
Prairies Correspondent

WINNIPEG — After two years of negotiations, Winnipeg's synagogues and the Winnipeg Jewish Community Council's (WJCC) Multiple Appeals Commission (MAC) have agreed on a new set of guidelines.

The WJCC established MAC 13 years ago to regulated fundraising activities in the community. Under MAC guidelines, all fundraising events that were expected to raise more than $10,000 had to be cleared with the commission, and there were restrictions on how often organizations could hold major fundraisers.

As well, a six-week span, from the beginning of September to the middle of October, was set aside for the annual Combined Jewish Appeal campaign. During that period, no other fundraising activities are supposed to take place in the community.

The issue with the synagogues came to a head two years ago, when one major synagogue's annual High Holy Days campaign raised money in excess of the guidelines. In response, MAC chair Dr. Michael Helper, ran a large ad in the local *Jewish Post and News* criticizing several synagogues for violating the guidelines. The synagogues, which have never received any funding from the CJA campaign, reacted with anger, and vowed to unite and fight to change the guidelines.

Through the mediation of WJCC president Larry Hurtig, a new set of rules have been agreed upon. The latest guidelines, which were released on May 13, allow the synagogues to hold a major fundraising event annually without restrictions, and allow the synagogues to continue to have High Holy Day appeals even though the holidays fall within the CJA moratorium period.

The guidelines also raise the maximum dollar figure for a minor fundraising campaign from $10,000 to $25,000.

"Our board has approved the new guidelines," says Steven Feldgaier, immediate past president of the Rosh Pina Congregation and the chair of the synagogue presidents committee that negotiated the changes. He says that "it was a long drawn-out process, but that the end results were well worth it."

Bronfman fellowships

ALBANY — Two Grade 11 students from Ontario are among 26 teenagers named to receive 1999 Bronfman Youth Fellowships under a program designed to develop future community leaders committed to the concept of Jewish unity.

They are Rebecca Hart of Toronto and Aaron Orkin of Hamilton.

This summer, the two will spend five weeks in Israel with the Youth Fellowship program, launched 13 years ago by Edgar Bronfman, chair of the Seagram Company Ltd. and president of the World Jewish Congress.

The 26 fellows, chosen from over 320 applicants, were selected on the basis of character, intellectual interests, special talents and leadership qualities. Merit, not financial need, is the standard of selection for this fully funded award.

Hart, daughter of Marilynne Glick and Douglas Hart, is a student at North Toronto Collegiate Institute where she has been a honor student every year, and was the recipient of the MacGillivray Memorial Award in English in Grade 9. She has been a writer and senior editor for the high school newspaper, and has been a member of the poetry club, Students for Environmental Awareness, the girl's swim team and the camera club.

Orkin, son of Dr. Cheryl Levitt and Andrew Orkin, attends Westdale Secondary School in Hamilton. A keen debater and public speaker for which he has won a number of awards, Aaron is actively involved with Students for Political Action and the history club at Westdale, most recently serving as co-chair of the Westdale High School Holocaust Education Week. He also participated in the McMaster environmental water monitoring program.

He is a participant in the Hamilton Midrash High School program where he studies Jewish philosophy and history, and attends a discussion class concerning issues in modern Jewish life.

The group flew to Israel on June 29, following an orientation seminar in New York City, and will return to the United States on August 4. They will spend their five weeks in Israel in a program of intensive study, travel and dialogue with members of the educational staff of the Bronfman Fellowship program, as well as with political and literary figures, representing a broad spectrum of views on key political, social and religious issues facing world Jewry.

This summer, for the second year running, the Samuel Bronfman Foundation has created a parallel group of young Israeli high school students, called Amitei Bronfman. This was conceived in co-operation with Mifgashim, a program of Charles Bronfman's CRB Foundation.

Scene in Ottawa

By G.K. SIMCOE

We pause in our examination of summertime caucus activity to reflect on the most recent string of tragedies that has befallen the Kennedy family. Our collective reaction to that event – and media reaction in particular – raises an issue that has confounded political figures for some time. Let's set the stage.

One of the political developments that drew much media attention over the last few months concerns the ever vulnerable Canadian magazine industry and Sheila Copps's legislative efforts to protect its advertising revenue in the face of overwhelming competition from the American magazine industry.

The controversial legislation Copps tabled generated concern, anger and derision, even among many of the minister's own colleagues, such as cabinet colleague, Sergio Marchi and fellow Steel City MP, Stan Keyes, both of whom worried about the possibility of American trade "retaliation."

Still others poked fun at Copps' "hollow" efforts to fend-off the domineering Yankees, arguing (correctly, it turned out!) that the bill would be diluted before it ever came to a vote.

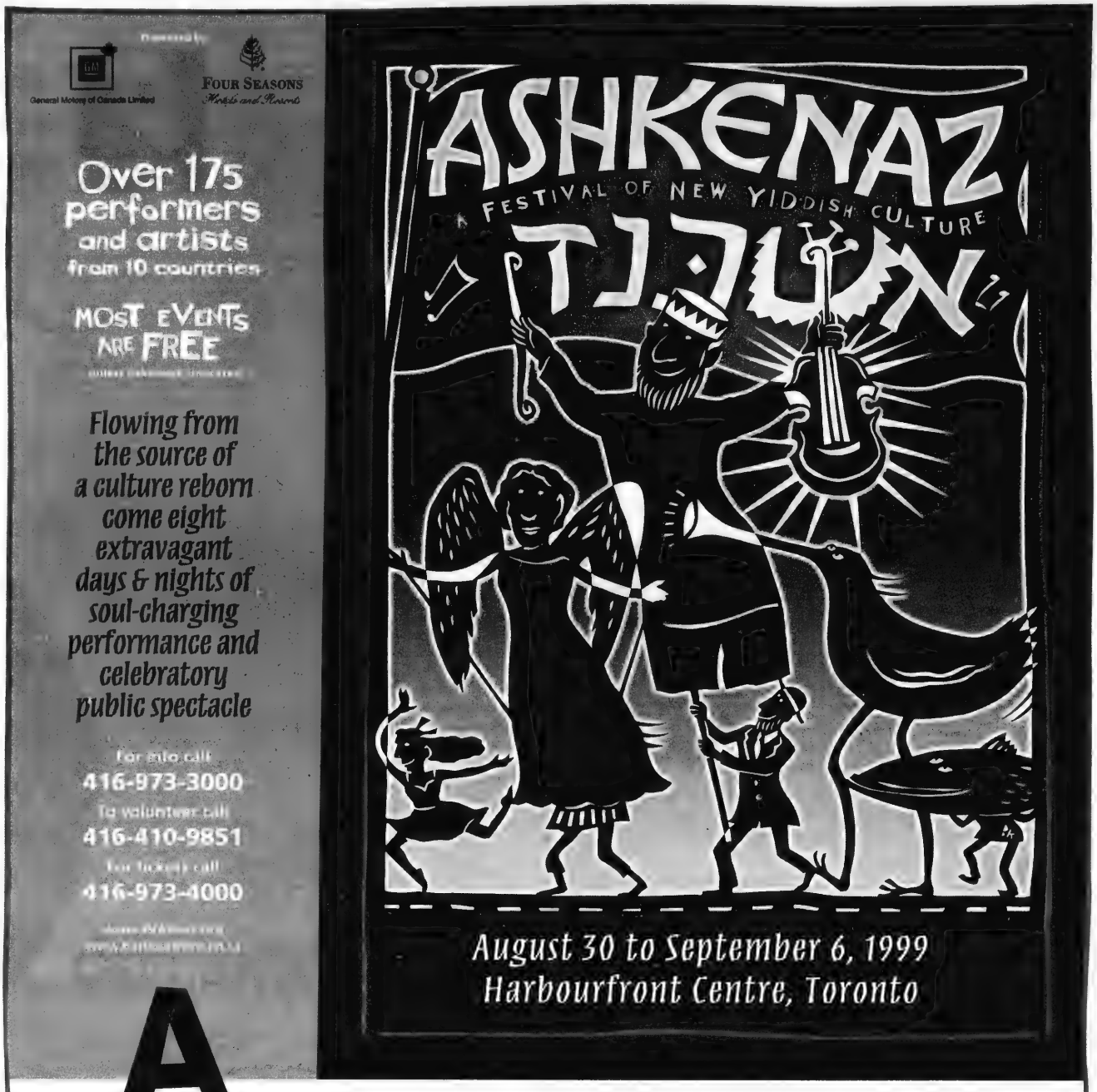
The absence of a "Canada First" wellspring of support – beyond the hallways of *Saturday Night*, *Canadian Geographic* and *Maclean's* – did not go unnoticed by that staunch federalist and widely respected Liberal Senator Jerry Grafstein.

This brings us back to the media coverage of the Kennedy story. While it is (vaguely) understandable that American television networks and press would super-saturate the public with the story, the disproportionate attention paid to the tragedy by Canadian media is incomprehensible.

Have Canadians become, as so many social and political pundits claim, so completely assimilated into American culture that their national loss becomes our own?

The good Senator Grafstein worries about such things. He worries about the nature of our bilateral relationship with the United States and Canada's long-term ability to effectively assert its distinct character.

As the lynchpin behind the Canada-U.S. Parliamentary Association, he is determined to make Canada's unique presence more tangibly and effectively felt in Washington. The good senator understands that what's at stake is not just magazines like *Canadian Living*, but rather, how we will live Canadian.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ASHKENAZ
A FESTIVAL OF NEW YIDDISH CULTURE
אשכנז
August 30 to September 6, 1999
Harbourfront Centre, Toronto

ASHKENAZ, the biennial festival of new Yiddish culture that has become the largest Jewish cultural festival in the world, returns to Harbourfront Centre from August 30th to September 6th.

Exuberant, experimental, ecstatic, ASHKENAZ brings together an international array of groundbreaking artists, presenting contemporary Yiddish culture in music, theatre, visual art, dance, literature, film and dazzling pageantry.

More than 175 artists from 10 countries perform, challenge, illuminate and celebrate at over 110 events, most of which are free. In 1995 and 1997, the first and second Ashkenaz Festivals brought in 30,000 and 70,000 visitors respectively, and this year's promises to be even larger.

In announcing the festival lineup, Artistic Director David Buchbinder remarked, "three is the number of balance, strength and dynamism and we look to the third ASHKENAZ to embody these qualities. Combining the lessons of the first two festivals with attention to the unfolding spirit of this ☛

MUSIC HIGHLIGHTS

KLEZMER CONSERVATORY BAND

Mon Aug 30, 8pm
Molson Place Pier Party
$20 ($25 day of show)

Start the festival off with a bang! Come dance and celebrate with America's legendary 12-piece klezmer and Yiddish repertory ensemble now in its 17th season. Featured on Itzhak Perlman's EMI CD *In the Fiddler's House.*

"Uninhibited verve that translates into any language and will no doubt leave anyone inclined to dance along gasping for air." – *The Washington Post*

ASHKENAZ ORCHESTRA PROJECT

Wed Sept 1, 10pm — Brigantine Room — $15
Thurs Sept 2, 8pm — Brigantine Room — $15

World premiere The musical centrepiece of the festival! Twenty of the brightest lights of the international Jewish music scene (including David Buchbinder, Alan Bern and Frank London) have united to form the world's first large ensemble dedicated to the creation and performance of new Yiddish music. They'll explore the musical space where klezmer, New Music, jazz, Middle Eastern and Roma music intersect in seven all-new works written especially for ASHKENAZ '99.

BRAVE OLD WORLD
Song of the Lodz Ghetto: 1940-1993

Sun Sept 5, 7pm — Premiere Dance Theatre — $12, $8

Canadian premiere A unique treat. Brave Old World has been introducing audiences all over the globe to the joys of Yiddish music for over a decade. *Song of the Lodz Ghetto* features BOW's arrangements of rare Jewish music created between 1940 and 1945 in the Nazi ghetto of Lodz in Poland. Most of the songs have never been publicly performed since the time of the Holocaust and are unavaliable on recordings.

You can also hear Brave Old World FREE with a completely different program at a jumping outdoor concert. Molson Place, Sat Sept 4, 9:30 pm.

EMIL ZRIHAN

Sun Sept 5, 9pm — Brigantine Room — FREE
Mon Sept 6, 4:30 pm — Molson Place — FREE

Toronto premiere Ashkenaz is proud to present this outstanding artist from the Sephardic tradition of Jewish culture. The electrifying Jewish-Moroccan sounds of Zrihan and his 9-piece band are topping world music charts everywhere. Known for the depth, emotion, beauty and range of his extraordinary voice, Zrihan brings us a mesmerizing melange of east and west.

AND much more music:

New York's renowned **Marty Ehrlich and the Dark Woods Ensemble**, featuring guitarist **Marc Ribot**; **Yuri Yunakov**'s saxophone plays contemporary Bulgarian and Rom wedding music; the **New Yiddish Chorale** from New York and the **Toronto Jewish Folk Choir** combine in a 40-voice extravaganza; **Klezmer en Buenos Aires** dips into tango; New York's underground **Hasidic New Wave** brings you Jewish jazz punk; and . . .

BACK by popular demand:

Fidl Kapelye featuring **Alicia Svigals**, the **Flying Bulgar Band** and much much more!

ASHKENAZ PARADE

Meet at Noon, Sunday Sept 5 at Bellevue Square Park, Kensington Market

Come join the parade! A wonderfully exuberant street spectacle of sound and colour, this is the festival's largest work of art! An ecstatic two hour journey from Kensington Market, the heart of old Jewish Toronto, to Harbourfront Centre. Giant puppets, wild costumes, banners, placards and flags, and a mass Yiddish/Brazilian band!

(continued) particular incarnation, allows us to confidently predict that ASHKENAZ '99 will take festivalgoers — whatever their background — on a roller coaster ride of cultural celebration they won't soon forget."

We asked David Buchbinder a few questions about this year's festival.

Why is this Ashkenaz Festival different from all other Ashkenaz Festivals?

Well, first of all let me say that the main difference is that this is *this* ASHKENAZ and not the one from two years ago, or four years ago. Almost every artist is new, the people are different, the programming is unique to this year. However, each new Ashkenaz Festival builds on the ones that went before. Themes and ideas that we weren't able to realize before are being realized now, or are coming ever closer to being realized.

How has the programming as a whole evolved?

There have been some very definite changes and developments in programming. While the music and theatre/dance components, which have always been the strongest aspects of the festival, continue to be as strong or stronger than before, the other areas have begun to catch up. For example, the literary component will offer two special readings, three five-and-ten minute cabarets and several lectures on literary themes. One of these literary highlights will be *Re-Imagining the Shtetl*, a reading featuring a real find from our own backyard, the Yiddish/English writer from Montreal, **Yehuda Elberg**, whose *The Empire of Kalman the Cripple* is one of the best works I have ever read. Also featured will be **Lilian Nattel** who has been winning awards and critical acclaim with her first novel *The River Midnight;* and the pioneering Holocaust scholar, **Yaffa Eliach**.

In the area of visual arts, we are now using every single bit of space that Harbourfront Centre offers for our six special exhibits; and for the first time, we are going to have a chance for real site transformation. We have commissioned some of Toronto's finest painters, graphic designers and theatre artists to transform Harbourfront Centre for the festival, giving a visual context for the programming. People will have the feeling that when they walk through the various arched portals and see the wonderful stage surrounds, that they have entered a special space, a magical place, where they can enjoy, watch and participate in a cultural experience that is challenging, passionate and fun.

You mentioned themes that are now being realized. What do you mean?

As the festival becomes more "established," we are able to realize one of my personal dreams. We are not only drawing upon the resources of artists we have found, or who have come to us with proposals, but we are actually catalysing the creation of new work.

Firstly, there is the musical centrepiece of the festival which is the **Ashkenaz Orchestra Project**. For the first time in history, twenty top musicians from a whole variety of different backgrounds are coming together to perform new Jewish music by seven different composers. This is just a first step in a project that I hope will have a life of its own after the festival is over, touring and performing in this country and all over the globe.

Another example of commissioned work is **Dave Douglas and Charms of the Night Sky**. We are now at a stage where we can approach some of the best artists in the world to create something from the raw material of Yiddish culture. Dave Douglas, whom I first heard when he was playing with John Zorn and now consider to be one of the best improvising trumpeters/composers around, has a talent for creating a seamless, but unusual blend of music. He incorporates different sounds and improvisations into his compositions, drawing on his knowledge of Jewish/European music but without sacrificing his own unique expression. Since he is not Jewish, he is a perfect example of what I always say about the festival: that it's about creativity and not about ethnicity.

So the festival is acting as a catalyst both for projects like this, as well as creating much more grass-roots community-based works as well, like the Parade.

How has the Ashkenaz Parade developed this year?

As in past years, the Parade will be a colourful, grooving and hopefully ecstatic experience as it moves from Kensington Market down to Harbourfront Centre. There will also be a big jump this year in terms of size and the number of participants, as well as in the development of the idea. Once again, the Parade (as well as the visual transformation of the Harbourfront site) is under the direction of **Anne Barber** of the award-winning Shadowland Theatre. This year, we are fortunate to have the additional presence of Anne's mentor, **Peter Kiddle**, from England. Peter is an original member of Welfare State, the innovative British theatre company, and he has created participatory theatre projects and street theatre around the world.

On to a related topic, but not necessarily about ASHKENAZ. How can you describe the status of current Yiddish culture?

Yiddish and new Jewish culture has literally exploded in the last six years. From the seeds of a few klezmer bands there are now hundreds of bands, and while some are derivative certainly, there are many that are writing exciting new Jewish music. Currently there is a real Renaissance in Jewish culture. It is as if the life force of the Jewish people is reasserting itself fifty years after it was almost eliminated. This is the result, possibly, of the unprecedented freedom that Jews in North America have experienced. As well, it is not totally unrelated to or happening in isolation from religion. As always in Jewish history, religion and culture are tied, even if the cultural expression is not a particularly religious one.

And finally, on a personal note. This is a tremendous amount of work. How do you manage to keep your enthusiasm going?

By doing other things — composing, and playing music — the essentials. With ASHKENAZ, focusing on the fact that it is a process. Each time we create the festival, it is the first time, and we are always developing something new. Most importantly, I am working with a great group of people, and we are actually creating the festival before it happens. That always keeps it interesting. ●

"Currently there is a real Renaissance in Jewish culture. It is as if the life force of the Jewish people is reasserting itself fifty years after it was almost eliminated." David Buchbinder, *Artistic Director*

ספעקטאקל!

ILLUSTRATION • BARBARA KLUNDER

THEATRE + DANCE

HOLOCAUST STORIES

Mon Aug 30, 8:30pm — Premiere Dance Theatre
Tues Aug 31, 8:30pm — $20, $15

Canadian premiere Acclaimed Brooklyn director/choreographer **Gabrielle Lansner** contributes this exceptional work that includes *The Jewish Wife*, based on Bertolt Brecht's play of the same name, and *Magda*, based on two short stories by Cynthia Ozick.

Performed with "searing luminosity"
– *New York Times*

DIAMONDS IN THE DARK: A Celebration of Yiddish Poetry

Wed Sept 1, 9pm — Premiere Dance Theatre
Thurs Sept 2, 9pm — $20, $15

Canadian premiere San Francisco's **A Traveling Jewish Theatre's** newest ensemble creation blends music and twentieth century Yiddish poetry (spoken in both English and Yiddish) with the company's dynamic theatricality.

"Brilliant! The performances are wonderful...Magic on a stage!"
– *S.F. Chronicle*

AND more theatre:

Deb Margolin from New York with *O WHOLLY NIGHT AND OTHER JEWISH SOLECISMS*, **Michael Wex**, our local Yiddish treasure with *I JUST WANNA JEWIFY: The Yiddish Revenge on Wagner*; Toronto's **Moriah Productions** with the award-winning *THE KABBALISTIC PSYCHOANALYSIS OF ADAM R. TZADDIK* and San Francisco's **Sara Felder** returns with her new hilarious show *SHTICK! A Queer Play on Jewish Vaudeville.*

LECTURES + LITERARY

RE-IMAGINING THE SHTETL

Wed Sept 1, 7pm — Premiere Dance Theatre — $8

The shtetl was the heart of Jewish communal and family life in Europe before the Nazi Holocaust completely destroyed this culture. Survivors of the Holocaust and their children have set themselves to reweaving the broken threads of ancestral history and the lifeblood of a people. Come hear master Yiddishist **Yehuda Elberg**, author of numerous works, most recently *The Empire of Kalman the Cripple*; new literary sensation **Lilian Nattel**, whose first novel *The River Midnight* has received widespread acclaim; and **Yaffa Eliach**, a pioneering scholar in Holocaust studies and author of *There Once Was a World* and *Hasidic Tales of the Holocaust* read from and discuss their work.

▲ Yaffa Eliach, seen here inside *Tower of Life*, her permanent exhibit at the Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington D.C.

MORE lectures & literary

Great lectures and literary events featuring award-winning gastronomic writer **Claudia Roden**, scholar **Marcia Falk**, as well as **Jason Sherman**, **Diane Flacks, Zev Feldman** and more!

VISUAL ARTS

▲ Excerpt from *Flood! A Novel in Pictures* by Eric Drooker, part of STREETLIFE

Six special exhibitions inspire:

- *Streetlife*
- *Rediscovering the Yarmulke*
- *The Word*
- *Jewish Labor Bund*
- *Papirshnit*
- *Jewish Sites of North Africa*

PLUS

REEL ASHKENAZ shows the classic silent film ***The Golem***, featuring two newly created scores

CHILDREN'S EVENTS • WORKSHOPS • STORYTELLING

AshkenArtz! Marketplace of Judaica

And FOOD, GLORIOUS KOSHER FOOD! at Fressers' Paradise

All events take place in and around York Quay Centre at Harbourfront Centre 235 Queens Quay West.

Events are free unless marked otherwise. Discounts for students, seniors & groups available on ticket prices marked*

☻ indicates especially for children

No programs Friday September 1
Sat - Shabbes programs begin 5pm

A FESTIVAL OF NEW YIDDISH CULTURE

ASHKENAZ

August 30 To September 6, 1999 · Harbourfront Centre, Toronto

For ticketed events, call the box office at **416-973-4000**

For more information, call the info desk at **416-973-3000**

To volunteer **416-410-9851**

VISUAL ARTS EXHIBITIONS
opening prior to the festival

AUGUST 7 - SEPTEMBER 8
REDISCOVERING THE YARMULKE
Uncommon Objects

AUGUST 7 - SEPTEMBER 12
JEWISH SITES OF NORTH AFRICA
Photo Passage
STREETLIFE
York Quay Gallery
THE WORD
Case Studies

MONDAY, AUGUST 30

MUSIC
FESTIVAL LAUNCH & KLEZMER CONSERVATORY BAND (Boston)
8pm Molson Place Pier Party
$20 advance, $25 day of

DANCE
HOLOCAUST STORIES
Gabrielle Lansner & Company (Brooklyn)
8:30pm Premiere Dance Theatre $20, $15*

THEATRE
O WHOLLY NIGHT AND OTHER JEWISH SOLECISMS
Deb Margolin (New Jersey)
8:30pm Studio Theatre $12

FILM
GREAT CANTORS OF THE GOLDEN AGE
6:30pm Studio Theatre

VISUAL ART
VISUAL ARTISTS OPENING RECEPTION
5-8pm York Quay Gallery & Breezeway
JEWISH LABOR BUND
Community Gallery To September 6
PAPIRSHNIT
Premiere Dance Theatre To September 6

TUESDAY, AUGUST 31

MUSIC
FLYING BULGAR BAND (Toronto/Winnipeg)
8:30pm Brigantine Room
AUFWIND (Germany)
9:30pm Lakeside Terrace
MATT DARRIAU'S PARADOX TRIO (New York)
10pm Brigantine Room

DANCE
HOLOCAUST STORIES
Gabrielle Lansner & Company (Brooklyn)
8:30pm Premiere Dance Theatre $20, $15*

THEATRE
O WHOLLY NIGHT AND OTHER JEWISH SOLECISMS
Deb Margolin (New Jersey)
8pm Studio Theatre $12

FILM
THE GOLEM with musical accompaniment by **Alan Bern** (New York)
9:30pm Studio Theatre $8

LITERARY
READING THE DIASPORA
Cary Fagan, Libby (Liebe) Scheier, Jason Sherman
7pm Brigantine Room

LECTURES
SMART, STRONG, SEXY & FRUM: Women of the Bible in a Medieval Yiddish Manuscript
Justin Lewis (Toronto)
6pm Urban Square Tent
KLEZMER MUSIC: Roots and Revival
Hankus Netsky (Boston)
7:30pm Urban Square Tent

WORKSHOP
THE MAKING OF DIAMONDS: Turning Poetry Into Theatre
A Traveling Jewish Theatre (San Francisco)
6:30pm Lakeside Terrace

STORYTELLING
FUN VIGEL BISEN GRIBEL
Roslyn Bresnick-Perry (New York)
4:30pm Urban Square Tent

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

MUSIC
LERNER & WALL (Toronto/Winnipeg)
7pm Lakeside Terrace
DAVE DOUGLAS AND CHARMS OF THE NIGHT SKY (New York)
8pm Brigantine Room $15
ANNE KALMERING TRIO (Sweden)
9pm Lakeside Terrace
ASHKENAZ ORCHESTRA PROJECT (International)
10pm Brigantine Room $15

THEATRE
I JUST WANNA JEWIFY: THE YIDDISH REVENGE ON WAGNER
Golus Storytheatre (Toronto/Berlin)
8:30pm Studio Theatre
DIAMONDS IN THE DARK : A CELEBRATION OF YIDDISH POETRY
A Traveling Jewish Theatre (San Francisco)
9pm Premiere Dance Theatre $20, $15*

FILM
YIDCLIPS: Short Film & Video
6:30pm Studio Theatre
DER PURIMSHPILER
10pm Studio Theatre

LITERARY
RE-IMAGINING THE SHTETL
Yehuda Elberg, Yaffa Eliach, Lilian Nattel (USA, Canada)
7pm Premiere Dance Theatre $8
FINF-UN-TSEN (5 & 10) LITERARY CABARET (Canada)
9:30pm Urban Square Tent

LECTURE
WHAT'S SO FUNNY ABOUT JEWISH HUMOUR
Steve Zeitlin, Roslyn Bresnick-Perry (New York)
7:30pm Urban Square Tent

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

MUSIC
WILLY SCHWARZ with JEWISH MUSIC AROUND THE WORLD (Chicago)
7pm Lakeside Terrace
ASHKENAZ ORCHESTRA PROJECT (International)
8pm Brigantine Room $15
KHEVRISA DUO (New York)
9pm Lakeside Terrace
DAVE DOUGLAS AND CHARMS OF THE NIGHT SKY (New Yo k)
10pm Brigantine Room $15
YURI YUNAKOV ENSEMBLE (Bulgaria/USA)
10:30pm Lakeside Terrace
LATE NIGHT CABARET (International)
11:30pm Brigantine Room

THEATRE
SHREWD TODIE AND LYZER THE MISER ☻
Adapted and directed by **Lisa Rothman** (Toronto)4pm Lakeside Terrace
DIAMONDS IN THE DARK
A Traveling Jewish Theatre (San Francisco)
9pm Premiere Dance Theatre $20, $15*

FILM
SABBATH IN PARADISE
5pm Studio Theatre
MIR KUMEN ON
9:30pm Studio Theatre

LITERARY
MARCIA FALK'S THE BOOK OF BLESSINGS (San Francisco)
7:30pm Studio Theatre

LECTURE
THE FOOD OF SEPHARAD – A STORY
Claudia Roden (England)
6:30pm Urban Square Tent
RESTORING A VANISHED PAST – ITS LIFE, TIME AND HUMOUR
Yaffa Eliach (New York)
8:30pm Urban Square Tent

STORYTELLING
WHILE STANDING ON ONE FOOT: PUZZLE STORIES FOR KIDS ☻
Steve Zeitlin and Roslyn Bresnick-Perry (New York)
4:30pm Community Gallery

WORKSHOP
BALKAN AND ROM (GYPSY) MUSIC
Yuri Yunakov (Bulgaria/USA)
5pm Lakeside Terrace

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

SPECIAL EVENTS
FRESSERS' PARADISE FOOD TENT
(Kosher available) 11am-11pm
GOOD SHABBES!
5-9pm Various workshops at various venues
HAVDALAH
9pm Ann Tindal Stage
AshkenAzt! MARKETPLACE
9:30pm-midnight

MUSIC
SAN FRANCISCO KLEZMER EXPERIENCE
8pm Molson Place
YURI YUNAKOV ENSEMBLE (Bulgaria/USA)
9pm Brigantine Room
KLEZMER EN BUENOS AIRES
9pm Lakeside Terrace
BRAVE OLD WORLD (Germany/USA)
9 30pm Molson Place
DAVID KRAKAUER'S "KLEZMER MADNESS!" (New York)
11pm Lakeside Terrace
LATE NIGHT CABARET (International)
11pm Brigantine Room
SLIKHOS (New York)
midnight Brigantine Room

THEATRE
SHTICK!
A QUEER PLAY ON JEWISH VAUDEVILLE
Sara Felder (San Francisco)
8:30pm Premiere Dance Theatre $20, $15*
THE KABBALISTIC PSYCHOANALYSIS OF ADAM R. TZADDIK
Moriah Productions (Toronto)
10pm Studio Theatre $14*

FILM
TBA

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

SPECIAL EVENTS
FRESSERS' PARADISE FOOD TENT
11am-11pm (Kosher available)
THE ASHKENAZ PARADE
Meet at noon, Parade start 1pm
Bellevue Square Park, Kensington Market.
Parade to Harbourfront Centre
AshkenAzt! MARKETPLACE
noon-midnight

MUSIC EVENTS
LENKA LICHTENBERG ENSEMBLE (Toronto)
Time TBA
Queen's Quay at Newcourt Centre
AUFWIND (Germany)
2pm Molson Place
DI GRINE KATSHKE (THE GREEN DUCK) ☻
Lorin Sklamberg & Paula Teitelbaum (New York)
2:30pm Ann Tindal Stage
ANNE KALMERING TRIO (Sweden)
3pm Brigantine Room
KHEVRISA (New York)
4pm Molson Place
OY VEY! KLEZMER FOR KIDS ☻
5pm Ann Tindal Stage
WILLY SCHWARZ with JEWISH MUSIC AROUND THE WORLD (Chicago)
6:30pm Lakeside Terrace
BRAVE OLD WORLD with SONG OF THE LODZ GHETTO: 1940-1993 (Germany/USA)
7pm Premiere Dance Theatre $12, $8
HASIDIC NEW WAVE (New York)
7pm Brigantine Room
NEW YIDDISH CHORALE (New York)
8pm Molson Place
DAVID KRAKAUER'S "KLEZMER MADNESS!" (New York)
8:30pm Molson Place
EMIL ZRIHAN (Morocco/Israel)
9pm Brigantine Room
FLYING BULGAR BAND (Toronto/Winnipeg)
9:30pm Molson Place
FESTIVAL ALL-STAR DANCE PARTY
11pm Brigantine Room
LATE NIGHT CABARET (International)
11pm Lakeside Terrace

THEATRE
SHREWD TODIE AND LYZER THE MISER ☻
Adapted and directed by **Lisa Rothman** (Toronto)
3:30pm & 6pm Ann Tindal Stage
THE KABBALISTIC PSYCHOANALYSIS OF ADAM R. TZADDIK
Moriah Productions (Toronto)
7pm Studio Theatre $14*
SHTICK!
A QUEER PLAY ON JEWISH VAUDEVILLE
Sara Felder (San Francisco)
9pm Premiere Dance Theatre $20, $15*

FILM
THE GOLEM with musical accompaniment by quartet led by **Daniel Hoffman** (San Francisco)
8:30pm Studio Theatre $8

LITERARY
FINF-UN-TSEN (5 & 10) LITERARY CABARET (Canada)
6pm Urban Square Tent
A DRAMATIC READING OF MARCIA FALK'S TRANSLATION OF THE SONG OF SONGS
Marcia Falk & Alon Nashman (San Francisco/Toronto)
7:30pm Urban Square Tent

LECTURE
THE FOOD OF ASHKENAZ – A STORY
Claudia Roden (England)
4pm Urban Square Tent
GRAVEN IMAGES! A Musical Slide Lecture
Eric Drooker (New York)
10:30pm Studio Theatre

STORYTELLING
THE PENCHANT FOR PARABLE IN JEWISH FOLKLORE
Steve Zeitlin & Roslyn Bresnick-Perry (New York)
4pm Community Gallery

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

SPECIAL EVENTS
FRESSERS' PARADISE FOOD TENT
11am-6pm (Kosher available)
AshkenAzt! MARKETPLACE
noon-6pm

MUSIC
OY VEY! KLEZMER FOR KIDS ☻
noon Ann Tindal Stage
DI GRINE KATSHKE (THE GREEN DUCK) ☻
Lorin Sklamberg & Paula Teitelbaum (New York)
12:30pm Urban Square Tent
KLEZMER EN BUENOS AIRES
1pm Brigantine Room
LERNER & WALL (Toronto/Winnipeg)
1:30pm Lakeside Terrace
HU-TSA-TSA (Toronto)
2pm & 3:15pm
Queen's Quay at Newcourt Centre
ASHKENAZ FIDL KAPELYE (International)
2pm Premiere Dance Theatre $8
HASIDIC NEW WAVE (New York)
2:30pm Molson Place
MEDINA (Toronto)
3pm Brigantine Room
SAN FRANCISCO KLEZMER EXPERIENCE
3:30pm Lakeside Terrace
NEW YIDDISH CHORALE & TORONTO JEWISH FOLK CHOIR with *In Love And Struggle: The Musical Legacy of the Jewish Labor Bund* (New York, Toronto)
4pm Premiere Dance Theatre $8
EMIL ZRIHAN (Morocco/Israel)
4:30pm Molson Place
MARTY EHRLICH AND THE DARK WOODS ENSEMBLE featuring MARC RIBOT (New York)
4:30pm Brigantine Room $10
ASHKENAZ FINALE (International)
6pm Molson Place

THEATRE
SHREWD TODIE AND LYZER THE MISER ☻
Adapted and directed by **Lisa Rothman** (Toronto)
2 & 3:30pm Ann Tindal Stage
I JUST WANNA JEWIFY: THE YIDDISH REVENGE ON WAGNER
Golus Storytheatre (Toronto/Berlin)
4pm Studio Theatre

FILM
ANIMATED TALES FOR KIDS ☻
11:30am Studio Theatre

LITERARY
FINF-UN-TSEN (5 & 10) LITERARY CABARET (Canada)
2:30pm Urban Square Tent

LECTURE
GRAVEN IMAGES! A Musical Slide Lecture
Eric Drooker (New York)
1pm Studio Theatre
ZEV FELDMAN (New York)
2:30pm Studio Theatre
THE MUSIC OF A JEWISH SIGH
Yehuda Elberg (Montreal)
4pm Urban Square Tent

STORYTELLING
THE CANTOR OF HELL AND OTHER STORIES
Alec Geicer (Toronto)
2:30pm Community Gallery

SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE – DETAILED PROGAM BOOK AVAILABLE MID-AUGUST

WE'RE COUNTING ON YOU!
The Ashkenaz Foundation is a non-profit organization created to preserve and perpetuate the dazzling creativity and culture of a Yiddish speaking Eastern European world – a world revered for its demise, but hitherto unacknowledged for the vitality of its people, their commitment to Judaism, family, humanity and social justice. The joys and tribulations of their lives were expressed and chronicled through the eloquent genius of Yiddish literature, theatre, poetry, nigunim, music, art and song.

It takes effort and money to build on the past and secure a vibrant Jewish future. ASHKENAZ '99 is most fortunate to have General Motors of Canada Limited and Four Seasons Hotels and Resorts as major festival sponsors. General Motors of Canada Limited has donated a 1999 Cadillac Seville STS for the festival to raffle off. Tickets, at $10 each or in books of six for $50, will be sold throughout the summer at various locations around town as well as at the festival. The odds of winning are quite high for this double mitzvah donation. Whether you buy raffle tickets, join our list of donors, or do both, know that young people of today and children of tomorrow are counting on you to maintain our Yiddish legacy.

For more info, contact us at:

MAIL: 642 King Street West, Suite 100, Toronto, Ont. M5V 1M7
PHONE: 416.703.6892
FAX: 416.703.5489
E-MAIL: ashkenaz@echo-on.net

To become a sponsor, call Hindy Nosek-Abelson, Director of Development at 416-703-6890

DONATE TO ASHKENAZ AND ENSURE THEIR PAST, YOUR PRESENT AND OUR FUTURE

Tax receipts will be issued for donations over $25.

ASHKENAZ: A Festival of New Yiddish Culture is produced by the Ashkenaz Foundation in partnership with Harbourfront Centre and presented with the support of the above and Department of Canadian Heritage, Canada Council for the Arts, Ontario Arts Council, Ontario Trillium Foundation, Ontario Tourism, Laidlaw Foundation, City of Toronto Economic Development Office, Toronto Arts Council

Na'amat triennial conference heads to Vancouver

MONTREAL — Na'amat Canada will hold its triennial convention in Vancouver for the first time, national president Erika Bloom announced recently.

The convention in Vancouver is expected to attract a record attendance, said Bloom. "We are very excited about taking our convention to Vancouver. This event should be a momentous occasion for Na'amat Canada.

"We hope to make it a very special dynamic, inspiring experience as we head into the new millennium".

The theme of the 12th triennial convention is Na'amat meets the 21st century. The convention will take place Oct. 9 to 11.

The national convention chair is Na'amat Calgary's Stephanie Sacks, the programming chair is Cheryl Milner and local planning is being coordinated by Vancouver's Tamara Levi-Bandel.

The convention will include a program exploring the Holocaust through art therapy, sessions on family law, and a luncheon discussion about the future of Na'amat in Canada and Israel.

The convention will feature Abby Leibman and Sandra Polinsky who will speak on domestic abuse and family law, and Dana Wachtel who will speak on the status of women in Israel.

The convention will also include a tour of Vancouver and a stop at the anthropology museum at the University of British Columbia.

As an addition to the convention, extended tours are being offered including a west coast tour, additional days in Vancouver, and three days in Las Vegas. Special rates are being offered through Air Canada.

Founded in 1921 in support of women pioneers in Israel, Na'amat's mission has expanded to encompass the support and advancement of women and their families in Israel and in 21 other countries.

For information about the convention, contact Na'amat Canada at 488-0792.

DINING PLEASURES

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Features

Fez, Morocco – 2,000 Years of Jewish History

By ESTELLE MELZER
Special to The CJN

Yehuda Azuelos sits at his dining room table surrounded by Moroccan family treasures and tries to convey in words the magic of his last trip back to his birthplace, Fez.

"For me, for my family who accompanied me, it was a once in a lifetime experience," he explained. "We were not just going back in place, we were going back in time.

"I felt as if I had somehow become a part of the history of my family and our entire community in Fez – a history that goes back over 2,000 years to the destruction of the Second Temple."

Azuelos had visited Morocco many times since he emigrated in 1968. But this trip was unique.

He had timed it to coincide with the official dedication ceremony for the Ibn Danan Synagogue in Fez, a 17th-century synagogue which had been designated as a world historic site by the World Monuments Watch – making it one of 500 monuments and sites worldwide to be protected and saved.

He was also returning to Fez to research his own family's history there. "My father, who now lives in Toronto, turned 100 this year," Azuelos said. "I know this because two years ago I visited our family's graves in Fez, and saw on my grandfather's tombstone that he had died in 1901. My father knew that he was 2 years old when his father passed away."

Sitting in the Jewish cemetery of Fez, surrounded by 500 years of his ancestors, Azuelos was struck with the desire to find out and record more of his family's rich history.

He recruited his brother and sisters for the project and was accompanied on the trip by representatives of his entire immediate family – his son, Alan Azuelos, sister Simone Benrimof from New York, sister Renee Mouyal from Toronto, niece Esther Laderman from Toronto (the daughter of his late sister Denise), and brother Abner Azuelos and his wife Leah from Israel. Abner had left Fez as a child of 10, and was making his first trip back to his birthplace.

"There were two things we wanted to do – visit the graves of our family, and visit the old houses we remembered, especially the house we grew up in, Maison Azuelos," Azuelos explained.

"My brother, who carried an Israeli passport, was apprehensive about how he would be treated, but I told him not to worry [because] the Moroccans are the most hospitable people in the world and will treat you with warmth and respect."

Azuelos' prediction was born out at the airport. The customs official, after inspecting Abner's passport, greeted him warmly with the words, *Baruch Habah*.

The family's experience was similar when they knocked on the door of the mansion which their grandfather had built. The lady of the house ushered them inside, where they were greeted with cries of *Baruch Habah*, embraced, kissed, and served tea and pastries.

The two families exchanged presents – the Moroccans giving traditional gifts of henna, crafts and pastries – as neighbors dropped by to join the party.

"I think the fact that we spoke Arabic to everyone made our welcome warmer," Azuelos reflected. "Many times during our trip I heard people say 'You are one of us.' We were greeted not as Jews but as Moroccans returning home."

Sitting in the intricately tiled main salon of that beautiful house, the brothers and sisters were flooded with memories of their life there. "I remember the black and white hall tile" marveled Abner, who had last seen the house 52 years ago.

"We all lived together, from great-grandfather down to us, the grandchildren, all the brothers and sisters, husbands and wives – that was the custom," Azuelos recalled.

Maison Azuelos even had its own synagogue on the ground floor. "Of course, we could make a minyan from our own family," he laughed. The synagogue, as in many Jewish homes now occupied by Arabs, was closed off out of respect, and never used.

The respect between Jews and Arabs in Fez has had a long tradition. Since the Arab occupation of Morocco in the 8th century, Jews have enjoyed special relationships with the sultans, and have been under their protection. Indeed, Azuelos' own great-grandfather was the tailor to King Hassan I, the great great-grandfather of the current king, Hassan II.

Fez was founded in the 7th century by the Muslim Arab, Moulay Idress II, who had a dream that Mohammed told him to take a pick, a *fez*, and build a city in that location.

The Jewish community of Morocco predated the Arabs by many centuries. Jews first settled in the area that would become Morocco after the destruction of the Second Temple and the expulsion from the Holy Land. "I am sure that my own family has been in Morocco since the time of the Spanish expulsion," Azuelos stated. Jews mixed freely with the indigenous Berber population.

After the Muslim domination of Morocco, most Jews settled in Fez where the sultan lived, to be close to his protection.

In 1276, because of Muslim sentiment that infidels should not pollute Islamic holy places, Fez was divided into sections. The medina was, henceforth, for Muslims only. Jews had to live in the area which became known as the mellah (mellah, meaning salt, denoted the less desirable dry and salted land) while Europeans were to live in the ville nouvelle. This became the model for all cities in Morocco.

(Above), Azuelos family members dining at the Fez JCC, from left, Leah Azuelos, Olga Tubiena, Renée Mouyal, Andre Cohen, Eli Cohen, Abner Azuelos, Simone Benrimof, Jacqueline Cohen and Yehuda Azuelos. (Below), Dr. Armand Guigui, president of the Jewish community of Fez, speaking at the dedication of the Ibn Danan Synagogue.

Within the mellah, the Jews of Morocco developed an extremely rich cultural life. Before the birth of the State of Israel, 350,000 Jews lived in Morocco, 15,000 of them in Fez. The mellah de Fez was a centre of Jewish learning and a home to many rabbonim and chachamim. This was the community Yehuda Azuelos grew up in.

"It was definitely not a ghetto," he recalled. "We lived in the mellah but we could have lived, as many Jews did, in the nouvelle ville, or even the medina. But everything we needed for our community was available in the mellah."

With over 30 synagogues – each corner had a synagogue – the mellah offered an active, close-knit communal life. Homes were built attached together around inner courtyards and everyone knew everyone. On Friday evening, the shofar blast would denote the beginning of Shabbat and all the shops would close.

During World War II, the Vichy government had control of Morocco and Vichy officials demanded a list of Morocco's Jews. The King of Morocco refused, saying – "We don't have any Jews here, only Moroccans." Moroccans proudly claim that no Jew was ever deported from their country to the concentration camps.

When the State of Israel came into being in 1948, the first great exodus of Moroccan Jews took place."It was not persecution that made people leave," Azuelos explained. "We wanted to go to Israel. The dream, *L'Shana haba'a b'Yerushalayim* was very strong within our community."

After the Six Day War, however, Jews began to feel unwelcome in Morocco and the second exodus took place. "But there was," Azuelos recalled, "still no official discrimination and the King of Morocco wanted the Jews to stay."

Today there are approximately 5,000 Jews in Morocco, mostly in Casablanca. The small Jewish community of Fez has a population of 150, but has Jewish schools, synagogues, a community centre with a kosher restaurant, and kosher food readily available in the stores.

The Azuelos clan wandered the labyrinthian streets of the mellah and medina, savoring the rich smells and sounds of their childhood. "I felt as if I had travelled back into the middle ages," remarked Azuelos' son, Alan, who was born in Canada. No cars could fit the narrow streets which were barely wide enough for two people to walk abreast. Goods were carried to the stores by donkey.

A highlight of the trip was the family visit to the Jewish cemetery located at the entrance of the mellah. This too, was a labyrinth. In a manner similar to the houses they had lived in, the Jews of Fez were laid to rest in graves closely attached to each other.

With the help of Edmond Gaby of the Jewish Historical Society (who had computerized all the graves and names in the cemetery), the Azuelos clan were able to locate their family's graves. They said Tehillim, laid stones and recorded the birth and death dates of all their great-grandparents.

The climax of the trip was the dedication ceremony for the Ibn Danan Synagogue. It was an international occasion drawing officials from various cities in Morocco and France and many former Moroccans from all over the world.

Taking part in the ceremony were: Andre Azoulay, conseiller (adviser) to the King of Morocco; Wali Hady M' Hamed Dryef, governor of Grand Fez; Grand Rabbi of Paris David Messas; Grand Rabbi of France Rene Samuel Sirat; and Grand Rabbi of Morocco Aharon Monsonego.

There had been no rain in Morocco for months, but on the morning the crowd gathered at the entrance of the mellah to walk to the Ibn Danan Synagogue, a gentle rain started to fall – a happy omen. Two sefer Torahs were taken from the Ville Nouvelle Synagogue and the entire crowd walked through the old Jewish quarter singing prayers and ululating, Moroccan-style.

People stopped to watch and clapped as the parade wound through the streets. Inside the ancient synagogue, the ornately decorated walls once more rang with the sounds of Jewish chanting, as the daily prayer service was led by the Grand Rabbi of Paris.

Yehuda Azuelos stood where his ancestors had prayed for 500 years, and with both joy and sorrow in his heart, reflected on the long history of the Jewish community of Fez.

Estelle Melzer is president of Write-On Consulting.

This article first appeared in the Ottawa Jewish Bulletin.

Q: WHAT IS *TIKUN OLAM* (repairing the world)?
ANSWER 1: On a sunny morning in July, five 10-year-old Jewish ball players will go nine innings with Somalia children at the JCC. In August, a lineup of Jewish doctors, lawyers, accountants will step up to the plate against a Native Ojibway baseball club.
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Israel & the Jewish World

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Jews mourn death of King Hassan; greet new monarch

Wearing traditional white robes and a red fez, Morocco's King Mohammed VI talks to Israel's President Ezer Weizman after the funeral in Rabat of King Hassan II. Prime Minister Ehud Barak and Foreign Minister David Levy look on. [Israel Sun photo]

By GIL SEDAN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — The death of Morocco's King Hassan II made tens of thousands of Israelis mourn for the man they consider "their" king – and homesick for the land their families left.

Young Israelis of Moroccan origin placed the Moroccan flag on top of their cars, while others displayed huge posters in their homes of the late king, who died last Friday of a heart attack at the age of 70.

The Moroccan Jewish community in Israel declared a seven-day period of mourning for the king.

While reaction from Israel's leadership was perhaps less dramatic, it was just as heartfelt – as a delegation led by Israeli President Ezer Weizman and Prime Minister Ehud Barak joined 30 world leaders, including U.S. President Bill Clinton and Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat, in remembering a man who played a vital role in bridging the gap between the Jewish state and the Arab world.

In a condolence message, Weizman called Hassan a "true partner in the peace process."

Attending the funeral, Barak called Hassan a "great leader," adding that the late monarch was a "farsighted man, a friend to the governments of Israel in their voyage toward peace with the Arab people."

In Israel, Moroccan Jews have traditionally supported parties such as Likud or Shas, that espouse hardline policies toward the Arab countries. This is partly to compensate for the fact that they felt "Ashkenazi Jews regarded them as Jewish Arabs," according to Haim Shiran, 64, director of Inbal, an ethnic centre in Tel Aviv. He said anti-Arab political views were a kind of self-defence mechanism, a way to distinguish themselves from the Arabs.

But when it came to the king's death, the reaction of Israel's estimated 300,000 Moroccan Jews appeared similar to that of Morocco's Arab residents, many of whom consider the king to be a direct descendent of the Muslim prophet Mohammad.

"I know that it may sound ridiculous," said Shiran, "but when, on Friday, I saw the Moroccan announcer on television announcing the death of the king, I broke out in tears."

Actor Ze'ev Revah added: "I feel as if I have lost a member of the family."

When King Hassan II took power in 1961 after the death of his father Mohammed V, he was an unknown quantity with a reputation as a playboy. But ruling with a deft mixture of pro-Western democracy and traditional autocracy, he earned the respect of his people. He also survived several coup attempts, including one in which he reportedly pacified an attacker by reciting the opening verses of the Koran.

Hassan is being succeeded by his son Mohammed, 36.

As his father was when he ascended the throne, Mohammed VI is an unknown quantity. But most observers, citing the new monarch's knowledge of four languages and his degree from a French university, believe he will continue, and perhaps even accelerate, his father's pro-Western and pro-peace policies.

Mohammed V is widely credited with having saved Morocco's Jews from deportation during World War II, and Hassan continued the philo-Semitic policies of his father. Although there was an outbreak of anti-Jewish incidents following the establishment of the State of Israel in 1948, the Jewish community was generally safe under the protection of both Mohammed and Hassan, who proudly considered the Jews "Moroccans of Jewish origin."

When tens of thousands of Jews left Morocco in a massive aliyah that began after Morocco gained its independence in 1956 – and accelerated after Hassan II gained power – it was due as much to Zionism and a desire for economic opportunity as it was to a fear of anti-Semitism.

And as absorption difficulties mounted, Moroccan Jews missed the country of their birth even more.

"Even the death of your own premier you haven't mourned as deeply," Pinhas Suissa, 44, a building contractor from Jerusalem said to his friends.

The response was simple: "[Yitzhak] Rabin was a prime minister, elected for only four years. The king was king for life."

Along with the recently deceased King Hussein of Jordan, Hassan was considered a moderate in the Middle East. During his 38-year reign, he discreetly, and later openly, promoted ties with Israel at a time when most of the rest of the Arab world rejected such contact.

In the 1967 and 1973 wars, he contributed only a nominal number of troops to support the Arab world.

His mediation efforts, including secret meetings with Israeli intelligence officials and political leaders, helped pave the way for the 1978 Camp David accord between Israel and Egypt.

King Hassan also played a role in preparing for the 1991 Madrid peace conference and welcomed then-prime minister Yitzhak Rabin in September 1993, making Morocco the first Arab nation outside of Egypt to officially welcome an Israeli leader. In 1994, Hassan hosted the first Middle East regional economic conference that included Israel.

Continued on page 32

BETH HAMIDRASH
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Bomb discovered in Moscow shul heightens security fears

By LEV KRICHEVSKY
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

MOSCOW — A rabbi's 12-year-old son has prevented a bomb from going off inside a Moscow synagogue.

The incident at the Bolshaya Bronnaya shul – in which no one was hurt – came less than two weeks after a Moscow Jewish leader was stabbed inside another synagogue in the Russian capital.

The incident is likely to exacerbate already-simmering anger within the Jewish community as promises for heightened security at Jewish sites continue to go unmet.

The son of Lubavitch Rabbi Itzhak Kogan discovered the bomb in the synagogue's main hall a few minutes before a ceremony for a young boy's first haircut was set to begin. The synagogue was packed with a large number of small children and was decorated with balloons.

A bomb squad detonated the explosive nearby. The explosion shattered window panes at the shul and in neighboring buildings.

"It's a miracle that no one was hurt," Rabbi Kogan told JTA, minutes after the bomb was detonated.

Dozens of Jews who were evacuated from the synagogue burst into applause when they heard the powerful explosion.

"It could have gone off when we were inside," said a young woman who was inside the shul when the bomb was found. "I still can't believe it. We could have been killed," she said.

According to a federal security service agent who did not give his name, the bomb contained an equivalent of more than one pound of TNT.

In the wake of the July 13 stabbing of Leopold Kaimovsky at the Choral Synagogue, Russian authorities vowed to tighten up security measures at all Moscow synagogues that are currently guarded by private security agencies.

These promises have yet to be fulfilled.

Jewish officials say they are not surprised, because a similar failure to follow up on security promises occurred after bomb blasts near two Moscow synagogues in May.

In the meantime, Jewish communal leaders are busy upgrading security measures themselves at Jewish sites in Russia.

The changes are evident at the Choral Synagogue, where visitors are now required to pass though an airport-style security system.

Jewish officials say they are preparing to introduce similar measures, which have become commonplace in many Moscow restaurants and office buildings, at most Jewish sites in Moscow and elsewhere in Russia.

Currently, only two Moscow synagogues have adequate security systems, while schools, offices of Jewish organizations and soup kitchens lack even the basic measures.

Increased security, of course, translates into increased costs, and with this in mind, the Moscow community established a special foundation to raise funds in Russia and abroad to provide communal institutions with updated security.

"We are witnessing a surge of anti-Semitism. This does not mean that people don't see a future here anymore. What we have to do now is to struggle for this future, to learn to protect ourselves," said Pavel Feldblum, the executive vice-president of the newly created Moscow Jewish Community.

The community, created recently by 40 prominent Jews, is seeking to unite the Jewish organizations that operate in Moscow.

As its first goal, the Moscow Jewish Community plans to raise and distribute $800,000 for existing communal projects in the capital.

"The overall goal of the new structure is to raise Jewish pride and Jewish self-consciousness" among non-affiliated Jews, said Moscow's chief rabbi, Pinchas Goldschmidt.

Goldschmidt said that when more prominent figures are not ashamed to publicly associate with the community, more Russian Jews will publicly affirm their Jewish roots.

Meanwhile, reports in the mainstream Russian press this week are accelerating concerns about an even larger surge in anti-Semitism.

Several newspapers criticized former Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin for saying that a battle between two of Russia's leading business tycoons was a struggle between "two Jews."

Commenting on an unprecedented media war between the ORT channel, controlled by Boris Berezovsky, and NTV, owned by Vladimir Goussinsky, Chernomyrdin told a news conference in Moscow, "it comes out that two Jews have clashed, and now the whole country has to watch this farce."

Many Jewish officials and ordinary Jews said they were shocked by the comment from Chernomyrdin, who had not previously made public anti-Semitic remarks.

In a front-page article, Russia's leading business daily *Kommersant* wrote that the remark was an indication of a looming "anti-Semitic epidemic" in advance of this December's parliamentary election.

Information about the Security Foundation of the Russian Jewish Community can be obtained in English on the Web at the following address: www.chat.ru/~jsfund.

Russian aliyah jumps 128 percent

Jewish Telegraphic Agency

MOSCOW — The immigration of Russian Jews to Israel is reaching its highest levels since the mass exodus of the late 1980s and early 1990s, according to the Jewish Agency for Israel.

"If the trend continues, the number of Russian Jews [making aliyah] might reach 30,000" this year, which would be the highest number since 1992, Jewish Agency Chairman Sallai Meridor said recently.

Immigration from Russia is being fueled by the country's economic crisis and fears of rising anti-Semitism, agency officials said.

During the first six months of 1999, 12,188 Russian Jews came to Israel, which is a 128 percent increase over the same period last year.

Russian Jewish emigres represented nearly half of the 25,516 Jews who made aliyah from across the former Soviet Union (FSU) during this time.

In previous years, Jewish emigres from Russia only accounted for some 30 percent of the total number of olim from the FSU.

A total of 60,000 emigres from the FSU are expected to make aliyah during 1999. Last year there were 46,000.

Some 800,000 Jews from the FSU have made aliyah since 1989, when Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev approved more liberal emigration policies. —*L.K.*

Stalin's grandson blames Jews

By LEV KRICHEVSKY
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

MOSCOW — A grandson of Stalin has found a familiar target for Russia's current woes – the Jews.

Yevgeny Dzhugashvili charged that "Zionists" are ravaging Russia and that there are "practically no [ethnic] Russians" in the current Russian Cabinet, the Interfax news agency reported.

The statement was similar to a series of anti-Semitic remarks made in recent months by prominent members of the Communist Party, who charged that there have been too many Jews in the government of Russian President Boris Yeltsin and that they are responsible for Russia's ongoing economic and social problems.

Russia's 30-member government includes two officials with known Jewish roots.

Stalin was responsible for several cruel waves of persecution in the Soviet Union, including some that involved anti-Semitism.

Dzhugashvili, a retired air force colonel, was speaking to a crowd of 100 supporters of several radical leftists groups that rallied near Moscow's Red Square to protest Russian President Boris Yeltsin's reported intention to bury Lenin's embalmed body.

Earlier this year, Dzhugashvili launched a new leftist electoral coalition called the Stalinist Bloc. The bloc, which supports the reconstitution of the Soviet Union, is composed of radical leftist and anti-Semitic elements.

Dzhugashvili, who like other descendants of Stalin kept a low profile during the later years of the Soviet Union, lives in the former Soviet republic of Georgia, where he heads the 50,000-member Stalin Society.

Dzhugashvili has made several thinly veiled anti-Semitic remarks in the past. Earlier this year, he was quoted as saying at a public rally that "in contrast to the war against Nazi Germany, the enemy today is among us and hiding."

Stalin unleashed a state-sponsored anti-Semitic campaign in the Soviet Union after World War II. The campaign, which included the notorious Doctors' Plot, in which several Jewish doctors were killed after having been falsely accused of murdering Soviet leaders, and a drive against "rootless cosmopolitans" – a code word for Jews – ended after Stalin died in March 1953. —*L.K.*

Jews mourn death of King

Continued from page 31

After the euphoria of the 1993 Oslo accords between Israel and the Palestinians, Israel was allowed to establish a consular office in Rabat, and an estimated 40,000 Israeli tourists visited Morocco in 1995 and 1996. But after the peace process stalled following the election of Benjamin Netanyahu, relations cooled considerably. Moroccan ministers were not allowed to meet with Israel's consul general in their offices.

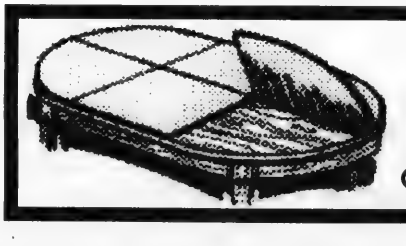
There were indications, however, that relations were set to improve once again with the renewed optimism in the peace process spurred by Barak's election in May. Before Hassan's death last Friday, Morocco's trade office in Israel commemorated its move from Tel Aviv to new offices in an ornate replica of one of King Hassan's palaces built in the southern port city of Ashdod.

Speculation before the funeral focused on the possibility of a meeting between Barak and Syrian President Hafez al-Assad.

But Assad did not attend the funeral, reportedly because of American efforts to set up such a meeting. Assad, who sent a deputy in his place, was slated to visit Morocco on Tuesday to pay his respects to Mohammed, according to Israeli press reports.

Separate meetings between Barak and Arafat and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak slated for last weekend were postponed because of Hassan's death and rescheduled for Tuesday evening and Thursday.

But even in death Hassan provided an opportunity for Israeli and Arab officials to meet – in this case, an unprecedented exchange between Barak, Israeli Foreign Minister David Levy and Algerian President Abdelaziz Bouteflika.



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The Week in Israel

July 19

• The IDF began preparations for transferring a regional headquarters in the West Bank. The work being carried out near Jenin, marks the first time since the elections in May that the army has prepared for a further withdrawal in the West Bank.

July 20

• Prime Minister Ehud Barak asked Jewish members of Congress to stop supporting "ill-timed" initiatives, including those that would strengthen Israeli control over Jerusalem. He added that such moves could frustrate his efforts to improve the atmosphere for making peace with the Palestinians and Syria.

• Interior Minister Natan Sharansky said he plans to end the practice of revoking the residency permits of Arab residents of Jerusalem who lived abroad.

July 21

• A new political party with two legislators was recognized by the Knesset. Roman Bronfman and Alexander Tzinker formed the Machar party soon after they joined the Knesset as part of the Yisrael Ba'Aliyah ticket. There are now a record 16 political parties in the Knesset.

• Israel's security is threatened by growing societal rifts, the head of the Shin Bet told a conference at Tel Aviv University. Israeli society is "divided and polarized," said Ami Ayalon. "Victory has as much – if not more – to do with people, with their will-power" as with technological know-how, he added.

July 22

• The military wing of Hamas is threatening to renew its terrorist attacks in Israel's large cities in the near future according to a leaflet that was disseminated in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. The leaflet was attributed to Is a Din al Kassam, the armed branch of the Gaza-based Hamas movement.

July 23

• The United States made it clear to Israel that it views implementation of the Wye Accord as the top priority on the road to renewing the peace process.

Files from JTA and Ha'aretz.

Barak ends U.S. visit with bag of "gestures"

By MATTHEW DORF
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

WASHINGTON — Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak wanted to send a message to his country's Arab neighbors that the U.S.-Israeli relationship has recovered from the tensions that had marked the tenure of his predecessor, Benjamin Netanyahu.

President Bill Clinton helped deliver the message last week – providing glowing endorsements of the premier, holding an unusual 15 hours of meetings with Barak, agreeing to regular visits and establishing a new joint security commission.

During a six-day visit, Barak and Clinton seemed to present a united vision of how to move the peace process forward. Barak made it clear that he wanted to set a 15-month timetable for establishing a framework for comprehensive peace agreements with the Palestinians, Syria and Lebanon.

If the Palestinian reaction to his visit is any indication, Barak's message was heard loud and clear.

Concerned that Barak had succeeded in convincing Clinton to shift the American role away from mediator, which had during recent years of stalemate worked to the Palestinians' advantage, Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat dispatched one of his top deputies, Abu Mazen, to Washington to monitor Barak's visit.

Back in Gaza, another top Palestinian peace negotiator loudly complained about Barak's efforts.

"The American role must be defined in accordance with American interests, and it's not up to Barak to define this role," Saeb Erekat was quoted as saying, according to a report by Associated Press.

Palestinians complained about Barak

Barak's call for the United States to pursue the peace process as Israel's partner "is totally rejected by us," Erekat said.

At the end of his U.S. visit, Barak left Washington with a host of American gestures of support:

• Clinton and Barak agreed to establish the Strategic Policy Planning Group to bolster Israel's defence and deterrence capabilities. The group will meet at four-month intervals, and the two leaders agreed to meet regularly to review its recommendations.

• Clinton and Barak put into writing a previously agreed-upon formula to reduce U.S. economic aid to Israel, currently close to $1 billion a year, by $120 million a year for the next eight years. At the same time U.S. military aid to Israel would increase by $60 million a year.

At the end of the 10-year period, Israel would receive $2.4 billion a year in military aid. The codification of the agreements, subject to congressional approval, is expected to curb the White House efforts to eliminate the economic aid sooner.

Israel to receive $2.4 billion in military aid

• Clinton promised to go to Congress to seek an additional $1.2 billion in aid for the region – $400 million will be allocated to the Palestinians and $300 million to the Jordanians.

This aid package was promised during last October's Wye peace talks. Except for a partial payment to Jordan, the aid was never delivered because of the stalemate in the peace process.

• Clinton agreed to pay an estimated $200 million for a third Arrow missile battery, which is designed to destroy incoming missiles.

• An Israeli astronaut and some Israeli experiments will be launched on a U.S. space shuttle next year, and Clinton and Barak agreed to establish a committee made up of NASA and the Israel Space Agency representatives for the development of practical applications in the peaceful use of space.

"America and Israel will be taking our partnership to new heights – literally," Clinton said.

For his part, Barak had a few gestures for the president. In addition to praising his leadership on the Kosovo crisis, he intercepted a question for Clinton on Jonathan Pollard at a joint news conference.

Taking the pressure off of Clinton to respond, Barak said, "I clearly want to see Jonathan Pollard released, but I am of the position that any public discussion of this issue doesn't push forward the purpose of having him released.

"For many reasons, this is a subject that should be dealt with not in public, but at most between the leaders of the two nations."

During his meeting with Clinton, Barak raised the Pollard issue and suggested separating the fate of Pollard from the peace process, according to information from Clinton's national security adviser, Sandy Berger.

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CJN Rosh Hashanah Photo Contest

The CJN announces its fifth annual Rosh Hashanah photo contest. We are asking readers to submit their own original photographs either of Israel or on any Jewish theme in their community.

Anyone can enter except *CJN* employees or members of their families.

A maximum of three photos per entrant may be submitted. Please write your name, address and phone number on the back of each photo. We can only return the photos if you provide a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

You may mail or deliver your photos to: *The CJN* Rosh Hashanah Contest, The Canadian Jewish News, 1500 Don Mills Road, Suite 205, Toronto, Ont., M3B 3K4.

The contest closes at 5 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 16, 1999.

The judges will choose three photographs which, in their opinion, are the most expressive and evocative. These three photos will be published in *The CJN* Rosh Hashanah issue, Sept. 9, 1999. Each of the "winning" photographers will receive a cheque for $100.

We will undoubtedly receive many worthy submissions. But only three will be selected as the "winners." The decisions of the judges will be final. The odds of winning depend upon the number and the quality of submissions received.

Winning entrants will be notified by telephone before Shabbat on Aug. 27, 1999.

Any litigation respecting the conduct and awarding of a prize in this contest may be submitted to the Régie des Loteries et courses du Québec.

Britain refused wartime plan to rescue Jews

By DOUGLAS DAVIS
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

LONDON — The British government blocked a secret U.S. plan that would have saved thousands of Jews from Nazi concentration camps, because Britain feared they would settle in Palestine, according to newly released British documents.

The plan would have involved the exchange of captive Jews in Germany and German-occupied territory who held South American passports for German nationals in Latin America.

But Britain's foreign secretary, Anthony Eden, rejected the June 14, 1944 proposal because he feared the freed Jews would stir up trouble for Britain if they immigrated to Palestine, a Foreign Office document shows.

Eden was also concerned that the return of able-bodied Germans might contribute to the Nazi war effort.

Britain's refusal to contemplate the exchange plan angered Washington, where politicians had been shocked by the malnourished, emaciated condition of prisoners from Bergen-Belsen who had been released in an earlier civilian exchange.

U.S. officials suggested the plan after diplomats noted that many Germans were interned or under effective house arrest in Latin American countries, while thousands of concentration camp inmates were Latin American citizens or their dependents.

Eden, however, was unimpressed with the plan.

"Most of the holders of these documents [Latin American passports] are of the Jewish race who have been accepted as immigrants to Palestine," he wrote in November 1944 to the British ambassador in Uruguay, Gordon Vereker.

"The passports are good for a journey thither, provided the holders succeed in leaving enemy or enemy-occupied territory," he added.

"In these circumstances, it appears doubtful that it will ever be possible to carry out the exchange envisaged by the United States government."

Eden expressed the hope, however, that "the German government [would] abstain from exterminating these people and [would] keep them in camps open to outside inspection" if it was made aware that they might be exchanged for Germans.

British diplomats in South America also argued about the lists of German citizens prepared by the United States.

"All of them are capable of rendering services to Germany if in that country," Vereker wrote. "Many have qualities that would render them of considerable value to Germany.

"For instance, it seems absurd to suggest sending to Germany," he added, "highly trained employees of the German bank who otherwise are languishing here doing nothing but draw their pay.

"Any such action would certainly be misunderstood and give rise to all sorts of ideas that we have gone all soft and sentimental over the Germans."

In February 1945, the U.S. State Department was so exasperated by Britain's procrastination that an emotional memo was sent to London: "The department has received most distressing reports regarding physical conditions of the unfortunate persons from Bergen-Belsen camp who were released in the latest exchange of civilians, and it will be noted that five of them died of malnutrition during a short period after their arrival in Switzerland. A sixth has died this week.

"It is therefore a matter of the greatest humanitarian urgency that cleared lists of Germans in this hemisphere available for exchange be compiled and that they comprise enough persons to permit the release from confinement and otherwise certain death of the several thousand unfortunate bearers of Latin American passports whom the Germans are holding under such conditions."

However, by the time Lord Halifax, then British ambassador in Washington, sent the note to Vereker, progress in the war had made the plan "of academic interest," according to a document.

Ironically, after the war, Britain's diplomats in South America found themselves frustrated by U.S. obstruction of plans to expatriate "obnoxious Germans."

George Ogilvie Forbes, then British ambassador to Venezuela, remarked on the "indifference" of Americans to the plans even though "the elimination of obnoxious Germans from this territory really concerns the U.S. much more than Britain."

The documents were not scheduled to be released until 2021, but were released by the Public Records Office in London this week under the Open Government Initiative.

Ambassador Berger speaks to *CJN* about his tour of duty in Israel

Continued from page 1

At last count, the annual volume of trade was $600 million (US), a figure he expects will grow to $1 billion within five years.

In an interview at Canada's new embassy in Yad Elyahu, which is less than a block from the Gottex swimsuit factory, Berger said he had a finger in many pies in an effort to bolster Canada's relationship with Israel.

He worked with Canadian companies such as Air Canada, which increased its flights to Israel, and Canadian Highways International Corp., which won a $1.2 billion contract to build a major road in Israel.

He played a role in Montreal builder David Azrieli's decision to construct a skyscraper in the heart of Tel Aviv.

He involved himself in the activities of the Canada-Israel Industrial Research & Development Foundation, whose objective is to promote collaborative work in both countries.

He promoted tourism at Canadian travel seminars.

On the diplomatic front, he said, Canada contributed to the Oslo peace process in two ways. Canada chaired the refugee working group in the multilateral track, and assisted in the repatriation of several thousand stranded Palestinian refugees from Egypt to the Gaza Strip.

There is one episode of his ambassadorship he would much rather forget – the 1997 Khaled Meshaal affair, which erupted when Israeli Mossad agents, in possession of forged Canadian passports, tried but failed to kill a leading Hamas official in Amman, Jordan.

As a result of this international incident, Berger was pointedly recalled to Ottawa for consultations, and Israel promised not to misuse Canadian passports ever again.

Suggesting that the Meshaal affair has had no lasting impact on Canada's relations with Israel, Berger noted: "Basically, Canada has accepted Israeli assurances. We have no reason to believe that Israel is not living up to these assurances."

Turning to personal matters, Berger said he had amassed unforgettable memories of Israel. Yet two, both involving Yitzhak Rabin in the last weeks of his life, vividly stand out in his mind.

When Rabin addressed a Canadian Jewish delegation at a dinner at the Israel Museum in Jerusalem, he revealed a rarely seen human side of himself in an animated speech about a recent trip to the former Soviet Union.

And on the night Rabin was murdered in Tel Aviv, Berger, his wife Monica Ewart and friends attended the peace rally where he was gunned down by Yigal Amir.

They left before the shots rang out, but the memory lingers on. The assassination, he said, was a warning to Israeli society that violent language and violent behavior can have disastrous consequences.

Born in Ottawa, and educated at the University of Toronto and McGill, Berger was vice-president of the Montreal Alouettes football team and president of the Canadian Football League before being elected to the House of Commons in 1979.

He jumped at the opportunity

As an MP, Berger was parliamentary secretary to the Ministry of State (small business and tourism) and later to the minister of consumer and corporate affairs. In addition, he was chair of the committee on industry.

When Chretien offered him the ambassadorship, which until recently included representation to the Palestinian autonomous areas, he jumped at the opportunity. "I had a longstanding interest in Israel and in the Arab-Israeli conflict," he said. And, he added, Israel was not exactly terra incognita. He had already visited Israel several times, first setting foot on Israeli soil in the late 1960s when he joined his parents and brother on a trip.

Yet, when his appointment was announced, there was an outcry in certain quarters. The president of the Ottawa-based Professional Association of Foreign Service Officers lambasted it as a "political appointment."

Meanwhile, the National Council of Canada-Arab Relations charged that Berger – the second Canadian Jewish ambassador to Israel after Norman Spector – was anti-Palestinian because, among other things, he had defended a visit to Canada in 1983 by Ariel Sharon only months after the Sabra and Shatila massacre in Lebanon.

Due, perhaps, to these accusations, Berger is exceedingly careful. In advance of this interview, his secretary requested a copy of the questions which would be posed. And during the meeting, he occasionally glanced at typed notes.

Berger, however, was rarely at a loss for words, and he vigorously defended himself in the face of insinuations that he was unqualified to be ambassador.

"The proof of the pudding is in the eating," he said. "Both Israelis and Palestinians are sorry to see me leaving."

What will he do now? "I haven't totally decided what to do next, but after nearly 20 years in public life, the private sector has a certain attraction."

Berger, almost certainly, will return to the region as a businessman. What about a comeback in Canadian politics? "I think it's unlikely, although life is full of surprises."

As he prepares to leave his official residence in Savyon with his wife and children Laura, Philippe and Sarah, Berger said he will miss his friends, the Hebrew language, the Jewish calendar, the music, the songs and the sheer pace of life in Israel.

And, he confessed, he will miss being Canada's ambassador to Israel.

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Best Wishes for a Happy and Healthy New Year

Advertising Feature

GREEKTOWN ON THE DANFORTH

Korry's exemplifies the Greektown experience

Beauty is truth, truth beauty,' — that is all
Ye know on earth, and all ye need to know.
— John Keats, Ode on a Grecian Urn

Had Keats been alive today, he might well have penned these lines while sipping a coffee in one of the Danforth's fine cafés. Is the Danforth beautiful? Yes. And true: its beauty is more than skin deep. Like a living, breathing entity, the street oozes substance and style from every pore. At its hub is **Korry's**, the menswear store whose founder, Saul Korman, would just as soon talk about the street as his own store. Just so long as he's talking.

At this moment, however, the subject is menswear. Korman often alludes to the value Korry's offers. Less frequently addressed is the issue of price in absolute terms. When asked to explain the value of a $500 suit versus the $250 variety, Korman is quick to respond.

"Go to your wardrobe. Look at all the garments in your closet. Suits, slacks, shirts — everything. And ask yourself this question: Of the ones you wear again and again — the ones that **demand** to

The high cost of buying cheap

be worn because of all the positive feedback you get on them, and the way that makes you feel — how many did you buy cheap?"

Almost invariably, says Korman, the answer is none. Hidden away in a corner, fraying or already consigned to the recycling heap, the garments you *thought* you'd saved on have become albatrosses — unpleasant reminders of the old adage, You Get What You Pay For. "Those "deals" turned out to be the most expensive things you ever bought," he notes.

But quality alone is not enough, says Korman. "It's just the beginning. The quality garments you buy have to be right for *you*, and they have to be properly coordinated. A good salesperson can help you avoid the pitfalls of improper coordination — and having your wife or girlfriend along doesn't hurt either." Women, explains Korman, usually have a highly refined sense of colour coordination, and they know what looks good on their man.

At the time he purchases a suit or other garment, a man often "isn't sure how much he likes it. That's fine; that's *normal*. Over time, the feedback he gets from other people will corroborate *someone's* taste — either his, or the person who helped him choose it." Invariably, says Korman, the customer who values others' expert opinions over his own comes out ahead. "This applies to me too," he says. "When *I* go shopping, I shut up and listen."

We'd love to be there.

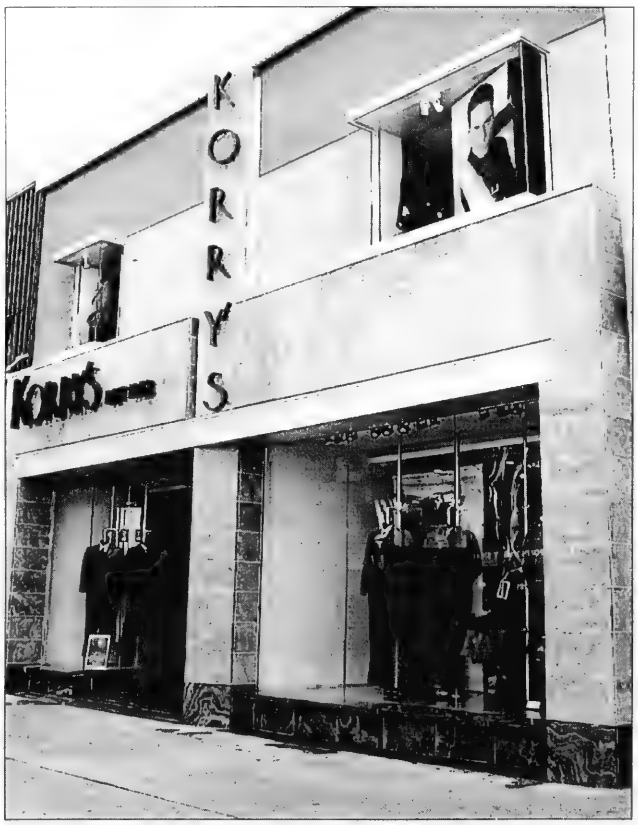
In a Danforth reign that spans 47 years, Korman has seen many informal titles bestowed on him, from "King of the Danforth" to "The Mayor" (with apologies to Mel Lastman). His favourite, though, is "Mentor", which he finds particularly flattering in light of his lack of higher education. Having graduated *magna cum laude* from the school of hard knocks, Korman is now a highly articulate spokesman not only for Korry's but also for the Danforth, whose virtues he extolls daily on the local airwaves. In the live, unrehearsed radio and television spots that have become his trademark, Korman has established a new standard for spontaneity in advertising. Delighting some listeners and viewers while annoying others, he leaves no one indifferent. "You don't have to love me," interjects Korman, "but you've gotta love the Danforth."

Those who come inevitably do. The street's uniquely European flavour and flair make it a favourite destination not only of native Torontonians but also of people from other cities, especially Montreal. As one ex-Montrealer remarked, "It's the one street in Toronto that reminds me of home."

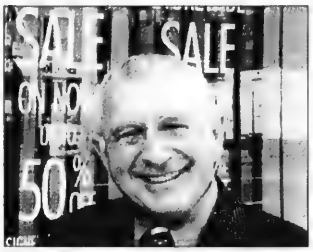
Less known is the fact that two Danforth synagogues — one orthodox, the other reform — allow the Greek experience to

Two synagogues

dovetail nicely with the Jewish experience. Even if you're not visiting the Danforth to attend a service, "it's nice to know they're there", says Korman.



Recently renovated, Korry's marries style and substance



Saul Korman — still going strong after all these years

While Korry's recent major renovation now gives it the cutting-edge look of a Milan boutique, it has retained its characteristic earthiness and warmth. It was important for Korry's to harmonize with the street, says Saul, because "we're a part of something that's bigger than ourselves." And the whole — the Danforth experience — is something that more and more people have come to enjoy. "There are close to a million people out there who agree with us," he beams, in reference to the expected attendance at this year's Krinos Foods Taste of the Danforth, August 6 to 8.

Taste of the Danforth attests to street's cachet

Unlike shopping malls which have to "create environment because they have no environment to begin with," says Korman, the Danforth's environment "is here. See it. Touch it. Taste it. Spend five minutes on the Danforth, and tell me I'm wrong."

Your five minutes will undoubtedly stretch into five hours, and that's fine — the Danforth just feels right in so many ways. We'll use the extra time to kick back, relax, and smell the roses. And we're dying to tell Korman he's wrong about *something*.

KORRY'S
569 Danforth Avenue
(416) 463-1115
www.korrys.com

Advertising Feature

GREEKTOWN ON THE DANFORTH

Come taste the world at the 6th annual Krinos Foods Taste of the Danforth Friday Aug. 6 – Sunday Aug. 8

Tantalizing tzatziki, mouthwatering souvlaki, very fresh sushi and great gourmet pizza — all these and more can be found at this year's **Krinos Foods Taste of the Danforth**. A record 800,000 people are expected to attend what is now Toronto's 3rd largest event. Says Eric Moscahlaidis, President of Krinos Foods, "[it's] all about sharing cultures. While the dominant culture on the Danforth is Greek, we welcome the many other cultures which have arrived. The street is now the largest cosmopolitan dining area in Toronto."

Fashion show features over 20 Danforth retailers

The Krinos Foods Taste of the Danforth offers many activities for everyone. The BBI Telecommunications, your Bell Mobility approved agent/Nokia Stage at Logan and Danforth will feature major Canadian bands such as Ron Sexsmith, Grapes of Wrath, Ron Hawkins and the Rusty Nails, Rheostatics and Captain Tractor. The BBI/Qualcomm stage (east of Pape) will feature the ever popular Greek musicians and dancers.

Win a one week Caribbean cruise

The VISA stage will feature great international musicians such as Pavlo, and musicians from African, Italian, Latin and Indian backgrounds. Also on this stage, the 2nd annual VISA fashion show will include fashions from over 20 different Danforth retailers. Use your VISA card at participating retailers and restaurants from now until August 31, and you can win a One Week Caribbean Cruise for Two aboard the Beautiful Bolero compliments of Regent Holidays and The Wholesale Travel Group, or one of 3 cellular phones with a special airtime offer compliments of BBI Telecommunications, your Bell Mobility approved agent.

In front of their store, Shoppers Drug Mart will offer an Inflatable Village for children aged 2–14. For the younger children, there will be Bouncing Castles and Colouring Contests; for the older children, Bungee Runs and Giant Slides.

Toronto Maple Leafs have major display

For the first time, the Toronto Maple Leafs will be bringing in a major display (at Pape and Danforth) with table top hockey games, and prizes.

Don't forget to purchase a ticket for two to Greece compliments of Regent Holidays and the Marlin Travel Group. All lottery tickets benefit the Toronto East General Hospital Foundation. The Krinos Foods Taste of the Danforth has raised over $100,000 for charities since its inception in 1994.

Over $100,000 raised for charity

The Krinos Foods Taste of the Danforth runs for three fun-filled days: Friday Aug. 6, 6 p.m. to midnight; Saturday Aug. 7, noon to midnight; and Sunday Aug. 8, noon to 8 p.m. Danforth Avenue will be closed to vehicular traffic from 4 p.m. on Friday Aug. 6 to midnight on Sunday Aug. 8, so you're advised to take the subway to Broadview, Chester, Pape or Donlands as parking is extremely limited.

Come and enjoy the festivities at this unique event, which happens only once a year. A splendid time is guaranteed for all!

For further information, visit Greektown's website at www.greektowntoronto.com

Health and taste reign at Mezes

One trend that has gained momentum in recent years is the emphasis on healthy eating, both inside the home and out. No longer is it sufficient for restaurants to please your palate; they must now also nurture your well-being.

Front and centre in this movement is **Mezes**, where Sue Zindros and her sister Christine, the head chef, have staked their reputation on innovative cuisine that combines freshness and quality in equal measure. Nightly lineups attest to the success of this formula, to which the sisters unwaveringly adhere.

"Healthy eating is not a bonus, it's a given," says Sue. "The question isn't *if* your ingredients are pure and fresh, but *how* pure and fresh they are. We don't serve anything here that we wouldn't serve in our own home, because, when our customers come here, this *is* their home."

Furthermore, says Sue, customers *do* compare the dishes they eat in restaurants with those they prepare in their own kitchen, and are entitled to expect the same high standards and superb taste. Consistency is critical, she notes; the same quality must be maintained day after day, week after week. Despite widespread public acclaim, "we never act like we've "made it." We feel that we have to prove ourselves daily, both in the way we feed people and in the way we treat them."

Can you taste the difference that purity makes? To the unrefined palate, olive oil is olive oil; to the afficionado, however, the first-cold-pressed, extra-virgin variety used at Mezes is magical, as are the fresh herbs that flavour and garnish almost every dish.

Vegetarian dishes, often a bland letdown elsewhere, are terrifically zesty; the entire menu, in fact, will redefine your notions of Greek cuisine and raise the bar on your expectations. The fresh fish is heavenly, the selection marvellous. Try the lamb chops — the ultimate test — and you'll understand why Mezes has gone to the head of the class.

Dishes are prepared slowly, lovingly, one by one, and they keep customers coming back in droves. Always active but never too busy to welcome you warmly, Mezes is the quintessential Greek restaurant.

Advertising Feature

GREEKTOWN ON THE DANFORTH

Astoria's souvlaki judged best in major media polls

Think "Danforth", and you're liable to think "Astoria." In the 21 years since it opened, this venerable "institution of higher dining" has come to symbolize the culinary qualities the Danforth is known for: great food, great quality, and great value.

Indeed, many of Astoria's original customers are still regulars two decades later, and wouldn't dream of going anywhere else.

Astoria's now-famous "souvlaki window", always a beehive of activity, is an indelible image of Danforth life. And what souvlaki! Judged **"Best of the City"** by Toronto Life (1998) and **"Best of Toronto"** by Now Magazine (1997), Astoria's souvlaki helped make it a multiple winner of the **Toronto Sun's Readers' Choice Award** as Toronto's favourite Greek restaurant. Other jewels on the menu include hearty moussaka, exquisite broiled sea bass and salmon steaks – and Greek appetizers like kalamari and saganaki, if you can keep your souvlaki craving at bay long enough to sample them.

Location and atmosphere are other Astoria assets. For a big restaurant, it's remarkably cozy, due to its corner location, dual outdoor patios (the Danforth's largest), and quiet, richly appointed interior.

Heading eastbound on Bloor, you know you're on the Danforth once you hit Broadview; but you don't really *feel* it until Astoria's white facade with its pale blue trim leaps joyously into view, bidding you "Welcome to the Danforth" in words that the food lover in you understands so well.

Palace thanks loyal customers

Every restaurant needs a loyal following to survive and thrive. In the case of **The Palace**, the clientele's devotion knows no bounds — a fact for which owner Peter Hadjis is eternally grateful.

Many of his current customers followed him to The Palace from the Royal York Hotel, where he honed his culinary skills before opening The Palace in 1984. He rewards their loyalty daily, not only with his legendary cuisine — the Danforth's finest — but also with the genuine warmth and affection he displays each time they visit. The key, he says, is never taking anything or anyone for granted; "I'm flattered each time someone chooses me," he says. "I treat it like a marriage proposal."

Mention you saw this, and enjoy a free appetizer with your meal Aug. 2–8

We'll hope his wife isn't reading this. Since you are, however, just mention it and he'll be happy to treat you to a free appetizer with your lunch or dinner during the week of August 2–8.

There are many reasons to "propose" to The Palace. From the oven-baked stuffed lamb to the Danforth's largest selection of fresh fish, The Palace leads the way in signature dishes. Some special entrées must even be ordered in advance, and The Palace offers many non-mainstream dishes you won't find anywhere else.

The Palace's huge skylit party room on the second floor is perfect for birthday parties and other special occasions — though you'll find that at The Palace, *every* meal is a special occasion.

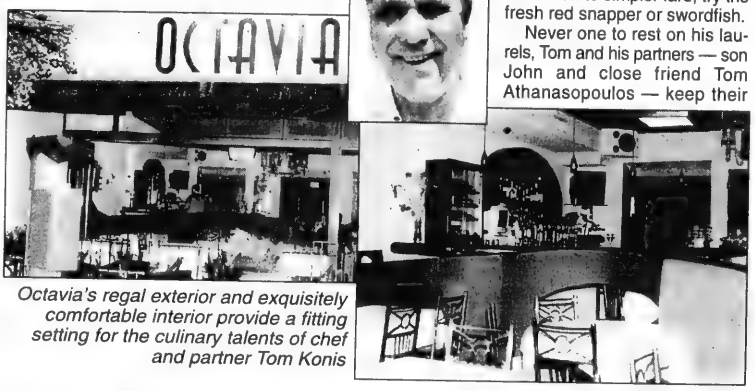
THE PALACE RESTAURANT
722 Pape Avenue at Danforth
(416) 463-3393

Octavia an oasis of comfort and a boon to the taste buds

Everything you'd expect from a Greek restaurant and everything you wouldn't, **Octavia** is one dining spot you simply have to experience in person to fully appreciate. One year after its grand opening, it continues to surprise and delight Danforth-goers with culinary innovations matched by its equally unique decor.

What you *would* expect (exemplary Greek cuisine, open patio, and welcoming atmosphere) is here in spades. What you *wouldn't* expect (scintillating twists on some old Greek favourites, intimate semi-circular booths that evoke a '40's Chicago nightclub, and a cigar lounge) blend together so seamlessly that you're seduced by them quicker than you can say "Tom Konis".

We should have known that the founder of fond Memories would have a few gourmet tricks up his sleeve. From Chicken Souvlaki that's marinated in rosemary until it fairly sings *de Deux* on Tom's menu. Tom's version of Veal Marsala will relegate all previous recipes you've tasted to the back burner. Madagascar green peppercorns add zing to U.S. prime steak, and this is one Greek restaurant where you won't feel obliged to order steak in an apologetic whisper.



Octavia's regal exterior and exquisitely comfortable interior provide a fitting setting for the culinary talents of chef and partner Tom Konis

If crossing two cultures isn't enough, how about the Greek Spring Roll — succulent slivers of chicken intermingled with three colours of peppers, garnished with tzatziki and fresh herbs, then snugly wrapped in a delicately toasted pita. You've never, ever tasted anything like it.

Greek spring rolls a taste sensation

to the Baby Back Ribs Oregano, Greek and Continental entrées perform a *Pas*

Even the traditional Greek fare is deliciously different. Filet of sole is broiled, Athenian style, on a bed of fresh spinach with feta cheese and wine sauce. If your tastes run to simpler fare, try the fresh red snapper or swordfish.

Never one to rest on his laurels, Tom and his partners — son John and close friend Tom Athanasopoulos — keep their menu on the cutting edge. Attention to detail is paramount; "we prepare everything from scratch," says John, "and we constantly evaluate every item on our menu, right down to the last dip. We are our own toughest critics."

The dips are typical of the innovations that abound on Octavia's menu. From the sharp, distinctive goat cheese dip to the zesty pesto (did you say "*Opa*" or "*Bravo*" — does it matter?), Octavia marches to its own delicious drummer.

Octavia's comfort and unparalleled intimacy makes it a true lounge, and you'll be hard-pressed to find its equal, either on the Danforth or city-wide. Its slate-tiled lower level with elegant table seating segues into the oak-floored upper, flanked on one side by the aforementioned booths, on the other by a charming, serpentine-shaped bar.

Here, after-dinner drinks are much more than an afterthought. Once you've finished your meal, an impressive selection of fine martinis await you. "When you entertain at home," says John, "your evening follows a natural progression from the dining room to the living room. Our goal was to create an environment that would allow our customers to experience this transition without leaving their seat."

The limited seating necessary to achieve this effect precludes huge numbers, which suits the partners just fine, says Tom. "It's not how many customers you serve, it's how well you serve the customers you have."

OCTAVIA
DINING LOUNGE & BAR
414 Danforth Avenue
(416) 461-3562

Advertising Feature

GREEKTOWN ON THE DANFORTH

Pan gains international renown

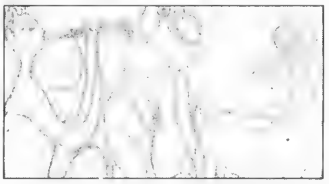
With an eclectic menu that has earned it an international three-star reputation, **Pan on the Danforth** is one of a kind. Rave reviews in many major newspapers and magazines underscore Pan's commitment to excellence. Accolades like the Certificate of Distinction issued by the Zagat Survey of New York have garnered it a large American following in addition to the locals who seek out its inventive cuisine.

Described in Toronto Life's '99 Restaurant Guide as "a cool North American take on the Greek canon", Pan's menu eases you into the meal with lighter fare such as a "robust" vegetable salad, "hearty" bean soup and "exemplary" strained yogurt, then locks you in with entrées that will appeal to your most refined sense of haute cuisine. Add to this Pan's "interesting multi-national wine list", and you have all the ingredients for a perfect evening.

Fish and seafood are up-to-the-minute fresh, and you simply haven't tried moussaka until you've tasted Pan's. This is only one of many traditional favourites that take new and tangy directions in Pan's kitchen. Try the Char Grilled Loin of Lamb with a fig and orange glaze; or the Santorini Chicken, stuffed with spinach and feta cheese and served with lemon roast potato and seared rapini.

Another signature entrée is the *Kakavia*, a traditional seafood dish of shrimp, mussels, sea bass, calamari, onion, tomato, white wine and garlic crostinis.

Even the desserts have an originality that will engrave them in your memory. The highly addictive chocolate baklava is "thick as a double deck of cards" (*Travel Holiday*). It consists of "seductive sheets of housemade chocolate phyllo pasty layered with almonds, walnuts and pistachios then drizzled with Greek honey" (*Now Magazine*).



PAN ON THE DANFORTH
516 Danforth Avenue 466-8158

Sound tempting? If the baklava doesn't get you, the Greek Cheesecake undoubtedly will.

Owner Peter Kyriacou, who hails from Cyprus, treasures his clientele and considers it his "obligation" to serve dishes that differ from the mainstream. "Our customers expect the extraordinary, and we deliver. Every meal is a performance, an event."

Let the standing ovations begin.

Ouzeri thrives on fresh approach

Marrying European fine dining with Greek cuisine, the new Ouzeri has much to offer Danforth-goers.

After purchasing the popular eatery in November '97, brothers Chris and Alex Trahiotis (whose father Jim was executive chef and partner at Burlington's famed Lord Nelson Restaurant) revamped the menu with a view to offering fewer dishes but making every dish count. "We prefer to offer fifty superb selections than a hundred good ones," says Alex. "And freshness is paramount; from field to table is our modus operandi."

A cheery, festive place with much to offer

In addition to a wide variety of Greek appetizers, you'll find a few intriguing entrées available nowhere else on the Danforth. Signature dishes include the wonderfully garnished and baked Oysters Ouzeri; Chicken Parmesan; and Breaded Chicken with Wine Mushroom or Lemon Butter Sauce.

Fresh fish is available daily, and may feature Salmon, Pickerel, Rainbow Trout, or whatever catch happens to be freshest on the day you visit.

Accompany these delectables with a fine wine from Ouzeri's extensive international list and you have all the ingredients of a culinary bonanza.

Ouzeri is a cheery, festive place, especially on Tuesday nights when live Greek music plays to the wee hours. Its patio ranks among the Danforth's largest and liveliest, and the sightlines both within and without are clean. If you're a people-watcher, Ouzeri is unparalleled — not only on the Danforth, but citywide.

The service is friendly and extremely thorough, with ample wait staff to keep pace with your needs. The dining environment is immaculate, the cuisine impeccable. If you haven't visited Ouzeri recently, perhaps now is the time.

OUZERI

500A Danforth Avenue 778-0500

Wealth of healthy choices at Big Carrot

From humble beginnings in 1983, **The Big Carrot** has grown into metropolitan Toronto's largest health food store and wholistic dispensary.

Run as a co-op since its opening, The Big Carrot caters to a loyal clientele that embraces both its ethos and the products it specializes in: minimally processed, organically grown, cruelty free and environmentally safe. As it happens, many of these products are also Kosher.

Health-conscious customers seek out The Big Carrot for its extensive organic fruit and vegetable department (over 100 varieties at peak season) and its unmatched selection of organic bulk foods, dairy products, frozen foods, and packaged goods.

While most health food stores carry a few brands of a particular item, The Big Carrot often has half a dozen or more, and their well-versed staff is more than happy to help you decide which products will suit your dietary needs and your palate. If it's wheat-free — if it's dairy-free — if it's simply *good for you*, The Big Carrot undoubtedly has it.

The vast product selection includes a staggering variety of breads, buns, fresh-daily brick-oven bagels, flatbreads, and bread sticks — many of them wheat-free and dairy-free.

Two recent discoveries: Pacific Foods Oat Milk, an exquisite-tasting, naturally sweet alternative to real milk; and Sunnyvale Bakery manna bread — simply the moistest, most delicious bread you've ever tasted.

Among many others, the Kosher products include Crofters jams from Ontario, and Barbet jams from Israel; tetra-pac dairy-free soups (the ultimate in convenience) from Imagine; cereals from Nature's Path; soy beverages, both fresh and tetra-packed; Zaidy's soups and breads; Jersey Farm non-dairy soy yogurt; Organic Meadow yogurt and pressed cottage cheese; Barbara's fig bars; Mountain Chai tea; a wide selection of Eden organic pastas and tomato sauces; and Pacific Foods' almond and oat milks. The body care department carries Kosher essential oils from Pure-Li Natural.

Body Care, in fact, is typical of the Big Carrot difference. Already large enough to constitute a store in its own right, this section is currently expanding, as is the wholistic dispensary, to augment what is already Canada's widest selection of personal care products for the entire family, including baby.

But don't let The Big Carrot's size fool you. Through its continuing expansion, it has retained the humility and friendliness of its early years. This is a store that's down to earth in every possible sense, and a real pleasure to visit.

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www.thebigcarrot.ca

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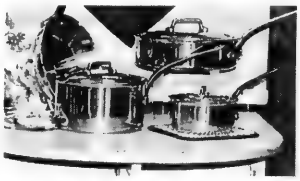
The Cook's Place: Asparagus cookers, Bottle brushes, Cookie cutters, Double boilers ...

If you love to cook, you know the frustration of not having the right kitchen tool at the very moment you need it — and, conversely, the empowerment of having it ready to hand.

Enter **The Cook's Place**. With an eclectic and cosmopolitan selection of top-of-the-line pots and pans, utensils, gadgets, knives, small appliances, and many other related items, this bright, cozy shop offers everything you need for your everyday meal preparation, entertaining and gift giving.



Hard-to-find items

The Cook's Place carries many unusual and hard-to-find items as well as the everyday. You may recognize brand names such as All-Clad, Berndes, Emile Henry, Wusthof-Trident, Joyce Chen and Zyliss, to name just a few. If The Cook's Place doesn't have what you're looking for, they'll try to help you find it.

The selection is truly incredible. Need graters? You'll find over 20 different devices. Tea strainers? Half a dozen. Whisks? Eight sizes. A small, non-stick tube pan? No problem. A new apron with matching oven mitts? Presto. Almost any item that makes food preparation easier or more enjoyable is to be found within these walls.

Owner Barbara Ackerman, whose love of cooking inspired her to open the shop one year ago, derives great satisfaction from having customers find *exactly* what they're looking for — especially if they've searched elsewhere in vain, as is often the case.

THE COOK'S PLACE

488 Danforth Ave.
(416) 461-5211
www.toronto.com/thecooksplace

Bridal Registry

The Cook's Place offers a cookbook lending library, free gift wrapping, knife sharpening, and a Bridal Registry wherein 10 percent of your purchases are donated to a registered charity of your choice. The store is stroller and wheelchair accessible, and has a small kitchen for your children to play in while you shop.

Whether you're an expert chef or just learning to cook, a visit to The Cook's Place will pare away your inhibitions, spoon feed your ego, and whisk its way into your heart.

Advertising Feature

GREEKTOWN ON THE DANFORTH

Christina's: from cravings to star gazing

Some define a restaurant merely by its ability to satisfy their food cravings. For others, ambience is paramount. Still others insist on live entertainment. A few even like to gaze at the stars (either the celebrity or the celestial variety). It's rare to find one place that combines all of these attributes; but for many Torontonians, **Christina's** is that place.

Food cravings. In addition to traditional Greek fare — including the best plate of lamb chops you'll find on the Danforth — Christina's solves your Greek/Italian culinary dichotomies by offering wonderful pasta/souvlaki combos. Their filet of sole in a killer garlic sauce is a must-try. And their treatment of salads (romaine and organic baby green lettuce are used instead of leaf and iceberg) is typical of a menu-wide provision of quality ingredients. This is not a fast-food restaurant; you may wait a little longer for your food to arrive, but the wait is well worth it.

Ambience. Christina's has Character with a capital "C". Much of that character, of course, comes from the clientele, which echoes Christina's universal appeal; on any given night, you'll find almost as many ethnicities and walks of life as there are patrons.

Live entertainment. Live music and belly dancing are offered on Friday and Saturday night, but the best show is the spontaneous conversation that seems to spread from table to table like wildfire.

Star gazing. Toronto's original late-night spot, Christina's is still open until 4 or 5 a.m. on busy nights, and many entertainment celebrities gravitate to it. Recent sightings include Kristey Alley, Tony Danza, and Alicia Silverstone of "Batgirl" fame. Those who prefer gazing at the "Big Dipper" will find that Christina's patio, while not the largest on the Danforth, is certainly the most popular; come early if you want to grab a strategic spot.

A Danforth institution most definitely run by the inmates, Christina's is a crazy, wonderful place; until you've done it, you haven't really done the Danforth.

CHRISTINA'S

492 DANFORTH AVENUE 463-4418

CIBC makes difference in community

As Community Manager for the Danforth, Dave D'Amico has a twofold responsibility: one, to ensure a high quality of service within his member branches; and two, to promote goodwill and improve the quality of life in the surrounding community.

Dave D'Amico
CIBC Danforth Community Manager
421-0051

Not unique to the Danforth, this approach is part of a company-wide commitment to providing help where help is needed. Underscoring this fact, in '98/99 the CIBC donated some $26 million to a wide variety of charities and causes, including the Baycrest Centre, Mount Sinai Hospital, Riverdale Hospital, Toronto East General Hospital, several schools, and countless community projects.

D'Amico favours a hands-on approach that sees him personally participating in fund-raising and other charitable events. He also takes pleasure in encouraging employees, associates and friends to do likewise.

D'Amico brings to the table an extensive background in both banking and volunteer work. And as someone who has lived and worked on the Danforth for a number of years, he is well-positioned to turn CIBC's strong presence in the area (eight branches) to good account.

Building goodwill starts within each branch, he says. "We want every single visit to be a happy one for our customers. This is a standard we strive to uphold each and every day." Good works outside the branch are a natural extension of this philosophy, he says. "We want people to think of the CIBC not only as a great place to bank, but as a good neighbour."

D'Amico's approachability, easygoing manner and work ethic have endeared him to Danforth business people and members of the general community, and he relishes the opportunity to serve. The sense that he is helping to make a difference gives him "all the gratification I need. Giving back to the community isn't something that's nice to do, it's something we *have* to do."

D'Amico can be reached directly at (416) 421-0051, or through e-mail at ddamico@ibm.net.

CIBC

Sun Valley takes quality, freshness, gourmet selection to new level

Think you're good at spotting imperfections in fruit and vegetables? Think again. At **Sun Valley Fine Foods**, you may need a magnifying glass.

Upholding a family tradition begun by his father, Spiro Aravantinos and partner Peter Vacirtzoglou have elevated fine food purveyance to an art form. Rising at the crack of dawn to hand-pick the cream of the fruit and vegetable crop, the partners then race across town to 583 Danforth Avenue and stack it in row on bountiful row so gleaming and seamless you almost feel guilty picking it up. The produce at this emporium of fine food comes as close to perfection as you'll ever find. Fresh herbs are flown in weekly from Israel.

Sun Valley brims with culinary delights in every nook and cranny. You'll find breads from Ace Bakery, Future Bakery and Fred's Breads, among others; a dozen flavours of pita from Pita Break; gourmet crackers galore; and the finest jams money can buy, including Greaves from Niagara-On-The-Lake. Sushi from Kama Sushi, Caviar from The Caviar House — you name it, it's here.

Sun Valley's "designer collection" of fine spreadables, sauces and dressings includes a host of famous labels. From the U.K., there's Cross & Blackwell, Gordon's, Patak's, and Sharwood's; from France, Maille and St-Dalfour; from the U.S., Paula's, Jacques Pépin's, and Olde Cape Cod; and others from around the world. Sun Valley also offers its own house brand of jams, sauces and dressings bottled for it by an award-winning Canadian supplier. Olive oil? Exotic brands too numerous to mention, including one exclusive to Sun Valley that was ranked #1 among all oils tested in a recent Toronto Star poll.

Sun Valley's growing selection of Kosher products will be expanded even further in the near future.

Party trays a hit

If you're entertaining but don't feel like cooking, the party trays for which Sun Valley is famous are a phone call away. If you're visiting relatives or friends, you can choose from Toronto's finest selection of gourmet gift baskets.

Responding to changing demographics in the Danforth area, Sun Valley underwent major renovations in 1993. The glittering result — immaculate inside and out — has succeeded in catering to a growing yuppie class with international tastes while retaining its loyal Greek following.

One extremely pleasant surprise at Sun Valley is price. You'd expect to pay a premium for the exquisite quality they offer, but you don't. "Value is part of our tradition," says Spiro. "We cannot and will not overcharge."

At the centre of the store is a pentagonal meat and deli counter featuring cheese from around the world (including some eight varieties of feta), prime quality meat and poultry, and the plumpest, juiciest olives this side of heaven. Sun Valley's hand-cut shish kebabs are in such demand that a full-time butcher was added to the in-house staff for the sole purpose of cutting shish kebabs. Distinctively superior to the cookie-cutter variety you'll find in many supermarkets, they are typical of Sun Valley's obsession with quality, and, as an in-store sign proudly proclaims, contain **NO MSG. WE NEVER USE IT AND WE NEVER WILL.**

MSG-free shish kebabs hand-cut

If you're a *nosher*, an embarrassment of riches awaits you. Cakes and pastries from Dufflet, La Rocca and Pauline's are supplemented by Sun Valley's own cookies, croissants and banana breads baked fresh daily in store. Confections include Valrhona chocolates from France. Coffee from A.L. Van Houtte, considered by many connoisseurs to be the finest available today, is offered in some 15 delicious blends.

Spiro and Peter thrive on the long hours that are part and parcel of the food business. "It's a labour of love," says Spiro — and one that's rewarded daily. "When customers take our food home, in a sense they're taking *us* home," he smiles.

Sun Valley Fine Foods
583 Danforth Ave.
(416) 469-5227
Open to 9 p.m. 7 days a week for your convenience

Delivery service available

Visit our website at www.sunvalleyfinefoods.com

Arts & Travel

Fringe dance festival set to be the largest one ever

Dancers Karen Kaeja and Allen Kaeja.

By JOSEPH SERGE
Arts & Travel Editor

TORONTO — The fringe Festival of Independent Dance Artists in Toronto runs throughout August at various outdoor and indoor venues and will include 10 days of main stage performances at Buddies in Bad Times Theatre.

This year Canada's largest international dance festival is showcasing 110 choreographers, 350 performers and 250 performances from Aug. 1 to 22.

Some of the highlights of the main stage events at Buddies in Bad Times are: Allen and Karen Kaeja in *Broken Saucer,* a work in progress choreographed by Claudia Moore, will be performed Aug. 14, 3:30p.m.; Aug. 15, 9:30 p.m., Aug. 17, 6:30 p.m.

"This duet is about an unusual relationship between a maid and a cook," Moore said.

Naomi Lefebvre premieres *Citrus,* a technical dance complemented by its detailed and characterized costumes. Multi-discipline performer Aviva Chernick tries her hand at choreography with *She,* which is inspired by the sensual sounds of klezmer and bluesy jazz. Both these events take place Aug.13 and Aug. 15 at 11 p.m.

Aviva Chernick

Karen Guttman presents her newest work, *arms in space,* a surreal look at the end of the world, on Aug.19 and 21 at 11 p.m.

New York City choreographer/ performer Laura Shapiro showcases her response to the post-industrial digital revolution in *Confessions of a Luddite,* Aug. 13, 9:30 p.m.; Aug. 15, 6:30 p.m.; and Aug. 17, 2 p.m.

Dancer/ choreographer Karen Guttman

Tickets for the main stage events are $8 in advance or $10 at the door. You can also get a main-stage pass for $100. Call 410-4291. All main- stage events, which run Aug. 13 to 22, are at Buddies in Bad Times Theatre, 12 Alexander St.

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A fascinating documentary on Jewish intellectuals out on video

By LARRY ANKLEWICZ
Special to The CJN

A unique and interesting view of the Jewish world is provided by three recent video releases.

Shown recently at a screening held by the Jewish Film Society in Toronto, *Arguing The World* is a fascinating documentary that focuses on four Jewish intellectuals, each of whom was caught up in the political and social conflicts of their times.

Irving Howe, Daniel Bell, Nathan Glazer and Irving Kristol were all New York Jews who grew up during the turbulent political times of the 1930s and 1940s. They all experienced similar idealistic periods during their college days. Each one participated and survived the passionate days of the McCarthy era, only to meet new challenges. In their later days they often changed their political positions.

This is an absorbing look at the backgrounds of these philosophical crusaders and portrays how each one met the challenge of changing political winds including their battle with the new left in the '60s and their political views today.

The video is available through CHV in Canada.

Madam Rosa is the classic Moshe Mizrahi film featuring Simone Signoret as a retired madam who earns her living by caring for the children of her fellow prostitutes.

This 1977 French film won an Academy Award as Best Foreign Film and is now being made available on video for the first time in Canada by CHV.

The story in *Madame Rosa* revolves around the Jewish madam, a survivor of Auschwitz, and her growing relationship with a young Algerian boy. It is considered a masterpiece of French cinema.

The third video is called *Lies & Whispers* in North America, although it was filmed in Europe under the title *Prague Pair.* This co-production between American and European film companies is essentially a romantic thriller.

The action gets under way when Dr. Lauren Graham (Gina Gershon) attends a medical convention in Prague. She meets and falls in love with Jiri (Rade Serbedzija), a Czech dissident writer who is now being considered for the position of minister of culture in the Czech Republic.

Everything seems to be going smoothly. Lauren mentions that her

Continued on page 41

Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

SUMMER LITERARY ISSUE PART II

The Wisdom of Solomon: *Toronto Life* had less than great expectations last winter when it published a short but blistering diatribe about newscaster **Evan Solomon's** not-yet-published first novel, *Crossing the Distance*.

The manuscript needed massive editorial work, sneered the magazine, and its intended publisher, McClelland & Stewart (M&S), had taken it on merely because of its author's high media profile. Not so, responded M&S senior fiction editor **Ellen Seligman** in a curt reply, asserting that the manuscript was first-rate.

Now in print, *Crossing the Distance* seems an ambitious first novel that demonstrates adroitness, even cleverness. Solomon, who has hosted two CBC Newsworld television programs and co-founded the magazine *Shift*, has followed the writerly maxim of sticking to what he knows: the fickle, shallow, image-obsessed universe of television and the mass media.

In *Crossing the Distance*, TV newscaster Jake Jacobson is the prime suspect in a murder of the sort he has covered endlessly on air – only this time, the victim is his girlfriend. Despite his innocence, he takes to the lam, eventually communing with his brother, an outlaw environmental activist.

My verdict: the book seems competently written, but its characters lack depth. To some degree, Solomon's wildly satirical and cynical take on the excesses of television parrots TV's own habit of delivering talking heads. All in all, not a memorable read.

* * *

Waxman Waxes Eloquent: Toronto actor/director **Al Waxman** has written an autobiography chronicling his career in television, radio, movies and stage.

The former *King of Kensington* received an Order of Canada two years ago, and won favorable reviews last year for his portrayal at Stratford of **Willy Loman** in *Death of a Salesman*.

Next year he intends to direct *The Diary of Anne Frank* at Stratford, clear signs that he's at the top of his career as both an actor and director.

Malcolm Lester Books is bringing out the Waxman opus in October under the title *That's What I Am*.

The Toronto-based publishing house, meanwhile, has pushed back the February 2000 publication date of another title, *Our People: Canadian Jewish Life Today*, by **Morton Weinfeld**, a sociology professor at McGill University. Production has been delayed for unspecified reasons.

* * *

Poetic Trio: Mosaic Press of Oakville has recently brought out three new books of poetry by **Simcha Simchovich**, **Seymour Mayne** and **Morris Granatstein**. The books, bound in pleasing formats with attractive covers, share the qualities of being accessible, slim, thoughtful, and concerned with Jewish subjects and issues.

In *Welcome to the Year 2000*, the Lodz-born Granatstein looks back on nine decades in the old country and "Kanada." In the long poem *Zyshe der Zhytomirer*, the title character, who attempts suicide, tells his story to a friend from the confines of the Queen Street Mental Health Centre, and is eventually deported.

Mayne's *Carbon Filter* consists of a series of about 40 mostly light and amusing poems, most addressed to or dedicated in memory of specific persons, including several Canadian Jewish writers: **Leonard Cohen**, **Shel Krakofsky**, **Irving Layton**, **Kenneth Sherman**, **Adele Wiseman**.

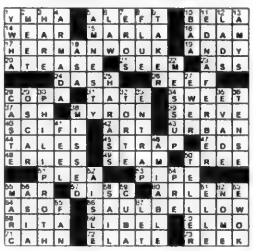
In *The Remnant*, Simchovich resumes his monumental literary task of bearing personal and poetic witness to this century's most grim historical episode. He also focuses on matters of Yiddish cultural life, both in his native Poland and his adopted homeland of Canada. He offers odes to **Sholom Asch**, **Morris Rosenfeld**, **Michelangelo**, **Van Gogh** and other figures.

Simchovich's allusions to biblical stories seem particularly expressive, as when he recalls how King David was also "hunted, exiled by his numerous adversaries." The narrator of the poem *Book of Psalms* finds himself murmuring these words into the psalmbook:

"Like you, King David, I am afflicted / and crowned with the thorns of suffering. / Like you I wander over lands and cities, / fleeing from the rage of evildoers / who cut off my stem and branches / with not one thought of mercy or regret."

The books deserve a wide readership.

ANSWERS TO THIS WEEK'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE.



Unique view of Jewish world on new videos

Continued from page 40

grandfather was part Jewish and Jiri informs her that his family is Jewish.

When Lauren attends a birthday party for Jiri's father, she shows him a photo of her recently departed grandfather. Jiri's father immediately recognizes the man as a Czech collaborator who was a camp commander during the war and was instrumental in arresting Jiri's father and sisters and killing the sisters.

This information devastates Lauren. She pursues an investigation of the matter and is able to confirm the information. The question then becomes how can these two people continue their relationship under these circumstances.

The real question is whether a child of a war criminal is in any way responsible for a father's or grandfather's crimes. Even if the child is not responsible, isn't there a considerable amount of friction and guilt created by the knowledge that one person's family persecuted the other's family.

Lies & Whispers is distributed by Sullivan Entertainment. Video retailers can obtain copies through their distributors or they can obtain the first two videos directly from CHV.

For those interested, *Life Is Beautiful* is now available on video.

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Glick choral highlights TCC performance

By ANNA TURKIENICZ
CJN Staff

TORONTO — The Toronto Children's Chorus (TCC), wearing red polo shirts with blue sweatshirts tied around their waists, recently left for Australia to perform in the Sydney Sings Festival.

Srul Irving Glick's composition, *Psalm Trilogy*, a 20-minute choral cycle consisting of Psalms 92, 47 and 23, is a highlight of the repertoire. The trilogy is sung in English and Hebrew.

"What an incredible thrill," said Glick, composer-in-residence at Beth Tikvah Synagogue, "to have Jean Bartle conduct the *Psalm Trilogy* with the Toronto Children's Chorus and 900 other children at the Sydney Opera House.

"When I attended a rehearsal in Toronto, I heard the children sing," Glick said. "They sing like angels; their sound is magnificent."

Ruth Schwebel, whose son Aaron, 11, is one of the youngest participants in the tour choir, said that "being able to sing Glick's *Psalms* has given my son a unique opportunity to take pride in his Jewish and Canadian heritage."

The trilogy was presented by 1,000 voices from around the world – accompanied by strings from the Sydney Symphony Orchestra, and conducted by Jean Ashworth Bartle – in a world premiere at the Opera House on July 14.

Bartle, the TCC musical director, founded the choir in 1978 when Andrew Davis, then conductor of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, asked her to provide a children's chorus to perform with the orchestra.

Since then, Bartle has striven to provide a unique musical and educational opportunity for children. The TCC offers young children from a broad cross-section of socio-economic and cultural backgrounds, the opportunity to rehearse and perform with exceptional artists and composers.

Members of the Toronto Children's Chorus rehearse.

Choristers are accepted by audition and then placed, according to ability, in a choir level best suited for them.

The children are then given rehearsal and performance schedules which become more demanding as they progress into more select levels. The tour choir, one of the most demanding groups, is made up of children, ages 11 to 18, of varying backgrounds.

Bartle has tried to support Canadian composers and artists by featuring Canadian works wherever the choir performs. Their current touring repertoire will feature compositions by 17 Canadian composers.

"This tour has been three years in the planning," says Bartle, "and to see it unfold day by day is the realization of a dream."

After officially opening the festival, the choir will serve as the Canadian representative and artist-in-residence for the duration of their stay in Sydney.

The choir will then spend almost three more weeks travelling through Australia and New Zealand as they perform in concerts and workshops for international educators, directors, choirs and audiences. As they travel, Bartle will headline a series of workshops and masterclasses on Canadian music.

"This is a wonderful experience for the children in so many different ways," said Bartle. "Not only do they learn about the countries they are visiting, but the tour provides them with a renewed appreciation for the choral art.

"The group that is travelling is a highly select musical group – a magnificent instrument," said Bartle. "It will be a wonderful experience for them to see how much audiences from all over the world appreciate and enjoy them."

The *Psalm Trilogy* will have its North American permiere in a concert entitled *Roots and Wings* on November 14 at Beth Tikvah Synagogue.

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WALK FOR ISRAEL

Participants of all species celebrated Israel's 51st anniversary with a "Community Walk With Israel" last April at the Navy Pier of Chicago's Harborfront. [Susan Small photo]

Arts & Travel

Warmth of Sicilians will leave you smiling

By GERRY SCHWARTZ
Special to The CJN

SICILY — Springtime in Sicily – not a book title, but a delightful time of year for a destination that abounds in varied natural beauty, many archeological sites and a fascinating history, which once included a sizeable Jewish community.

This second largest island in the Mediterranean has exuberant, warm local people who offer natural food based on fresh produce and local wine.

Sicily has three coastlines, and each of its four principal cities – Catania, Agrigento, Trapani and Palermo – has its own ambience. From Rome, it's a short connecting flight via Alitalia to either Catania or Palermo. If you wish to do a full counter-clockwise tour of Sicily's perimeter, start in Catania, in the shadow of Mt. Etna – the only active volcano in Europe – which was both snow-covered and steaming in April.

From Catania, you can take a small train that circumnavigates Etna, and get off at small villages around the base of this wonder of nature. On the Ionian coast not far from Catania are the seaside and cliffside towns of Acicastello, Acireale and Taromina (north) and the city of Siracusa (south) with its Greek amphitheatre and "Ear of Dionysius" to test your hearing acuity.

The medieval quarter on the island of Ortyga, was once famous for its Jewish doctors and had the second largest Jewish population in Sicily after Palermo before the Spanish expulsion. Four streets encompass the former Giudecci quarter, one among 52 communities of Jews in Sicily at the end of the 15th century.

While the vast interior of Sicily is mountainous, even small towns are accessible by bus from the nearest coastal towns and some are well worth a detour for their architecture, history and peacefulness. One such small place is Noto, with its Baroque architecture; it is an hour by bus from Syracuse.

A long but worthwhile train ride from Catania will bring you to the city of Agrigento on the Mediterranean Sea sitting on a cliff overlooking the Valle dei Templi, an amazingly intact series of ancient Greek structures and columns as well as a Roman cardo from the fifth to the sixth centuries.

Leaving by bus at 6:30 a.m. and seeing the temples floodlit in the early morning light was a breathtaking experience. The coastal area around Agrigento is literally covered with vineyards, almond and olive trees, and orange and lemon orchards.

Continuing around to the southwestern coast past the ruins of Salunite, the town of Marsala and the Greek ruins of Segesta, you arrive at the port town of Trapani facing Tunisia, with its scenic old fishing port and modern ferry terminal to the Egadi Islands offshore.

The atmosphere here is more sub-tropical and Arab-influenced and here, too, there is an ancient Jewish quarter. The beautiful medieval village of Erice sits in the clouds above Trapani and its narrow cobblestoned alleys and brooding foggy air reminded me of Safed in Israel. In the small Cordici museum is a stone slab with Hebrew names.

The coast between Trapani and the capital, Palermo, offers many beautiful small villages with great sea views – very quiet out of season – such as Scopello and Capo San Vito. Palermo, a city of close to one million was a very pleasant surprise and well worth a few days for its museums, sophisticated opera house and theatres, ancient monuments and lively street markets.

The Discessa dei Guidecci off the corso Vittorio Emmanuele once held a thriving Jewish community, where one large square – now abandoned – in particular reminded me of the ghetto area in Venice. The hillside towns of Montrealé and Corléone sit above the capital and are accessible by bus.

Heading east of Palermo, you pass Cefalú and surrounding villages where the film *Cinéma Paradiso* was shot, and in a short while you reach Milazzo, the boat dock for the seven Aeoli Islands, of which Lipari is the largest and Vulcano the closest and very scenic and friendly – a perfect rest stop in your Sicilian journey.

Passing through the city of Messina, where it is a short jaunt across the strait to the Italian mainland in Calabria, you can view the peak of Mt. Etna once more before returning to Catania, where you can do another day trip to the beautiful towns of Enna and Piazza Armerina by bus.

If one has a few days to spare, a side-trip to the nearby island of Malta is interesting. There are flights from both Palermo and Catania and ferries and hydrofoils from three ports in season. Malta has a strong Arabic influence but is also noted for its British traditions and atmosphere as well as its historic castles. Malta has a very small Jewish community and synagogue.

Though Sicily may not have the art treasures and museums of the north of Italy, the sheer warmth and joy of living of the Sicilani will leave you smiling. Flying over the crater of Mt. Etna on the return Catania-Rome flight inspired a feeling that I wanted to return: A la prossima volta/Until the next time.

As a final bit of trivia: Catania has a link to Israel's War of Independence. In 1947-48, during the dying months of the British Mandate in Palestine, the Catania airfield was used as a refuelling stop and way station for the ferrying of arms from Prague, Czechoslovakia, to Tel Aviv to prepare the Haganah for the struggle to come in the birth of the State of Israel.

The old fishing port in Syracuse. [Gerry Schwartz photo]

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Health

TAU devises new laser tool to replace surgical stitching

By TAMARA TRAUBMAN
Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

TEL AVIV — Researchers at Tel Aviv University have developed a new laser system for bonding tissues to replace the old methods using blades and stitches.

The laser procedure, which has been tested successfully on animals and is now ready for application on human patients, has many advantages over the older methods. A laser is non-invasive, cannot infect tissue the way staples or stitches can, and is easy to use.

Dr. Eyal Strassmann and Dr. Nino Loya of the ophthalmology department at Beilinson Medical Centre in Petah Tikvah, where the laser was tested on animals' eyes, said the laser system was quicker and easier to use.

"Stitching, especially in delicate surgery, requires great dexterity on the part of the surgeon and years of practice," said Strassmann. "Even on tissues that need to be sealed immediately, such as blood vessels or eyes, the laser is preferable because its seal is perfectly hermetic, while stitching leaves open spaces," he said.

Scientists and researchers worldwide have long pursued the goal of a laser-based bonding system but were stymied by how to regulate the temperature of the beam. A beam that is too hot will burn, while one that is too cold will simply be ineffective.

Tel Aviv University researchers from the branch for applied physics solved the problem by designing a system that would set the heat of the laser to suit the normal heat of the tissue. The researchers, headed by Dr. Avraham Katzir, developed a special fibre-optic sensor that can read the infrared-radiation emitted by the body's tissues and deliver information about the temperature to the computer that controls the laser beam.

Researchers conducted additional experiments on moles' bladders, achieving a 94 percent success rate in bonding the tissue with the laser.

Bladders that were closed with ordinary, traditional stitching methods remained open 24 hours later and when they did close there was still inflammation around the wounds. Laser-treated bladders, however, were sealed shut, with almost no sign they had ever been cut open and no inflammation at all.

"Bonding, using the new laser system, will allow doctors to fasten tissues together without leaving any scars," said Katzir. "Additionally, the laser is non-invasive, allowing surgical operations in certain tissues that would not have been possible with stitches. These possibilities will bring about a revolution in surgery.

Triglycerides, coffee

About Nutrition

Q. I have been told that my triglycerides are elevated. What should I do?

A. Elevated triglycerides, a component of most people's cholesterol profile, requires special dietary intervention. The necessary changes to reduce high triglycerides are a reduction in sugars and alcohols, as well as exercise and weight management.

Q. I often enjoy stopping off at one of the many coffee shops and having a specialty coffee, such as a flavored cappuccino. I am wondering how high in fat and calories these are.

A. The fat and calorie content of these specialty drinks vary greatly. Depending on the size, many of the drinks, both hot and cold, can contain as many as 300 calories and 10 grams of fat. Here are some tips: Order drinks with skim, one percent or two percent milk instead of homo, drink the smaller size servings and ask for nutrition information. I have found that most specialty coffee shops have the information in the store to show you.

Lisa Weinberg is a registered dietitian/nutritionist, specializing in pediatric and adult nutrition in Toronto. If you have any nutrition questions send them to The CJN.

Aboriginal skin remedy approved

Mahonia Aquifolium

TORONTO — A remedy used by native Indians to treat skin diseases has proven to be an effective way to relieve the symptoms of psoriasis, eczema and other dry skin conditions.

Health Canada has granted a drug approval to a Canadian manufacturer for Mahonia Aquifolium under DIN 02230462.

The remedy is derived from the Mahonia Aquifolium, also known as the Oregon grape, a two-metre-high bush with yellow buds that grows in the forests on the west coast of North America.

Known for centuries to native peoples, the Mahonia Aquifolium, is a powerful herb whose root and bark yield alkaloids that can be used to treat eczema, dermatitis, dandruff and other skin conditions.

Mahonia Aquifolium is a gentle yet very effective treatment without any of the side effects of steroids or harsh chemicals. Researchers have learned that these alkaloids are strong anti-bacterial and anti-fungal agents that inhibit abnormal skin growth.

Where the average person's skin cells renew themselves once every 28 days, the skin of a person affected by psoriasis renews itself once every three or four days. This results in an unsightly, painful and incurable condition, which has been treated with ultraviolet light, lotions and creams which are derived from tar or contain steroids.

Long-term use of these treatments has been known to produce side effects that may include advanced osteoporosis, high blood pressure, liver and kidney abnormalities, hair loss, severe gingivitis necessitating tooth extraction or fetal malformation.

No side effects from Mahonia Aquifolium have been observed in clinical testing in both Europe and North America. In a German clinical study conducted on 433 men and women with psoriasis, researchers applied a cream containing Mahonia Aquifolium to the test subjects' affected skin areas, and of those tested, 81 percent said their symptoms disappeared or were substantially alleviated within 12 weeks.

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Lawrence Bloomberg, First Marathon and several of its executives recently donated $5 million to Mount Sinai Hospital's The Best Medicine campaign, of which Bloomberg is chair, raising the campaign over its initial milestone of $100 million, an amount unprecedented in Canadian health care. The hospital has directed the gift toward the expansion of obstetric and newborn care. In recognition of Bloomberg's leadership as chair of the campaign, the department of obstetrics and gynecology at Mount Sinai is being renamed The Frances and Lawrence Bloomberg Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology. Shown from left are Bloomberg, Premier Mike Harris and Bloomberg's wife Frances.

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Quiet cr. Contemporary 4 br, w/up bsmt to pool, mn fam+lau+2 pce. Won't last!! Carolyn Feldman** 488-2875

YORK MILLS - MAGNIF RENO!! $859K
Gourmet kit, marble ens., skylites, Calif. shutters, 2 sided gas frpl, great grden w/pool. Sharon Train** 226-1987

568 CONACHER DR! 4+2 BR, 5BTH
$679,900! Bayview S/Cummer! Mn fam+lib+lau+2 pce! Gorg'us 61' x 175'! Stunning! Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

225 KINGSDALE AVE! 4+2 BR, 5BTH
Bayview/Sheppard! $659,888! Exquisite residence! W/o bsmt! Gorg'us 50' x 122'! Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

NEW LISTING 199 FENN AVE
Fabulous 3+1 bdrm, 3 bath, in SOLD pool. Julie Gofman* 488-2875

2 CHEVAL DRIVE! 4+1 BR, 4 BTH! $539K!
Denlow Estates beauty! Mn fam comb w/bkr! Nanny ste! Fab 58' x 110' corner lot! Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

9 CARLUKE CRES! 4+1 BR, 4 BTH
$488,800! Bayview/Fifeshire! Updated! Mn fam! Nanny ste! Gorg'us 77' x 115'! 10++! Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

LARGE 3 BEDROOM TOWNHOUSE ACROSS
From Bayview Golf Course SOLD e 21 units south exposure! Won't last!! Mark Cowan* 226-1987

NORTH PROPERTIES

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Bathurst/Clark! Wow! Spac'us+updated 4 br, 3 bth! Mn fam+lau+2 pce! Gorg'us fenced lot! Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

109 BRICKSTONE CIRCLE! NEW EXCL!
Bathurst/Clark! 4br, 3bth, be SOLD mn fam! Fab 35' x 110'! Listed & sold in 1 day! Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

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2 storey, main flr fam rm, skylight, dark oak floors, ceramics, 3 washrooms. Stunning! Hedda Zaionz* 226-1987

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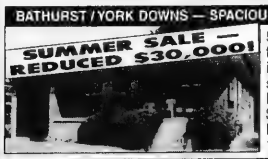

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Upper Village - Ridge Hill Drive Best block, stone front, centre hall, 3+ bdr., lib., A/C. 491-4589

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Bath/Steeles, lux com. main flr. apt., w/priv. entr. off huge patio, never have to use elev, 2 bdrm. + den, lge windows in every rm, 5 appl., parquet & cer. flrs, pool, tennis, etc. $1795/mo. all incl. Short or long lease or sell. Leave message at 739-0105 and your call will be returned.

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80 Antibes, 2 bdr, 2 bth, 2 pkg, 5 appl., approx. 1300 s.f., exc. cond. Private sale. 663-9203.

35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

130 Neptune - New decor, 2 bdrm., 2 full bth., new kit., walk-in closet, undergrnd pkg., pool, $1250/mo. 905-771-9727.

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Full time live-out nanny for Avenue/Eglinton area. For 2 & 3 yr old girls. Starting September. Hebrew an asset. Salary negotiable. Call 416-486-7858 or fax resume to 705-327-7120.

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264 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

MARTENFELD - Rebecca (nee Goodman) & Mark are thrilled to announce the arrival of Sidney Hannah on Wed., June 16, 1999 in Clearwater, Florida. A joyful granddaughter for Rita and Edward Martenfeld, Pattie and the late Sigmund Goodman. Great granddaughter to Paula and Isaac Martenfeld; Nicce to Marnie and Assaf Dory of Clearwater, Florida; Jenny Goodman and Sam Goodman. Grandfather Sigmund Goodman and great grandparents Henia and Siegfried Krieser are smiling down from heaven at Sidney Hannah. Special thanks to Dr. Todd and the nursing staff at Morton Plant Hospital, Clearwater, Florida.

Mazel Tov to **Mirav** & **Gregory** on the occasion of their wedding, July 25. Best wishes for a happy & prosperous life. From Abe Bimblich at Pine Villa.

270 PERSONALS

OCKRANT/LAWRY
I wish to inform all my friends in the Newmarket/Thornhill area that I have notarized documentation disproving any allegations of child abuse and court documentation approving grandparent's visitation rights. For further information please call: Reva Lawry, 416-445-8718. Calls will be strictly confidential.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

*** CJN Boxes for Personal Companions Wanted ads are valid for 30 (thirty) days only (from 1st publication date). Replies must be received within this time frame in order to be forwarded to the correct CJN Box #.**

Replying to a Companion ad with a CJN Box Number?

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The Canadian Jewish News
1500 Don Mills Rd.
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M3B 3K4
Box # _____

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Very young looking sincere, attractive, petite 49 year old Ottawa born Jewish lady wants a refined gentleman with old fashion values for enjoying finer things in life. Age 50-65. Reply PO Box 27 CJN, 6900 Decarie Blvd. # 341, Montreal, H3X 2T8.

Partners for life in business, love and friendship. 40 year old Zuftik female seeks gent 50-75, caring, kind and adventurous. Lets travel the high seas. Call Sonja at 416-409-2235.

SJM looking for female, attr., 22-27, should like dining out, movies & travel. Call 988-9067.

280 ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pencer/Bellman
We are delighted to announce the engagement of Holly Pencer and Michael Bellman. Holly is the daughter of Nancy Pencer She is granddaughter of Claire & Jack Pashlin and the late Irving Halpern and the late Clara & Harry Pencer of Montreal Michael is the son of Edith & Maurice Bellman, and the grandson of the late Esther & Irving Bellman, and the late Bessie Polisuk An October wedding is planned

300 ARTICLES FOR SALE

Brand name grand piano for sale. Negotiable. 416-784-3533.

330 OBITUARIES

RUBIN, Irving - on June 30, 1999, late of 320 Tweedsmuir Ave., #906.
CHADWICK, Elaine - on July 1, 1999, late of 46 Prue Ave.
PTASHNIK, Maria - on July 2, 1999, late of 3705 Bathurst St.
LANGER, Louis - on July 3, 1999, late of 66 Viewmount Ave.
SHEFFIELD, Hilda - on July 3, 1999, late of 5935 Bathurst St.
BERG, Pearl - on July 4, 1999, late of 20 Crossen Dr.
SARETT, Pearl - on July 4, 1999, late of 429 Walmer Rd.
DRUTZ, Eleanor - on July 5, 1999, late of 2045 Lakeshore Blvd. W., #209.
WEISER, Edie - on July 5, 1999, late of 4383 Bathurst St., #406.
BRAUN, Sabina - on July 6, 1999, late of 6000 Bathurst St., #901.
MOLNAR, Iren - on July 6, 1999, late of 55 Ameer Ave.
ROSS, Henry - on July 6, 1999, late of 127 Munro Blvd.
MANDELL, Gordon - on July 7, 1999, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
MYERS, Aaron - on July 7, 1999, late of 1201 Steeles Ave. W., #507.
ROOZ, Olga - on July 9, 1999, late of 106 Brooke St.
GORDON, Samuel - on July 11, 1999, late of 3174 Bathurst St., #705.
BARTMESSER, Ruth - on July 9, 1999, late of 850 Steeles Ave. W., #705.
WISKIN, Godfrey - on July 9, 1999, late of 175 Cummer Ave., #374.

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RICE, Edward - on July 10, 1999, late of 630 Roselawn Ave., #301.
GORDON, Samuel - on July 11, 1999, late of 3174 Bathurst St., #705.
GINSBERG, Percy - on July 12, 1999, late of 45 Invermay Ave.
JACOB, Theresa - on July 12, 1999, late of 7601 Bathurst St., #1615.
ROSE, Jessie - on July 12, 1999, late of 17 Fernwood Rd.
SIMONS, Gerald - on July 13, 1999, late of 320 Tweedsmuir St., #603.
SWARTZ, Albert - on July 13, 1999, late of 257 Old Forest Hill Rd.
LAPPER, Frieda - on July 14, 1999, late of 429 Walmer Rd.
MANN, Sadie - on July 14, 1999, late of 2900 Bathurst St., #1408.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

BENJAMIN'S LANDMARK MONUMENTS

ALL MONUMENTS ARE NOT CREATED EQUAL

BENJAMIN'S LANDMARK MONUMENTS
3429 Bathurst (corner of Melrose)
(416) 780-0635

SILVER, Matthew John - on July 2, 1999, late of 3 Collin Ave.
FEINGOLD, Albert - on July 3, 1999, late of 30 Evanston Dr.
SWITZMAN, Hymie (Larry) - on July 3, 1999, late of 6151 Bathurst St.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

EZER, Ezer - on July 4, 1999, late of 300 Antibes Dr.
HOROWITZ, Marlene - on July 4, 1999, late of 49 Covewood St.
KATYSHEV, Chaim - on July 4, 1999, late of 152 Wade Gate.
BERG, Yetta - on July 6, 1999, late of 165 Elmridge.
LEWIN, Dorothy Eleanor - on July 6, 1999, late of 220 Thornway Ave.
FLANDERS, Gretel - on July 7, 1999.
DICKMAN, Gertrude - on July 8, 1999, late of 142 Betty Ann Dr.
CITRON, Rose - on July 9, 1999, late of 5 Bradgate Dr.
FREEDMAN, Sadie - on July 9, 1999, late of 19 Almore Ave.
LASH, John Eugene - on July 10, 1999.
OSTROVSKAIA, Ginda - on July 10, 1999, late of 4455 Bathurst St.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

330 OBITUARIES

PINHASOV, Shoshana - on July 10, 1999, late of 4455 Bathurst St.
BROMBERG, Saul - on July 11, 1999, late of 16 Artreeva Dr.
JACOBSON, Roy Jack - on July 11, 1999, late of 63 Marmion Ave.
KOVALSKAIA, Roza - on July 11, 1999, late of 755 Steeles Ave. W.
KORN, Max - on July 12, 1999.
DIBKIN, Roee - on July 13, 1999, late of 113 Glen Park Ave.
LADERMAN, Martha Noreen - on July 13, 1999, late of 133 L'amoreaux Dr.
SOLOWAY, Ida Belle - on July 13, 1999, late of 150 Neptune Dr.
EHRENWORTH, Benjamin - on July 14, 1999.
PEARL, Jennie Sue - on July 14, 1999.
ROSEN, Sol - on July 14, 1999.
ZSOLDOS, Rozsa - on July 14, 1999.
BER, Helen - on July 15, 1999, late of 293 Hillhurst Blvd.
MAISTER, Philip - on July 16, 1999, late of 85 Skymark Dr.
PERRY, Margaret - on July 16, 1999, late of 569 Sheppard Ave. W.
CHITIZ, Louis - on July 17, 1999, late of 6 Leadenhall Rd.
SEIGEL, Shirley - on July 18, 1999, late of 65 Invermay Ave.
GRUNWALD, Elizabeth - on July 19, 1999, late of 4455 Bathurst St.
LATO, Sandra Beverley - on July 19, 1999, late of Miami.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

330 OBITUARIES

KRIVY, Maurice - on July 20, 1999.
RAVICHER, Reisa - on July 20, 1999, late of 6250 Bathurst St.
SAHOVALER, George - on July 20, 1999, late of 55 Harbour Square.
SPLITTZER, Neil - on July 20, 1999, late of 33 Valleyview Rd.
GERSHONE, Elizabeth - on July 21, 1999, late of 25 Four Winds Dr.
WEISSMAN, Maria - on July 21, 1999, late of 44 Charles St. W.
KISHINEVSKI, Palia - on July 22, 1999, late of 21 Miles Crt.

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330 OBITUARIES

GOLDBERG, Gladys - on July 5, 1999, late of 550 Cummer Ave.
WISKIN, Godfrey - on July 9, 1999, late of 175 Cummer Ave., #374.
SIMONS, Gerald - on July 13, 1999, late of 320 Tweedsmuir St., #603.
LAPPER, Frieda - on July 14, 1999, late of 429 Walmer Rd.

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Divorced Jewish female, 46, petite, attractive, blond, easy going, compassionate, enjoy dining & dancing, theater, exploring new places, family life, proud of my Jewish heritage. Seeking a single Jewish male, 46-58, non smoker, with similar interests. AD#1305

SEEKING COMPANION
Single female, attractive, honest, easy going, warm, petite. Seeking a Jewish male, 38-45, kind, reliable, educated, similar interests AD#1456

MARRIAGE MINDED
Single female, never married, late 30's, professional, pretty, traditional values, observant, spiritually attuned Seeking a male, well educated, honest, established, 40-50, strong, giving, sensitive, with a passion for life and growth for himself and others. AD#1213

COMPANIONSHIP
Separated female, 46, seeking a Jewish male,warm kind hearted, gentle, great sense of humour. AD#1360

SPECIAL MAN
Single female, on the outside is fun loving, spontaneous, attractive, on the inside is sensitive, secure. Seeking a male who likes what is on the outside but more deeply likes what is on the inside. AD#1451

FAMILY VALUES
Single Jewish female, attractive, 42, university educated, employed, honest, intelligent, affectionate, loyal, caring, sensitive, confident. Seeking a Jewish male, over 40, financially and emotionally secure, honest, generous, with family values. AD#1637

THOUGHTFUL
Single female, slim, trim, beautiful, petite, warm, caring, intelligent, thoughtful, enjoy long walks, nature, cooking, music, Jewish traditions. Seeking a quality Jewish male, who is caring and sharing. AD#2057

LET'S ENJOY GOOD MUSIC
Divorced Jewish female, slim, pretty, petite, warm, caring, giving, enjoy nature, walks, cozy fires, family and friends. Seeking a male, 58-68, for caring and sharing. AD#1452

EQUAL
Single Jewish female, 5'4", 120lbs, long dark brown hair, green eyes, athletic build, employed, two university degrees, enjoy outdoors, camping, jogging, dancing, fine dining. Seeking a handsome male, late 20's to early 40's, who is outgoing. AD#1047

SERIOUS RELATIONSHIP
Very attractive Jewish female, 39, 5'3", very slim, golden hair, enjoy travelling, hiking, dancing, swimming, cooking, reading. Seeking a professional male, 39-45, sincere, honest, non smoker, with similar interests. AD#1321

LET'S HAVE COFFEE
Single Jewish female, attractive, dark hair, clear complexion, 5'6", medical professional, enjoy sailing, tennis, cycling, hiking, outdoor activities. Seeking a Jewish male, professional, 38-45, no baggage, successful, kind, for long term relationship. AD#2051

COMPANIONSHIP
Single female, retired, professional, 5'3", attractive, kind, caring, warm, with many interests. Seeking a male, late 60's, intelligent, for companionship. AD#1264

UNIVERSITY GRADUATE
Single female, late 50's, 5'4", nice, bright, brown curly hair, brown eyes, university graduate, lots of fun to be with. Seeking a male, 55+, over 5'8", bright warm, funny, a university graduate. AD#1015

GOOD VALUES
Divorced Jewish female, attractive, slim, blond hair, brown eyes, late 40's, educated, non smoker, intelligent, great sense of humour. Seeking a male, 48-60, professional, intelligent, honest, secure, caring, good values, great sense of humour. AD#1389

LOOKING FOR A RELATIONSHIP
Single female, 38, dark hair, blue eyes, professional, employed, good hearted, down to earth, family - friends oriented, enjoy working out, walking, quiet evenings. Seeking a male, family & friends oriented, enjoys movies, live theater, long walks. AD#2050

AMBITIOUS
Single Jewish female, 28, outgoing, spontaneous, adventurous, caring, warm, fun loving. Seeking ambitious Jewish male, 25-33, trustworthy, honest, caring, outgoing, similar interests. AD#1246

SINCERE
Single Jewish female, 39, 5'3", attractive, slim, professional, enjoy dining out, dancing, travelling, swimming, cooking, hiking. Seeking a non smoking male, 39-45, professional, sincere, honest. AD#1464

SUMMER LOVE
Single Jewish female, 28, spontaneous, ambitious, fun loving, adventurous, enjoy pool, bowling, sports, working out, theater, concerts, dancing. Seeking a Jewish male, 25-33, honest, trustworthy, cuddly, good conversationalist, sense of humour. AD#1460

LAUGHTER AND LOVE
Single female, 37, 5'1", light brown hair, blue eyes, sensitive, good sense of humour. Seeking a male, 37-45, h similar qualities, interested in developing strong friendship. AD#1612

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MARRIAGE MINDED
Single male, easy going, sincere, enjoy movies, art, books, long walks, a wide variety of interests. Seeking a female, 25-35, for a serious relationship. AD#1603

FUN TO BE WITH
Single male, 34, 6', brown hair, blue green eyes, slim, enjoy movies, dining out, trade shows, culture, adventures. Seeking a Jewish female, 30-36, 5'5"+, easy going, outgoing, with similar interests. AD#1596

ACTIVE
Single male, professional, active, enjoy fun and games, travelling, dining out, sports activities. Seeking a female, who is attractive, intelligent, athletic, with similar interests. AD#1312

HEALTHY LIFESTYLE
Divorced male, 5'10", handsome, professional, slim, fit, down to earth, non smoker, a hopeless romantic, enjoy sunsets on the beach. Seeking a slim, attractive female, in her 30's, who is kind and affectionate. AD#2058

PROFESSIONAL
Single Jewish male, 50, professional, enjoy sports, fishing, walking, movies, dining out. Seeking a Jewish female, 38-45, attractive, with similar interests. AD#1416

HOPELESS ROMANTIC
Divorced male, Eastern European background, professional, 5'10", slim, fit, non smoker, down to earth, romantic, enjoy sunsets and a healthy life style. Seeking a slim, attractive female, 30ish, for a long term relationship. AD#2052

ROMANTIC AT HEART
Single Jewish male, late 40's, 5'10", grey blue eyes, sincere, warm, gentle, compassionate, good sense of humour, enjoy the theater, bowling, tennis, long walks. Seeking a female, single or widowed, Orthodox preferred, but not required, with similar interests and personality. AD#1150

FRIENDS FIRST
Single Jewish male, 53, fit, employed, live in Thornhill. Seeking a Jewish female for friendship, with no expectations. AD#2053

LIKES TO SHARE
Single Jewish male, 37, honest, caring, fun to be with. Seeking a female, who is attractive to enjoy life to the fullest together. AD#1088

DEVOTED TO YOU
Single male, 5'8", 160lbs, athletic build, greenish-blue eyes, handsome, honest, generous, kind, smart, enjoy exercising, reading, swimming, tennis. Seeking a Jewish female, no children, wonderful, devoted, ready to start a family AD#1528

SERIOUS RELATIONSHIP
Single Jewish male, 45, 5'10", slim, active, widower, affectionate. Seeking a female, who is kind and fun loving. AD#2049

THE PHOENIX RISES
Divorced male, 50's, young looking, attorney, entrepreneur, slim, trim, 5'8", dark, athletic, marshall arts master, Palmid, Chacham, Kamballist, wish to return to Orthodoxy and study. Seeking a female, 30-50, slender, attractive, wise, supportive, for long term relationship. AD#1104

BUSINESS DEGREE
Single male, 46, conservative looking, have a Business Degree, love the stock market, enjoy dancing, antique, country, art auctions. Seeking a female, who is nice, with similar interests, children are welcome, and non-slim female are OK! AD#1477

ONE WAY TO LOVE
Single male, late 30, 5'11", good looking, compassionate, fun to be with, with a great sense of humour. Seeking a female, 29-37, who is a Jewish lively and bubbly. AD#1562

THE RIGHT STUFF
Single male, 45, 5'8", Jewish, professional, sincere, intelligent, affectionate, down to earth, family oriented. Seeking a Jewish female, 38-46, with similar qualities, for a meaningful relationship. AD#1378

LADY OF HIS DREAM
Single male, 40, slim, 5'11", 165lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, sincere, hopeless romantic, enjoy walking on the beach, bowling, tennis, swimming, sports, 60's music. Seeking a slim, attractive female, with a great sense of humour. AD#1610

WARM AND CARING
Single white male, 57, romantic, self employed, businessman, enjoy travelling, movies, quiet times, good conversation Seeking a female with similar interests AD#2044

SERIOUS RELATIONSHIP
Single male, 50's, young looking, 5'8", slim, professional, trim, world explorer, strong, well educated. Seeking a slender female, 25-45, intelligent, compassionate, attractive, very wise and adventurous. AD#2045

ONCE BITTEN, TWICE SHY
Single male, financially secure, from the Thornhill area, handsome, 50's. Seeking a female, good looking, good sense of humour, slim, age not important, picture a must alter contact made, financially secure enough to escape winters is a definite plus. AD#1810

OPEN MIND
Single Jewish male, 48, 5'11", young looking, handsome, emotionally fit, dark brown hair, good shape, enjoy travelling, art, photography, writing. Seeking a female, 36-44, sensitive, intelligent, attractive, slim, good communicator, with an open, curious mind. AD#1648

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Sports

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The Canadian Jewish news

Broke 99 boards in one minute

Connecticut man sets world karate record

By DAVID BILMES
The Connecticut Jewish Ledger

WEST HARTFORD, Conn. — Scott Cohen is soft spoken and an unimposing 5-foot-6, 150 lbs. But put a stack of wooden boards in front of him – and watch out!

Cohen set a world record recently when he used his hands to break 99 boards of wood in one minute.

Cohen's karate mentor, Paul Arel of South Windsor, Conn., who is also Jewish, had set the previous record of 93 in 1976. Arel was by Cohen's side when Cohen set the record during the International Kokondo Association's annual awards banquet in Windsor Locks. Each board was a foot long and three-quarters of an inch thick.

Cohen, 26, attended Congregation B'nai Sholom while growing up in Newington, Conn. He attended school in West Hartford, and is now vice-president in charge of marketing and administration at his family's Newington shoe store, Footprints.

The West Hartford resident, who began karate lessons when he was five, holds a third degree black belt in jukido ju-jitsu and a second degree black belt in kokondo karate.

Cohen's office is adorned with photos of sports stars, including one of Cohen flying through the air in a martial arts maneuver.

Q. Did your hands hurt after you broke the record?
A. Not at all. It only hurts when the boards don't break.

Q. Why smash wooden boards?
A. The style that I do is kokondo, which is primarily Japanese, with some other Asian differences. Kokondo is a self-defence art that was developed by Paul Arel, who is world-renowned. He's a martial arts pioneer, the first non-Japanese to teach martial arts in Connecticut. When my father (David) saw he was teaching a local class, he got my brother and me involved.

Board-breaking and object breaking is a very minor facet of our training. The breaking is done because our number one emphasis is safety. We simulate making contact. We don't actually connect with our partner. When you want to test the technique, feel the impact, and feel the damage the part of your body that you're using is capable of doing, then you go to an inanimate object like a board or a brick.

Q. Will you try to break your own record?
A. I've submitted the achievement, with documentation, to Guinness. Not only to the *Guinness Book of World Records*, but to the television show, *Guinness Prime*. If they'd like to have me on the show, then I will try to break my own record live. Beyond that, I'm very comfortable with the 99. I don't have anything to prove to myself or anybody else. I have no need to attempt it again.

Q. Are many Jews involved in martial arts?
A. It's a coincidence that my instructor and I both happen to be Jewish. There are actually a high number of Jews involved in our system because my brother (Daniel) has been teaching one of the more successful classes in our international system for over 10 years at Brandeis University. I've had a few Jewish students and there are a few other Jewish people involved. We have classes in our system that have been taught at synagogues. I might set up a class at the Hartford Jewish Community Centre. (Canada's three-time, middleweight ju-jitsu champion is Joel Gerson of Toronto.)

Q. How much training do you do?
A. I practice about five days a week and I'm a student in classes one or two times a month.

Q. How do your parents feel about your karate success?
A. They're totally supportive. My father was actually my first registered student. He started with me about 10 years ago. My mother Jerilyn, has participated in my women's self-defence classes. So, both of my parents have actually been students of mine at one time or another.

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THREE-PEAT PERFORMANCE

They've done it again. The USDS Bayview Warriors recently won their third consecutive championship in the Jewish Day School Basketball League. They finished their 14-game season undefeated and capped it off with a five-point win over rivals USDS Bathurst in the title game. The Warriors are coached by Tanya Azeroual, with help from Rachel Baker. USDS' lineup includes (top row, from left): Danielle Schneiderman, Ashley Kochman, Emily Berbrayer, Carly Baker, Lesley Suchter. Middle row (from left): Marissa Gladstone, Rachel Vale, Sari Novack, Stephanie Levine, Amy Wilchesky. Bottom row (from left): Chloe Goldberg, Rachel Goldgut, Alex Baker, Yael Ognewicz and Robin Newman.

The Inside Back

ספרותנו

מאת: יעל זליגר

חוש העסקים שלי מאת: נורית זרחי, הוצאת הקיבוץ המאוחד

למעין, גיבורת הסיפור יש מספר בעיות. אביה עומד בפני פשיטת-רגל ויש לה אחות קטנה, אשרית, שכולם אומרים כמה היא יפה, מוכשרת ומתנהגת יפה כל-כך. את שתי העובדות הכאובות הללו מבקשת מעין לתקן. יתרה מזו, היא מחפשת דרך לפתור את שתי חצרות הללו, פשיטת-הרגל ואחותה הקטנה, במכה אחת. ומה יותר פשוט ובדוק מאשר לרקום יוזמה עסקית שבאמצעותה ניתן יהיה למכור את האחות הקטנה ("הרי היא הדבר הכי יקר במשפחה שלנו") ולהשתמש בדמי המכירה לחיסול הבעיות הכספיות של אבא. ואכן על ציר זה ממוקד ספרה הנהדר של נורית זרחי, סופרת לילדים ידועה ואהודה.

שישה לקוחות פוטנציאליים עולים בדעתה של מעין: עובדיה טומאלו, עוזר למשפחה שבא מאפריקה, מיסטר הירוסקי, יפני שעושה עסקים עם האב, מנהל הסופר, המורה לבלט, השגריר המסחרי ואחרון, הדוד קובי, שחזר מגרמניה. ניסיונות (הנפל) של מעין לשכנע את רשימת הלקוחות לקנות את אשרית משולבים בעוד ארועים משעשעים ופחות משעשעים, כגון מכירת רהיטי הסלון, שיבתו לארץ של הדוד מגרמניה, פיטורי המנגנת בשיעורי הבלט ועוד. כל הבעיות המוזכרות בספר הן בעיות חשובות ומורכבות בחיי תושבי מדינת ישראל היום, אך נורית זרחי עושה נפלאות בהבאת הדברים בקלילות לשונית עלילתית מבלי לגרוע מרצינות מצבה של ילדה נהדרת ששני דברים מציקים לה: מושלמות אחותה הקטנה והמצב הכלכלי בבית.

כתיבתה של זרחי ייחודית ומצחיקה עד דמעות. הסיפור נכתב בגוף ראשון ומחולק לפרקים קצרים ששמותיהם פשוט: "עסקים 1", "עסקים 2", וכו'.

ובכן על-אף שהאם מזהירה את מעין לא לדבר עם אף אחד בעניין פשיטת-הרגל, מעין פונה לעובדיה ומציעה לו את "הביזנס". עובדיה, כמענה, מראה למעין תמונה של ילדיו השוהים באפריקה; שורה של ילדים ודי ברור "שלא היה שם מקום לשום ילדה כמו אשרית." מיסטר הירוסקי היפני בכלל לא מבין מה מעין רוצה ממנו. אצל הלקוחה הפוטנציאלית הבאה, המורה לבלט, יוטה ונחנסקי, העניינים מסתבכים בשל פיטורי הפסנתרנית דנה.

מכאן עוברת מעין לדוד קובי; "העזתי להציע לקובי את ההצעה שלי ישר, כי הוא מהמשפחה שלנו ובטוח גם לו יש חוש לעסקים." אלא שקובי מסרב וגם מנהל הסופר, אדון יודה לא משתף פעולה. לתדהמתה ולאכזבתה, מעין מתחילה להבין שאשרית יותר קשה למכירה ממה שהיא חשבה.

בכל ארועי העלילה, חושפת הסופרת בעיות כלכליות-חברתיות קשות ("אבא יושב בבית כל היום וקורא עתונים מבלי להדליק את האור") אך אינה גורעת מנימת התמימות והקסם הילדותי באווירת הסיפור.

גם סוף הסיפור מפתיע וייחודי; האב עדיין עומד בפני פשיטת-רגל אך ארעי התכנית העסקית של מעין הולכים ומסתבכים ובנפשה מהומה רבתי והיא אינה יכולה לעמוד יותר בלחץ. בשעה מאוחרת בלילה, הכל פורץ והיא מספרת לאביה "את כל הסיפור". אבא מזועזע מכל מה שהביא את מעין לגבש את עסקאות מכירת אחותה הקטנה וחוא מבין שצריך היה לתת למעין יתר תשומת לב במיוחד לאור הדאגות השוררות בבית. תוך כדי ליטופי אהבה מסביר האב לבתו: "יאת חייבת להבין מה שאני מסביר לך. יש עסק קטן ועסק גדול. העסק הקטן זה איך מרוויחים כסף, והעסק הגדול הוא החיים שלנו. זה המשפחה שלנו. זה שאנחנו אוהבים אחד את השני. מי שבאמת מבין בעסקים אף פעם לא מרוויח בעסק הקטן על חשבון העסק הגדול."

THIS RECIPE BROUGHT TO YOU BY...
HERB CAPLAN
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TURTLE BROWNIES
WE SELL JENN-AIR
FOR LESS

1/4 lb. butter
3 squares unsweetened chocolate
2 eggs, beaten well
1/2 cup sugar
1/2 cup all-purpose flour
dash of vanilla
1 lb. (20) caramels
1/3 cup milk
1 6 oz. bag chocolate chips
1/3 cup chopped pecans

Melt butter and chocolate in a double boiler or a microwave oven. Cool. Cream eggs and sugar, then add to chocolate mixture; add flour and vanilla. Blend well and pour half the mixture into a greased 8" square pan. Bake in preheated 350°F oven for 15 minutes.

Melt caramels with 1/3 cup milk. Spread caramel mixture over baked brownie mixture. Add chocolate chips to remaining unbaked brownie mixture and pour over caramel layer. Sprinkle chopped pecans over top and return to oven for 20 minutes longer. Cool and cut into squares.

About Food

Turn off the stove, turn up the air conditioning, find a fan. It's that time of year when easy meals are the order of the day. Eating out is great, but it gets costly.

Local produce is plentiful, fresh vegetables are perfect fare. Backyard barbecues are going strong. The man of the house is busy at the grill, but he's complaining because the surrounding air feels like an oven!

Summertime is brief, so relax, stay cool and take any shortcuts you can. Here are some simple suggestions to beat the heat:

•Stay hydrated! If you wait until you're thirsty, you're waiting too long. Choose water over juice. P.S. Most of hunger is thirst!

•Spicy foods are super — they make you perspire and cool down.

•Most chilled foods are at their best when served almost at room temperature. Over-season foods slightly, as many flavors are more subtle when foods are chilled.

•Prepare salad greens in advance: wash and dry thoroughly. Refrigerate in a plastic bag with paper towels to absorb excess moisture. They'll keep for two or three days.

•Get together with friends and share the cooking. Make extra to freeze for another day.

•Cook a big batch of pasta. Serve some hot with your favorite sauce and use the rest in a cold pasta salad. You could also freeze pasta in air-tight baggies. When needed, remove from bag, place in a strainer and rinse with boiling water, or reheat in the microwave, allowing one minute on *high* per cup of pasta.

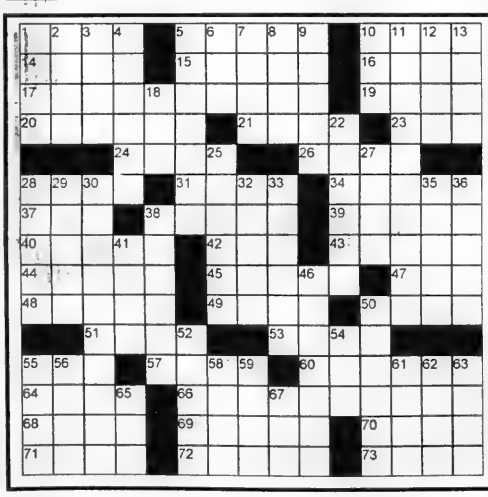
QUICK COUSCOUS SALAD

2 cups couscous
4 cups water, chicken or vegetable broth
2 cloves garlic, minced
1 red and 1 yellow pepper, chopped
2 carrots, grated
6 green onions, chopped
1/4 cup minced parsley
2 tbsp. extra-virgin oil
3 tbsp. lemon juice
Salt and pepper, to taste
1/2 tsp, each chili powder, dry mustard and cumin

Combine couscous and water or broth. Let stand for 10 minutes to absorb liquid. Add remaining ingredients; mix well. Season to taste. Cover and refrigerate.

Yield: 8 servings. Keeps in refrigerator up to three days, tightly covered.

Norene Gilletz, a Canadian author of kosher cookbooks, gives lectures and cooking demonstrations throughout North America. Submit cooking questions to The CJN. *Contact Norene at goodfood@gourmunia.com.*



The Canadian Jewish News

Writing in America

By Matt Gaffney and David Bianco (QSyndicate@aol.com)

Across

1 Org. founded in 1854
5 "Take ____" (directions phrase)
10 Actor Lugosi
14 Have on
15 Ivana's replacement
16 Garden exile
17 *The Caine Mutiny* author
19 "Taxi" actor Kaufman
20 Order from Dayan
21 Look like
23 Buffoon
24 Morse code part
26 Surfer's worry
28 Rio beach, for short
31 "Cohen and _____" (1989 Roy Scheider movie)
34 Neil Diamond's "_____ Caroline"
37 Bit of urn content
38 CNN newsman Kandel
39 Wimbledon honor
40 Asimov's genre
42 Funny Buchwald
43 Of Haifa or Tel Aviv
44 Fanciful stories
45 Sandal part
47 Asner and McMahon
48 Eastern Indian tribe
49 Levi's line
50 Yad VaShem memorial part
51 "Let my people go!", for example
53 Holmesian prop
55 Taint
57 Geffen product
60 Actress _____ Francis
64 Since
66 *Humboldt's Gift* author
68 The Beatles' "Lovely ____"
69 Tabloid lawsuit, often
70 Fad doll of '96
71 "High Hopes" lyricist
72 Send to cloud nine
73 Give off a stench

Down

1 Sister org. of 1-across
2 Say "shalom"
3 Whom the tortoise defeated
4 Losers of 1588
5 _____ International (refuseniks' helpers)
6 Israel's ____ of Return (1950)
7 Greek god of love
8 Chimney section
9 Selfish sort
10 Sheepish statement?
11 *So Big* author
12 Young Disraeli subjects
13 Actress Irving and director Heckerling
18 *My Life* ____ *Man* (book by 30-down)
22 Blow it
25 Play the pest
27 The Levi Pitcher, for one
28 Class of Calcutta
29 "The Odd Couple" half
30 *Goodbye, Columbus* author
32 Rich cake
33 Snare
35 Dodge, as taxes
36 Future or past
38 Didn't score
41 Experience emotion
46 Like a *mensch*
50 Oppenheimer colleague
52 Supermarket section
54 Before, in combinations
55 Painter Chagall
56 Syria's home
58 Enjoy a Laser
59 Destination of the *St. Louis*, 1939
61 Model MacPherson
62 Alaskan port
63 "Return of the Jedi" creature
65 Groupie
67 "____ me go!"

(This week's answers are on page 41.)

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This Week

National

Jews welcome decision to suspend Lord's Prayer. *Page 3*

Chabad congregation serves large Israeli population. *Page 5*

Modern technology ends Toronto's Jewish Singles Registry. *Page 6*

On Campus

Four Canadian students win Hillel Leadership Scholarship to Hebrew U. *Page 20*

Arts

Endgame right up play director's alley. *Page 30*

Business

Retail whiz, Larry Latkowski, makes life easier for pharmacists. *Profile.* *Page 33*

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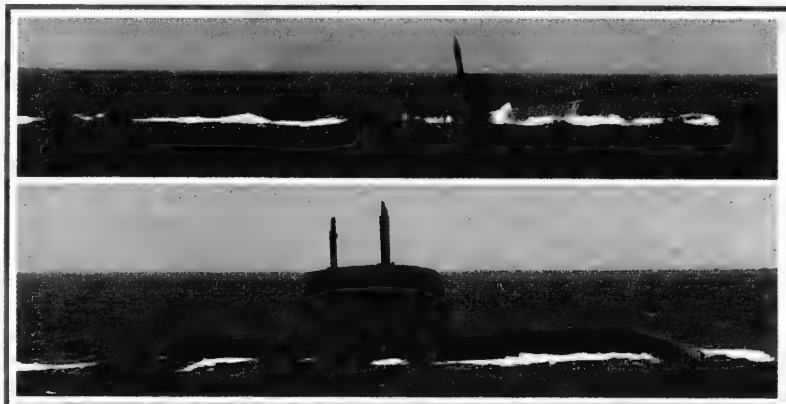

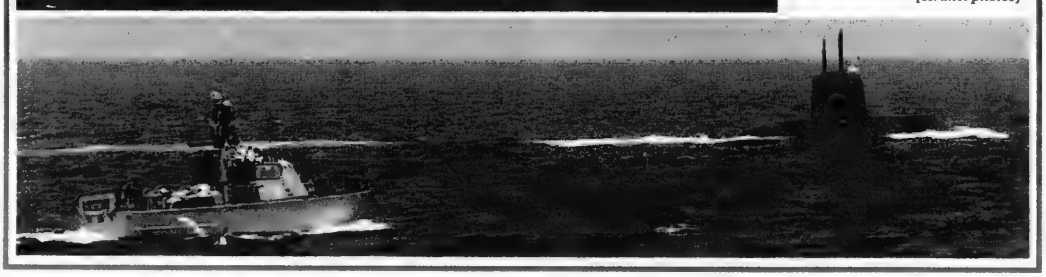

Dolphin dives in Haifa

Israel last week received the first of three new Dolphin-class submarines from Germany. Each submarine cost $300 million US. Here we see the submarine pulling in to shore near Haifa. *Please see story on page 25.*

[Israel photos]

The case of the Levy fortune

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

Iraqi Jews from as far away as Tel Aviv and from as close as Toronto have launched an international effort to prove they are the rightful heirs to a fabulous fortune amassed by two brothers from Baghdad in the 19th century.

The intriguing case has been coursing through British courts for years now.

And, in an amazing twist, the possibility has been raised that a Levy descendant is now a full-fledged member of Britain's royal family.

The case involves about 1,600 families, predominantly from Israel but also from countries such as Canada, Britain and Holland.

Intrigue at the heart of Iraqi Jewish story

In Canada, at least two Sephardi families, the Levys and the Fattals, are linked to Elazar and Shimon Levy.

Aboud Sasson, a Tel Aviv insurance agent who represents the Israeli claimants through an organization known as the Agga Levy Society, is confident of ultimate success.

"Otherwise," he declared in an interview in his office, "I would not have worked on this case. We must be optimistic."

Not everyone is as sanguine.

"I'm skeptical that it can be resolved," said Ofer Shahal, the son of Moshe Shahal, a prominent Tel Aviv lawyer and former Israeli cabinet minister whose law firm is at the forefront of investigating the claims.

Regardless of the outcome, this murky, somewhat convoluted case inspires heady metaphors.

"It sounds like a legend taken from *One Thousand and One Arabian Nights*," said Avner Meiri, a Toronto man born in Iraq.

James Becker, an Israeli scientist and a descendant of the fabled Iraqi brothers, likens it to "a very exciting, unusual and incredible detective story."

Continued on page 26

Levitts case sent to beit din

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The Ontario Superior Court of Justice has granted a stay of proceedings in the case launched by Montreal-based Levitts Kosher Foods Inc. against three Toronto rabbis.

"It would be inappropriate for the court in this case to interfere with the authority of the rabbis," wrote Madam Justice Mary Lou Benotto in her 11-page ruling last week.

In effect, the court is turning the case over to a beit din (rabbinical court), as the defendants prefer. The rabbis had already attempted to summon Levitts to a beit din.

Morton Katz, co-owner of Levitts, said the company did not "ignore" the beit din summons, even though the ruling indicated otherwise.

Continued on page 25

INSIDE

A story for summer:
The Transistor Radio ***by Adina Eshel.***

Treatment of 13 Iranian Jews improves — please see page 25

The News in Brief

CANADA

Correction

In the July 15th issue, *The CJN* incorrectly stated that recent Order of Canada recipient Ben Heppner is Jewish. As well, the paper failed to mention one Jewish inductee. He is Herschel Victor of Montreal, a longtime menswear manufacturer named to the Order for his philanthropic work.

Rabbi To Lead Services

VANCOUVER — A local rabbi and teacher, Rabbi Maurice Myerowitz, has offered to conduct the Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur services at the North Shore's newest synagogue, Torat Hayim Congregation, in North Vancouver.

Talmud Torah Campaign

EDMONTON — Talmud Torah school says it will embark on a separate fundraising campaign to offset a reduced allocation from the Jewish Federation of Edmonton. In each of the last five years, the Talmud Torah, with its 250 students, was allotted $72,000. This year, however, the amount was reduced to $57,600 because of a shortfall in the annual UJA campaign.

ISRAEL

Capital Demographics

JERUSALEM — Jews make up two-thirds of Jerusalem's 633,000 residents, according to a study released last month. The city's Jewish population grew by one percent last year, compared to a more than three percent growth rate among the city's Arab residents. Mayor Ehud Olmert called for an increase in affordable housing to attract young Jewish couples to the capital.

Task Force On Violence

JERUSALEM — Prime Minister Ehud Barak appointed a special ministerial committee to combat domestic violence. Barak's move followed the arrest of a Tel Aviv man who confessed to murdering and torching his wife and two small children because he suspected his spouse was flirting over the Internet.

Art Claim Probed

JERUSALEM — The Israel Museum is investigating claims that it has been displaying a painting looted by the Nazis. James Snyder, the museum's director, said his institution learned about Camille Pissarro's *Boulevard Montmartre, Spring 1897* after receiving a letter from an attorney representing the family of Max Silberberg, a Jewish businessman and art collector who died in the Holocaust.

Synagogues In Airplanes

JERUSALEM — Airbus is willing to outfit five of its A340 aircraft with small synagogues in hopes of enticing El Al to purchase the planes. A spokesperson for the European aircraft manufacturer said the synagogues, which could accommodate 12 worshippers, would be located on the lower deck of the plane and would include an ark mounted on a movable track so that it always faces Jerusalem.

JFK Jr. Memorialized

JERUSALEM — The Jewish National Fund is establishing a memorial forest in Israel to commemorate John F. Kennedy Jr., his wife and sister-in-law, who were killed in a plane crash last month. The move comes more than 30 years after JNF set up a forest in memory of President John F. Kennedy.

WORLD

'Acts of Terror'

MOSCOW — Police evacuated a Moscow synagogue late last month after an anonymous caller phoned in a bomb threat. No explosives were found at the Lubavitch-run Bolshaya Bronnaya shul, where a powerful bomb was found and safely detonated the previous Sunday.

The earlier incident, and the July 13 stabbing of a Jewish leader in the Russian capital, are "anti-Semitic acts of terror," said Moscow Mayor Uri Luzhkov. The city's Jewish leaders had criticized federal and city officials for their silence after the stabbing attack.

Centre Lauds Yahoo!

LOS ANGELES — The Simon Wiesenthal Centre has lauded a leading Internet search engine for removing 39 online hate forums. Yahoo! deleted sites devoted to neo-Nazi organizations, the Ku Klux Klan and the Trenchcoat Mafia, the group linked to the Littleton, Colo., school massacre earlier this year.

Germany Ups Funds

BERLIN — Germany has approved increased funding during the next four years for the preservation of concentration camp memorials and Holocaust research centres around the country. The funding will rise from $16 million next year to $27 million by 2003, according to Culture Minister Michael Naumann.

Fund to Pay Victims

MOSCOW — Payments totalling $1.05 million are scheduled to be made this week to Russian Holocaust survivors. A total of 1,745 Jewish survivors and 890 non-Jewish survivors will each receive $400 from a $180 million fund established in 1997 by Swiss banks.

Clark's Embassy Move Was Debacle: Documents

OTTAWA — Joe Clark's ill-fated attempt in 1979 to move Canada's embassy to Jerusalem landed him in hot water almost as soon the announcement was made, newly released documents show.

The Canadian Press reported last week that documents released under the Access to Information Act show Clark instructed his ministers to downplay the move after Bell Canada registered objections.

The company was apparently concerned about losing a large telecommunications contract in Saudi Arabia.

The documents show Clark asked his inner cabinet ministers to "keep their heads down" on the issue, "as it was important not to exacerbate the situation."

Three weeks after he was elected prime minister in May 1979, Clark announced he would keep an election promise and transfer Canada's embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. That set off angry protests from Arab countries.

In late June, he announced a one-year delay while former Tory leader Robert Stanfield conducted a fact-finding mission.

The move was scrapped entirely in October 1979 after Stanfield advised against it, according to CP.

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Jews welcome decision to cease Lord's Prayer

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

Despite a small spike in anti-Semitic telephone calls – and the belief by some members of the local Jewish community that waves should not have been made – the recent decision to ban the Lord's Prayer in classrooms has been welcomed in Saskatoon.

The ruling by the Saskatchewan Human Rights Commission, handed down July 23, orders Saskatoon's public school board to stop the practice of reciting the Lord's Prayer in classrooms.

The decision came after four days of emotional testimony last month, in which the parents who launched the complaint and expert witnesses testified the prayer is discriminatory and can be psychologically damaging for non-Christians (*CJN*, July 29).

Ken Halvorson, the retired judge who headed the commission, found that the daily recitation of the prayer, despite a provision allowing children to leave the classroom, stay silent or recite a prayer of their own, denies schoolchildren their religious freedom.

Reciting the Lord's Prayer has been left up to the discretion of individual teachers and principals. It had been recited in only about one-fifth of Saskatoon's public classrooms.

The decision says the evidence demonstrated "the evils of allowing individual teachers to decide whether the Lord's Prayer will be said. Whim can play a role; so can personal bias, even from well-meaning persons. Decision on prayers is too important to allow elected boards to delegate responsibility to unelected staff."

He slams the board's use of "weasel words" in delegating authority to teachers.

Halvorson suggests the board drop all prayer and "shed its image as a backwater of religious intolerance."

Complaints of discrimination were "substantiated far beyond the required burden of balance of probabilities."

The ruling is binding, despite the fact it did not come from a court. The school board has 30 days to launch an appeal.

"We're very pleased," Rosanna Langer, one of the Jewish parents who launched the complaint, told *The CJN* in a telephone interview. "It's a very thorough decision."

'A complete victory'

Langer, whose daughter Emma, 11, told the commission she felt "looked down on" for not taking part in the Lord's Prayer, said that at least two of the board's nine trustees have expressed support for suspending the prayer.

Rabbi Steven Kaplan, spiritual leader of Congregation Agudas Israel, said several anti-Semitic messages were left on the synagogue's answering machine, at least one of them telling Jews "to go back where they came from."

The ruling is "wise... it was the only decision to come to if they were going to show any sensitivity," Rabbi Kaplan said.

The 33-page decision also notes that Larry Haiven, the other Jewish parent (one of nine who began the complaint in 1993), received "nasty" telephone calls and "has suffered emotionally."

Grant Scharfstein, president of Agudas Israel, which had intervenor status in the case, said he too was pleased with the ruling. "But it's unfortunate it took this long."

He said he received several calls from fellow congregants who felt the city's Jewish community should not have been so visible in the case.

"But it's important to stand up and be counted," he said, adding that the Jewish community has been trying to get rid of the Lord's Prayer in classrooms since 1953.

Rabbi Roger Pavey, the retired spiritual leader of the 150-family member synagogue, also said he received two or three anti-Semitic calls at home. "But at this point, we really don't care."

He said he it's not clear what the board will do. There is talk of dropping the prayer when classes resume next month, or of substituting "a cocktail of prayers, which we would not support."

Karen Mock, an educational psychologist and director of B'nai Brith Canada's League for Human Rights, called the ruling "a complete victory."

Mock, who testified as an expert witness, told the commission that forcing children to recite the prayer, or allowing them to opt out, can be psychologically harmful for non-Christians because it can make them feel inferior and interfere with the development of their sense of self.

Canadian Jewish Congress said it was "heartened" by the ruling.

In a statement, CJC spokesperson Mark Weintraub said he hopes the decision, "supported by provincial courts across the country and the Supreme Court of Canada, will now firmly set an ethical compass for Canadian public schools."

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The literary culture of the Jewish people is a constantly regenerating, constantly reinvigorating vein of deep intellectual and literary wealth.

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Throughout the ages, Jewish writers and thinkers have stocked, and continue to stock, for the benefit of all mankind, a "library" where fingertips tingle at the touch of the spines of the works. And the inquiring heart can have no surfeit of satiation.

There is, simply, a vast ocean of scholarship, literature and writing. Most of us, however, dip our hands only into the shallows along the shore. We seldom reach towards the deeper parts, thus leaving unseen, so much beauty and unawares, so much knowledge.

One of this century's most moving writers and most audacious religious thinkers was Abraham Joshua Heschel. Among his many important works are: *Man Is Not Alone*, *God in Search of Man*, *A Passion for Truth*, *Israel: An Echo of Eternity*, *Who is Man?* and *The Prophets*.

Heschel was also one of this century's most audacious social activists. Indeed, one of the most famous photographs of the mid-'60s' struggle for civil rights in the United States, is that of Heschel walking alongside Martin Luther King on the segregated streets of Selma, Ala. Their arms are intertwined in common cause and friendship as they march resolutely together into the face of the menacing, reactionary forces arrayed against them.

It is unfortunate that many of the younger generation are unfamiliar with Heschel and his writing. For here was a man capable of igniting the once fiery, but seemingly now only smoldering passions of youthful idealism and activism.

Heschel deeply believed and fervently taught the notion that human life is relevant, not only because God created us, but also because God has high hopes and aspirations for us.

His biography, called *Abraham Joshua Heschel: Prophetic Witness*, Yale University Press, recently came across my desk. Co-authored by Edward L. Kaplan and Samuel H. Dresner, the latter, Heschel's student, it is a magnificent book.

First and foremost, the reader receives an in-depth, comprehensive view of Heschel's private early life, of his youthful formative years, and of the self-doubts and struggles as a student and aspiring teacher.

Second, the book paints a rich portrait of Jewish life during the first four, pre-Holocaust, decades of this century in Warsaw, Vilna and Berlin.

Third, we read of and encounter up close, some of the exciting scholars – Martin Buber, Leo Baeck, David Koigen, to name just three – who inhabited Heschel's world.

The volume is the first part of the authors' two-part biography of their subject. It takes the reader up to Heschel's escape from Poland in 1939.

I eagerly await the publication of the second volume. Heschel adapts to his new country, eventually evolving into one of its chief spokespersons for conscience, justice and moral order.

***

Readers of *The CJN* will notice certain changes in our page 2 masthead this week.

Paul Lungen's name no longer appears there. After 15 years as a staff reporter with *The CJN*, Paul has decided to go back to school to seek additional higher, different and newer education.

Paul's "beats" were among the most complicated and most sensitive at the paper. Most of the time he had to contend with issues such as the prosecution of alleged former Nazis living in Canada, the proliferation of hate crimes and hate literature, inter-organizational communal rivalries, and day school funding.

Paul was also the editor of *The CJN's* popular weekly sports page for which he demonstrated an uncanny flair at finding the conventional as well as the "off-beat" professional, amateur and school sports story. Thankfully, Paul will still continue to file or arrange for the filing of sports stories.

It has been a privilege to work with Paul. He combines fine writing skills, sharp analytic acuity, and a delightful sense of humour with rare, uncompromising integrity.

In this day and age, 15 years may be a long time for an individual to remain working with the same employer, but it is not too long a time for us to have worked with Paul Lungen. We will miss him a great deal; but of course wish for him the best of fortune in all his endeavors.

***

When one thing ends, however, something new begins.

There are other changes this week on the page 2 masthead.

Carolyn Blackman joins *The CJN* as a staff writer. Carolyn has been a regular freelance writer for the paper and recently, one of our copy editors.

In addition, Anna Morgan joins *The CJN* as a copy editor.

Both Carolyn and Anna will add a great deal to the paper.

We welcome them. *MBD*

SEE JN

IN IVANSK, POLAND 1930

A *CJN* reader sent us this photo in which her late father appears. It is of a group in Ivansk, Poland in the 1930s. She is looking for information regarding any of the people in the photo. If anyone can shed any light, please contact the editor.

Hadassah-WIZO helps women hone leadership skills: president

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
CJN Staff

Carol Lou Spiegel

TORONTO — Carol Lou Spiegel, newly installed president of Toronto Hadassah-WIZO credits the organization with her success in the business world.

"The leadership skills I developed as a 25-year member, carried over into every aspect of my life. After a term as bazaar chair, which is just like running a big business, I felt empowered to venture into business myself," said Spiegel, a real estate agent.

Hadassah-WIZO is dedicated to the health, social welfare and education of women and children in Israel, as well as the enrichment of Jewish life in Canada. Local programs focus on such things as women's health, legal issues, and political affairs.

Spiegel said that her sister, MPP Elinore Caplan, honed her leadership skills in the organization as well.

"In addition to leadership development, each person is trained within their own chapter by taking on various tasks. Women can take these skills out of the organization and use them in every aspect of their lives."

Spiegel, one of the first presidents to work outside of the organization, said that working women form the image of today's Hadassah-WIZO, which now has about 3,000 members in over 70 chapters in Toronto.

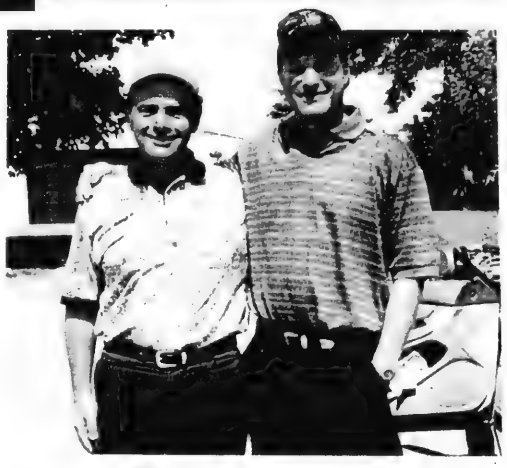
"I like to think of the organization as encompassing all women. The member focus now is on vibrant, ageless women who are joining because of our exciting programming, and the desire to keep a link with Israel and our own community."

Women today, she said, have less time to give, but meetings have been adapted to meet particular needs. "We have a group for women with young babies, and members have found that it is a perfect time in their lives to bond with other women, as well as keep active in the community."

The personal value members get from contributing to our organization goes far beyond receiving a pay cheque, Spiegel said.

"There are long-lasting rewards. Women who join us inevitably feel valued and satisfied."

Spiegel, wife of Harvey Spiegel, a judge of the Superior Court of Ontario, and mother of two children, ages 26 and 25, said that women who do volunteer work are great role models for their family. "I helped my mother at the annual bazaar when I was a teenager."



GOLF TOURNAMENT

The third annual Canadian Friends of Tel Aviv University (TAU)/ Alpha Omega Dental Fraternity Golf Tournament took place recently at Cherry Downs Golf Course. Proceeds from the tournament, co-chaired by Dr. Steven Millman, on behalf of Alpha Omega, and David Newman, on behalf of Canadian Friends of TAU, support the School of Dental Medicine at TAU. In photo are Newman, left, and Millman.

Chabad congregation serves large Israeli population

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO – The congregation of the Chabad Israeli Community Centre hopes to soon break ground for a new site to be built at the northwest corner of Centre and Bathurst in Thornhill.

It now has its own shul, with a daily minyan, Shabbat services, to which over 100 come, and an overflow High Holy Day Service. It meets at the moment at the Chabad Community Centre on Chabad Gate in Thornhill.

Israelis' experience with religious institutions is quite different than that of Jews in North America, said Rabbi Yisroel Landa, Lubavitch shaliach to Toronto's Israeli community.

They use the language of the Bible in everyday life, they served in the army, they lived in Israel, he said. "They feel Jewish – they don't see any need to affiliate."

The problem, he said, is that while the parents feel fully Jewish, the children don't get what kids here get educationally. "The parents are educated in Tanach and other Hebrew sources, and the children speak Hebrew. But they don't know who Abraham was."

As well, Rabbi Landa said, in Israel, all religious needs, including synagogues, are provided by the government, and Israelis here don't see any reason to have to pay for them.

Lubavitch saw the need to do something for Israelis, who, they felt, would lose what little connection to Jewish practice and the Jewish community they did have. "Out of a rumored 35,000 Israelis in Toronto, less then one third are in day schools," Rabbi Landa said.

The 35-year-old, Israeli-born, rabbi was raised in Kfar Chabad, and received smichah from the Lubavitch yeshiva in New York. At the end of 1990, he and his new bride, Rachel, came here as shiluchim to the Hebrew speaking community.

This was not his first exposure to Toronto – while still a yeshiva student, he spent two summers here helping out the local Lubavitch community.

While there had been some programs for Israelis before, Rabbi Landa proposed a new philosophy when he approached the Berman Fund of Federation/UJA for assistance.

"I suggested that we not try to Canadianize them, but that we should create a community around them," he said.

"We wanted to create the sense of a large family," he said, "not to necessarily make them daven or even to learn, but to feel connected to each other."

They had parties and gatherings around holidays and special events, and created a sisterhood. There were lectures and concerts, demonstrations, Friday night dinners and bar and bat mitzvah programs. Everything was done in Hebrew.

Two separate university groups have been formed which will hold discussions in Hebrew. Rabbi Landa hopes to have a day school some day.

Rabbi Landa said that many have now started to say Kiddush on Shabbat, and to have special Shabbat gatherings.

On Sept. 5, Labor Day, they will finish writing a sefer Torah, which will be used in the new facility.

Rabbi Landa said that they are relying on the local community to help financially. "These people served in the army on our behalf. Most have had some loss in their family. They deserve to be served as a community."

The rabbi is a seventh generation Lubavitcher Chassid. His grandfather and father were chief rabbis of Bnei Brak and established kashrut supervision there. They have the distinction to be among the few who have the recipe for Coca Cola, as they give kashrut certification for it.

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Greater Toronto Area

Israeli highway opponents target finance company

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
CJN Staff

TORONTO — A group of 20 protesters who demonstrated outside the head offices of Newcourt Credit Group Inc., marched up to the executive offices to confront president Steve Hudson about his company's role in the construction of a new super highway in Israel.

Shai Spetgang, organizer of the recent protest, told *The CJN* the group targeted Newcourt because the commercial finance company is part of an international consortium that has the contract to build the Cross Israel Highway, a 300 km 10-lane toll highway which will cost more than $1 billion.

Spetgang, 23, an environmental studies student at York University and head of Canadian Friends of the Committee for Public Transportation in Israel, said the proposed highway will damage the environment, reduce the amount of nature and army reserves by 10 percent, and will spur massive real estate development which will further reduce the remaining open space by 30 to 50 percent.

Opposition to the highway is mounting because a court challenge to the construction of the highway will be heard by the Israel Supreme Court the first week in August, he said. "Many people are questioning the validity of government [feasibility] reports. The opposition is not specific to any party or religious orientation...

"The objective of the [Toronto] protest is to make Newcourt aware of the growing opposition around the world and in Israel, to the highway project."

The protesters were not able to speak directly with Newcourt's top executive, but Hudson's assistant, Mac Penney, met the demonstrators to hear their concerns. Reiterating an earlier statement released by the company, he told them that studies conducted by the government of Israel supported the project.

He said Newcourt was aware of opposition to the project in Israel, but ultimately it was the government that would determine the fate of the highway. "The company's view is that, good or bad, it's best decided by the government of Israel."

Pressed about Newcourt's corporate responsibility vis-a-vis the environmental impact of the highway, Penney said, "We have a responsibility to ensure that we abide by the policy of the government."

Spetgang said a parallel Israeli protest had taken place earlier that day outside the Ashkelon Holiday Inn, the venue of a conference – the first day was dedicated to transportation issues – attended by Israel's top entrepreneurs and politicians, among them Prime Minister Ehud Barak.

He noted that the demonstrations were timed to coincide with the second anniversary of the Maccabia bridge disaster. The collapse of the bridge at the opening ceremonies of the 1997 games led to the deaths of four Australian athletes.

Documentary filmmaker Simcha Jacobovici, a participant in the protest, said the anniversary of the Maccabia disaster was significant because the bridge over the Yarkon River in Tel Aviv was hastily built.

"The destruction of the ecology is contrary to Zionism," Jacobovici said. "We're turning the country into an ecological disaster. We're letting business drive decisions, instead of doing what's good for Israel."

His words were echoed by York sociology professor Stuart Schoenfeld, another demonstrator. "I think everyone here wants to see Eretz Yisrael *yaffa* and that's endangered by this highway project which cuts through the last open space in the centre of the country..."

By modeling the Israeli highway after Toronto's Highway 407, the Israeli government "is exporting a solution for Toronto into an ecological region that's highly fragile, and it will have severe long-term consequences of degrading the environment...Israel has a high population density which makes it attractive to have mass transit."

Singles Registry closing its doors

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Modern technology has claimed one of Toronto's better-known services for Jewish singles.

Competition from the Internet's many online matchmaking sites has spelled the end of the seven-year-old Jewish Singles Registry, which had offices on Eglinton Avenue East.

Owner and operator Rob Singer told *The CJN* the service has folded due to mounting costs and high-tech competition.

The Internet "played a big part" in his decision to end the business, Singer said.

Three part-time employees will lose their jobs.

Over the years, the private, for-profit service maintained a client list of about 1,700, Singer said, of which about 600 were active at any time.

Clients paid $395 for an open-ended, unlimited membership.

Singer said he will give no cash refunds. A recorded telephone message on the service's line says paid-up clients will receive credit in the form of tokens which can be used for an on-line Jewish dating service called jmatch.

The service, at www.jmatch.com, operates worldwide. Singer says it charges $1 per contact made, and "tokens" cost $1 each.

Clients of the Jewish Singles Registry are not automatically members of jmatch. They must first register online.

There are roughly 800 Jewish singles from the Toronto area registered on jmatch, Singer estimated.

He said he will now try to sell the registry's database.

He said reaction from clients has ranged from shock to surprise, to sadness.

The registry, he said, was not a matchmaking service. It was clients who chose potential mates from profiles and photographs.

Over the years, the registry's efforts have resulted in some 45 marriages, Singer said.

"I'm very disappointed. I put seven years into this. I guess technology caught up with us."

For those who do not use the Internet, Singer recommends one of Toronto's several cyber-cafes, where individual e-mail accounts may be set up.

The end of the Jewish Singles Registry comes four years after Jewish Dateline, a community-supported matchmaking service, closed its doors.

In all the dreams, the hopes, the prophecies, the promises ... I believe." (Ze'ev Jabotinsky)

Remembrance Ceremony for

Ze'ev Jabotinsky ז"ל - - Rosh Betar

will be held

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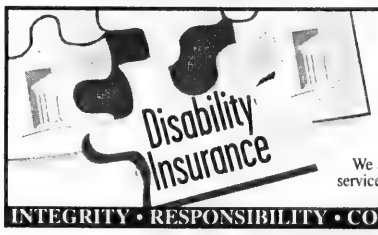
University of Toronto

Cantor Yehuda Rottner
Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Synagogue, Toronto

Sponsored by Herut-Likud and Betar-Tager of Canada

BONDS' SWING DAY

State of Israel Bonds, Women's Division recently held its second annual Swing for Bonds, a golf skills day for new and experienced golfers. Special guest was Sandra Post, a member of Canada's Sports Hall of Fame and Canada's Athlete of the Year in 1979. Event chair was Freida Sherman.



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Ben-Gurion University to honor developers

TORONTO — The Toronto chapter of the Canadian Associates of Ben-Gurion University of the Negev will honor Greenpark Homes and its three founding partners at a special dinner to be held at the Sheraton Centre Hotel on Oct. 19.

The partners – president and CEO Carlo Baldassarra, Jack Wine and Philip Rechtsman – are all recipients of Ben-Gurion University's highest award of distinction, the Ben-Gurion Negev Award. Each will receive a 3,000-year-old antiquity from the Negev.

Greenpark's founders are being honored for their years of leadership. The event will recognize Greenpark's generous contributions to worthy causes across Ontario throughout the company's 32-year history.

Ben-Gurion University, which is situated in Israel's Negev Desert, was established by the Israeli government specifically for the development of ways to make desert life as positive and productive as possible.

Known for its environment studies and research programs, Ben-Gurion University attracts students from 42 different countries with desert or arid terrain. More than 800 million people live in desert environments throughout the world.

Carlo Baldassarra

Philip Rechtsman

Jack Wine

Proceeds from the event at the Sheraton Centre will be used for environmental research, especially in the fields of water resources and desert food production.

Of special significance will be the construction of a greenhouse, made by Agrispace of Montreal. Painstakingly developed as a simple and cost-effective structure, this greenhouse actively captures, utilizes and conserves solar energy. The structure is an advanced solution to the long-standing challenge of providing buildings with abundant natural light that do not cost a lot to heat and cool.

Research in the greenhouse will have a practical Canadian application: it will explore the possible year-round production of fresh vegetables in the remote and isolated areas of northern Canada.

The co-chairs for this function are Sam Ciccolini, a partner of Masters Insurance Ltd.; J. Duncan Gibson, vice-chair of the commercial banking division of the TD Financial Group; and Barry Lipson, counsel at the firm of Torkin Manes Cohen and Arbus.

For more information, contact Claire Horowitz, executive director of Ben-Gurion University, Ontario Region, at 665-8054.

CORRECTION

In the article on Brantford's Jewish community (*CJN*, July 15, 1999), Lena Rothberg was incorrectly identified as a past national president of Hadassah-WIZO. She is a past national vice-president of the organization.

Program co-ordinator finds new purpose in career with seniors

Spotlight

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
CJN Staff

Janet Klein-Slavin

Janet Klein-Slavin, program co-ordinator for Bathurst Jewish Centre's (BJC) 55+ department, and volunteer co-ordinator at Lincoln Place Nursing Home, has seen her career come full circle.

Five years ago, after 17 years working in fashion design and merchandising, Klein-Slavin, the daughter of survivors, left her job to head the Canadian branch of the Survivors of the Shoah Visual History Foundation, created by Steven Spielberg to document, on video, the world's largest library of Holocaust survivor testimonies.

"Working at the Shoah Foundation, I heard about life and communities being destroyed. Now, at the BJC and Lincoln Place, I see people learning and being active."

Her career at the foundation took off, she said, after she helped her late father launch a self-published book about the Holocaust. "Someone approached me and said that Steven Spielberg could use my commitment. I chased him down, and sold myself to him. I spoke from my heart and told him he would not regret his decision."

While at the foundation, she heard the testimonies of over 3,000 survivors. "When the job was finished this past November, I wondered what I could do next that is as valuable as what I had been doing. I had to wake up in the morning and have a purpose."

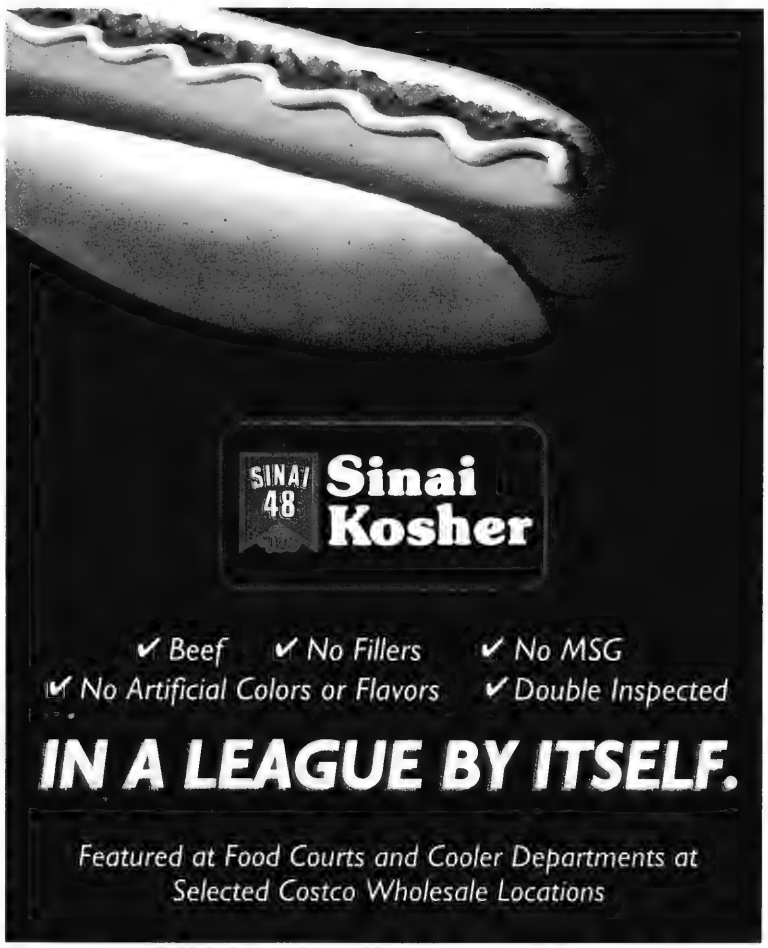
She did return to the fashion industry for two weeks, "but I felt that I had many more important things to do, and I resigned. I put closure on that part of my career."

Her work at BJC and Lincoln Place, she said, also put closure on her career at the foundation. "At Lincoln Place, I see residents enjoying a musical performance and I see that they have come full circle from those whose lives were destroyed. These people are enjoying life to its fullest. At the BJC, I get such satisfaction from seeing capable, able-bodied seniors being active."

Lincoln Place, said Klein-Slavin, is a very well-kept secret. "I investigated it before I joined, and I saw a place where seniors are well looked after. It is sad to see the circle of life wind down, but given that, the residents at Lincoln Place are in a good situation."

The nursing home has a synagogue, and often features Jewish entertainment. "It is amazing, how at vulnerable times, anything traditionally Jewish becomes a bright light."

Her own parents were older than those of her friends, she said, and she grew up surrounded by older people. "There is something about the seniors I work with that bring me back to my grandparents. I see so much experience, history and tradition when I talk to people at work. It is a link, for me, to my own Jewish history."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Dry Bones
IN ONE YEAR THE REGION LOST TWO OF ITS WISE MEN.
HUSSEIN OF JORDAN AND NOW HASSAN OF MOROCCO!
AND IN THIS PART OF THE WORLD...
SIGH
WISE MEN ARE IN SHORT SUPPLY!
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Sad anniversaries... in Argentina

Last month, on July 18, the Jewish world and specifically our Argentinian co-religionists, marked the fifth anniversary of the bombing of the Argentine Mutual Israel Aid (AMIA) Jewish Community Centre in Buenos Aires. The life-shattering bomb exploded at a time calculated to destroy as many Jewish lives as possible, at seven minutes to nine in the morning, the busiest part of the day, when workers and visitors alike were rushing to arrive at the building. Eighty-six people were killed by the blast. More than 300 were wounded.

This was not an act of political violence. The bomb was not aimed at a political or ideological foe. It was an act of ethnic, religious violence. The bomb was aimed at Jews.

Two years earlier, also in Buenos Aires, craven murderers, motivated by the same hatred of Jews killed 29 people when they bombed the Israeli Embassy.

Although 20 people, of whom 15 are police officers, have recently been arrested for their alleged involvement in the AMIA blast, both bombings remain unsolved. The official in charge of the AMIA investigation, federal Judge Juan Jose Galeano, recently accused the Iranian-backed Hezbollah of having been involved in both the '95 and '98 actions.

The 250,000-strong Jewish community in Argentina is outraged at the heartsick possibility that no one will ever be brought to justice for the murders. Lately, however, the community is also deeply worried. The recent failure of two Jewish-owned banks that have traditionally been the primary funders and lenders of community institutions, along with a spate of bolder more brazen acts of anti-Semitism, have trickled their harmful effects throughout the collective psyche of the community.

The JTA recently reported "the seventh largest Jewish community in the world [Argentina] is experiencing growing internal political and social crises in the wake of recent economic upheavals and unresolved anti-Semitic attacks."

The leaders of Argentina's Jewish community recently turned to the Jewish Agency for financial assistance to help them secure the institutions of their communal infrastructure. Itself under severe financial pressures, and not wishing to alter the precedent of its traditional role, the agency rejected the request for such funding. AMIA and the agency, however, continue to discuss other financial and security matters.

Notwithstanding the differences and disagreements at the official Jewish organizational level, it is imperative we express our support to our fellow Jews in whatever manner that pragmatics allow and conscience abides. At the very least, we must not forget the enormous tragedy that befell our fellow Jews five years on July 18.

...and in Australia

It is also imperative that we express our support to our fellow Jews in Australia. On July 14, they marked the second anniversary of the collapse of the bridge at the Maccabiah Games in Israel, as a result of which four Australian athletes died and a number were severely injured. The worst of the injuries was the painful, sorrowful case of young Sasha Elterman, a talented tennis player. She has undergone more than 30 surgeries to deal with medical problems associated with her fall into the toxic Yarkon River. We must not forget the enormous tragedy that befell our fellow Jews two years ago on July 14.

WISDOM OF THE AGES
Behold, I set before you this day a blessing and a curse.
(Parshat Re'eh)

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CHAT offers choices of high standards

I believe that in her recent interesting article on high school choices for girls from religious homes (*CJN*, July 15), Leila Speisman underestimated the opportunities that CHAT offers.

Our four daughters went to Eitz Chaim from kindergarten to Grade 9, and all four graduated from CHAT. Three of them took advantage of the opportunity to study Talmud at CHAT, which they would not have been able to do at the other schools mentioned by Speisman. Three of them went on to further their limudei kodesh by studying in Eretz Yisrael after high school, and all four today continue their Jewish studies by attending shiurim or similar forms of participation. Two of our three married daughters cover their hair, as do a number of their married female former CHAT classmates.

But in addition to some of those strengths in learning and observance that were encouraged by some of the very fine teachers they experienced at CHAT, their interaction with such a wide range of students from across the community has given them an immeasurable advantage that has been repeatedly reflected in their current lives in their abilities to relate comfortably and warmly with a very wide range of people from the general non-Jewish community as well as across the total Jewish community, from the most religious to the most secular.

While the first half of Speisman's article was understandably focused on some recent divisive matters within the religious community, I think it is important to remind your readers that we are fortunate in Toronto that people of vision have established a number of institutions that offer *choice*. And while some parents with perhaps too narrow a perspective may insist that for their child or children there is but one ideal choice, the objective reality is that there is choice for everyone, and that even within the Orthodox community CHAT offers very high standards of learning and some very fine teacher role models.

Dr. Joseph Berger
Past President, CHAT
Toronto

Muslim Albanians were victims of Milosevic

Herb Landis tells us (*CJN*, July 8) that during World War II (60 years ago) Muslim Albanians and German and Croatian Nazis massacred two million Serbs. He refers to the recent slaughter of 20,000 Muslim Albanians by Serbs and calls this an act of retaliation. (The rapes and uprooting of hundreds of thousands seem not to be worth mentioning.)

I would like to point out that the overwhelming majority of Muslim Albanians who cooperated with the Nazis 60 years ago are dead, and the overwhelming majority of the Muslim Albanians slaughtered, raped, and expelled by Slobodan Milosevic a while ago are innocent people.

Abe Shenitzer
Toronto

No justification for ethnic cleansing in Albania

"Suggest hidden agenda in NATO bombing" (*CJN*, July 5), by Herb Landis really appalled me.

His approach to what happened in Kosovo, namely that retaliation by the Serbs killing the Kosovars because they are Muslims and were responsible for killing millions of Serbs during World War II is justified, boggles the mind.

In his own words: "Can any people with any pride not try to retaliate against such diabolical dastardly deeds?" Does that mean that we go on a rampage against the Germans for killing six million Jews? Do we continue to foment hatred forever – Irish Protestants against Catholics, Arabs against Jews, Muslims against whoever – unto the next generations?

No matter what NATO's hidden agenda, there is no justification for ethnic cleansing or genocide. Life is too short to continue to carry this bile around with us.

Bess Shockett
Toronto

Addition to letter on Kosovo situation

In my letter of July 8, I meant to add the following: The 20,000 Muslim Albanians supposedly killed by the Serbs in recent months, which the media keep telling us about, are in reality a mixture of Muslim Albanians and Serbs who were killed over a period of 10 years in the civil war that has been raging for that length of time in the Serbian province of Kosovo.

Herb Landis
Citizens for Truth and Justice
Toronto

Seeking Machal veterans of Israel independence

Toronto Machal is looking for veterans of the 1948 War of Independence in Israel. If you have moved from any of the countries that sent volunteers to Israel, please get in touch with me.

Jerry Rosenberg
President
Toronto Machal
416-787-7632

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures. Letters sent by e-mail must also include the sender's municipal address.

Perspectives

The transistor radio

By ADINA ESHEL
Special to The CJN

On the day of the first yahrzeit of her dear, beloved, unforgettable husband, Mrs. Gold found herself sitting on a bench in the little square near her home. It was "their bench," on which they used to sit and watch their grandchildren ride on their bicycles, or play with their ball when visiting with them.

Across the street she could see the small café to which they used to take their grandchildren for their special treats: ice-cream topped with whipped cream and sweet cherries in the summer, and hot chocolate and cake in the winter. Sometimes, in the evening, they'd sit there with friends.

The day was quite warm, and Mrs. Gold felt a glass of ice-coffee would cheer her up a little, but she could not do it. How could she enter the café alone? How could she enter any crowded place alone? They always did it together. Even a full year after his passing away, she could not do it. She tried hard to control herself, but the tears burst out against her will.

They were childhood sweethearts. They grew up together, graduated from high school together, and started university together. He studied chemistry and she studied literature and the arts. In the middle of the second year they got married. In the middle of the third year, she gave birth to their first child — a beautiful baby girl. She interrupted her studies, confident she would return to complete them and get her degree, but she never resumed her studies.

Her young, beloved husband subtly conveyed to her, never saying so in words, that he wanted her at home with their child, and later on with their four children, and she complied. In return, he took care of all material matters. Of course, over the years they did have their problems and differences of opinion, but they solved them quietly among themselves.

After their second child was born, they made aliyah and never regretted it. Her husband became a senior chemist in an important chemical firm and later on its director. They had a beautiful house in a prestigious suburb, which they gave up only a few years before, when it grew too big for them, after the children got married and left.

Moving into town revived their old quest for outings. They went out more often than before, mostly to concerts. Both of them loved music, and enjoyed listening to records together.

Every summer they took a trip abroad, and after her husband retired they travelled twice a year, always together.

They devoted much time and attention to their grandchildren, whom they loved dearly. When they took the flat in town, they made a point that it should be within walking distance from both children, who lived in the same town (the other two lived on a kibbutz), so that their grandchildren could come and visit them whenever they wanted.

Just when everything seemed so perfect, her dear husband passed away. He went to sleep and never got up. For the first time in 50 years, she was alone. She had long forgotten how one gets about when one is alone.

The suddenness of his death shattered her world to pieces. He was a healthy man and she had not the time to get used to the idea, as people usually do when their beloved ones are seriously ill for some length of time. It was a sudden shock she could not overcome. She even contemplated suicide.

Tears streamed down her face as she reflected on her life since her husband's death and her lack of self-confidence.

"Why would a lovely woman be crying her heart out?"

Mrs. Gold was startled by the voice. A man was speaking to her in English. She looked up. An elderly man was towering over her, looking worried. She did not answer.

"Please, I mean no harm, can I help you?" asked the man.

She did not answer, but moved her head.

"It can't be that bad," said the man softly.

She examined him. He was very tall, with curly white hair partly hidden under a wide brimmed hat. His eyes were deep blue and expressive. He seemed truly interested.

"May I sit down?" he asked. "Perhaps if you told me what it's all about, you'd feel better."

Somehow his eyes and voice convinced her, and she said, "My husband died."

"I'm sorry," he said, "and I know exactly how you feel."

He kept quiet for a while and then asked: "Would you care to have a cup of coffee with me, and talk about it? I know talking about it helps."

She moved her head. No, she couldn't.

"Would you care to talk about it as we sit here?"

Again she looked into his kind, worried, eyes — and began talking.

She told him the story of her life, which was actually the story of their life, her husband's and hers. She told him about their love for music, and the concerts that she now avoided because she couldn't enter the concert hall alone; about her problem with other places they used to frequent together that she now avoided for the same reason. She told him how badly she missed her husband.

> 'The suddenness of his death shattered her world to pieces'

The stranger listened without interrupting her. It was the first time she told anybody the complete story. When she finished, she felt relieved. He was right, talking about it, particularly to a stranger, does help.

"Tell you what," said the man, "wait here for a few minutes and promise me you won't go away. Perhaps I can help you. I'm going to my car that is parked in the nearby parking lot, I'll be back in less than five minutes."

She nodded and he hurried to his car. In less than five minutes he was back.

"Now close your eyes and open your hand," he told her.

Oddly enough, she did as asked. The man put something in her palm and closed her fingers on it. She could not guess what it was.

"You may open your eyes," said the man.

She opened her eyes, and her palm, and saw a small, black, rectangle-shaped object.

"Do you know what it is?" asked the man.

"No," she said.

"Then perhaps these will help you," he said and produced a pair of small earphones.

"Oh, it's a transistor radio!" she exclaimed in surprise. "It's so small, like a toy."

"It's the best on the market," he said. "I can assure you that you'll enjoy the music you'll listen to, as if in a concert hall."

He plugged the earphones into the tiny radio and she put them on and listened. It was amazing. The music she heard came from all directions; the violins from one side, the cellos and contrabass from the other, and the wind instruments from the front, exactly as if she were sitting in a concert hall!

For the first time she smiled at the stranger.

"It's yours," he said. "Keep it and enjoy your music." Then he got up.

"It's been nice meeting you," he said, and went away. She didn't even have time to thank him.

Mrs. Gold felt quite silly. What had she done? Accepted a gift, probably an expensive one, from a stranger! But what a gift! She still had her earphones on and was enjoying the music she was listening to.

When the concert came to an end, she put the tiny, palm-sized transistor radio into her pocket and went to see her daughter.

Upon hearing the story, her daughter looked at the object and said: "Are you crazy? Accepting a silly toy from a total stranger?"

"Yes," said Mrs. Gold, "I do feel so silly, but this is no toy, this is something very special, listen to it and you'll understand what I mean."

Her daughter put on the earphones and listened. Her face became serious and then looked surprised.

"I see what you mean," she said. "But why would a total stranger give you an expensive gift?" she asked her mother.

"I don't know," answered the mother. "He seemed to be a tourist."

"Well, perhaps he is an agent of the firm that produces these things and keeps some samples in his car," suggested her daughter.

"Perhaps," answered Mrs. Gold.

Smiling inwardly to herself she thought: And perhaps he was Elijah the Prophet in disguise, who according to Jewish legend helps people in distress. No doubt her beloved husband, still taking care of her from above, had sent him to her.

Adina Eshel is a former teacher living in Israel.

Opinions

Overlooked minorities

A distant cousin of mine who lives in Hawaii and spent many of his adult years as a judge, sent me the text of an address he delivered before a distinguished group of U.S. civic and political leaders on Memorial Day. Being a veteran of the army of the United States, I still feel some affinity to the observance of that day, which recalls experiences in my life that have left their imprint upon me.

Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

The address James Dannenberg delivered contains some interesting facts and raises significant questions.

He reviewed the way in which the United States recognized the achievements of its soldiers in the various wars the nation fought. He reminded the audience that the first man ever to die for America was Crispus Attucks, a black man who was killed during the Boston massacre of 1770. Many blacks fought at Bunker's Hill and Lexington and made a valiant contribution to an emerging nation that would not free its black minority for another 90 years.

Black soldiers continued to be segregated, and during World Wars I and II, African American and Asian American GIs were not given many opportunities to go into combat. Yet when they did, they fought admirably, even if recognition came slowly or not at all. During World War II, nine African Americans were awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, the nation's second highest award for heroism, but not one was awarded the Medal of Honor, the nation's highest award.

Similarly, more than 50 Japanese Americans, Philippine and Chinese Americans and one American of Korean background were awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, but only one Medal of Honor was awarded to any of these minorities.

Did the Jews fare any differently? Dannenberg comes to the conclusion that they did not. While 112 Jewish servicemen were given the Distinguished Service Cross or the Navy Cross, only two received the Medal of Honor. On the average, about 15 Distinguished Service Crosses were awarded for every Medal of Honor, but amongst the Jews and other minorities, this was not the case. Dannenberg suggests that these figures reflect the prejudice of the time.

When at last this was brought to the attention of the public, the government reviewed the records and in 1997 awarded Medals of Honor to nine deceased black Americans. It so happens that my cousin comes from parents and grandparents who distinguished themselves by the service they rendered as soldiers in various American wars, and the idea that justice has to be brought to large numbers of valiant men and women has become a major theme of his efforts. It seems that at last the American government is beginning to hearken to pleas like his.

I do not have the figures at hand that apply to Canada, and if any of my readers has access to them, I shall be glad to share them in a future column. I suspect that, on the whole, Canada will not be greatly different from the United States. Prejudice against minorities is an invidious disease that knew and knows no borders, I would love to find out that I am wrong in this instance, and that Canada treated its minority soldiers with true equality.

Israel airing important new issues

As Ehud Barak put the finishing touches on his cabinet, speculation ran high, particularly with regard to the fate of Yossi Beilin and Shlomo Ben-Ami. Both of them had been contenders for the Labor leadership against Barak in 1997, and later, they won senior placement on the Labor list for the 1999 election. Beilin is the more seasoned politician of the two, but both he and Ben-Ami stand out as thoughtful, creative men who challenge prevailing wisdom.

Shira Herzog in Toronto

Ben-Ami coined the Israeli version of a social contract, arguing that the Labor party had to reach out to disaffected sectors in Israeli society from whom it had become alienated. Beilin, the architect of Oslo, has recently been in the forefront of the drive to extricate the IDF from Lebanon. Both men displayed an unwavering loyalty to Barak during the election campaign, and both expected senior portfolios – foreign affairs or finance.

Barak made cabinet appointments his way. Beilin was appointed minister of justice, and Ben-Ami was offered the internal security portfolio. Both were disappointed, but accepted the offers. Early indications are that Beilin, at least, will use the justice portfolio as creatively as he has used every political opportunity in the past. The intricate legalities of Israel's security affairs place him at the centre of the debates on peace and security as well as the rule of law.

In recent weeks, Beilin's voice has already been heard on two important, security-related issues. In taking a contrary position on both, Beilin has again spawned an intense reaction from the Opposition as well as members of the government.

The first issue relates to Israel's undertaking in the Wye agreement – to release Palestinian prisoners. Israel's position had traditionally ruled out release of prisoners with "blood on their hands," defined as those who had committed, assisted, or been members of terrorist cells that had engaged in acts of terror.

The defence establishment has recently proposed a loosening of this restriction. Beilin, for his part, questions it altogether, once four Israeli prime ministers have met and negotiated with Yasser Arafat and Abu Mazen. He proposes a new definition that would rule out release only of prisoners who committed acts of terror after Oslo, or who oppose the peace process.

The second issue cuts far deeper into the heart of Israeli democracy and its historic treatment of civil rights in the face of an overriding security imperative. For 50 years, his government had the authority to automatically declare an emergency situation. (The government consistently used this power, so that in effect, an emergency situation has prevailed since 1948.) This allowed it to override certain rights, such as the right to strike, but also to detain suspects in administrative detention, confiscate property, and a wide range of activities detailed in 14 laws that derive their standing from the emergency situation.

In 1996, the government's authority was limited, with the provision that it must bring the request for reinstating the emergency situation before the Knesset.

Now, Beilin has appointed a task force to review the validity of the emergency situation. He and others, like MK Dedi Zuker and the Association for Civil Rights in Israel, are questioning the range of powers, and the ease with which they can be invoked in a western democracy like Israel. While all of them acknowledge the need for the government to deal effectively with the threat of terrorism, they believe that in the past, the government has taken advantage of its power. For example, since 1983, the government has used emergency regulations against striking workers 30 times a year.

On the other hand, Zachi Hanegbi, minister of justice in the Netanyahu government, believes that the status quo should be maintained, even though it often creates difficult dilemmas for the judiciary. He maintains that terrorism will not decrease as the peace process moves forward, and therefore that the views of the security establishment should be listened to seriously in this debate.

Neither of these issues would have been publicly aired several years ago.

Simply raising them is yet another indication of the evolution of Israeli society and the strengthening of its civil components. Beilin and Zuker represent those Israeli voices who put the rights of the individual and the transparency of the democratic process first, and who question the blanket use of security as an overriding reason for questionable actions by government.

Other voices, even within the current government, are equally strong in arguing the other side. Israel is not a democracy like others, they claim, and the use of emergency powers, like the restriction on release of Palestinian prisoners, is an unavoidable element of the harsh Israeli reality. As Israel moves into its post-conflict era, this will be another cluster of important issues on its agenda.

Religion's role in post-modern society

The week in which I composed this column bore witness to the continuing power of religion as this supposedly modern century and post-modern decade draw to a close. First, the Kennedy tragedy showed us the value of religious belief and ritual in helping people overcome devastating private sorrow.

Morton Weinfeld in Montreal

Most of us watching the tragedy unfold could not help wondering how the two families, the Kennedys and the Bessettes, could deal with such losses. For the Kennedy family, the loss of a cherished son is just one more in a grotesque pattern of premature deaths. For the Bessette family, the loss of two children on the same day is equally unfathomable. What became apparent was that a strong religious faith played a key role in their coping with the tragedies.

Some people may wonder about the decision to cremate and bury at sea. But it is not our business, and well within the accepted bounds of Catholic religious law. By all accounts, both families are sustained by a strong religious faith, by strong and supportive ties to individual congregations, and by valued contacts with specific members of the clergy.

Jews and rabbinic leaders have long recognized the central role of religious ritual in easing the pain of death. The Jewish rituals are far more elaborate and long-lasting than Christian counterparts; they envelope the mourners in a nurturing embrace. Even highly assimilated Jews seem to revert to tradition. A Jewish funeral service, some form of shivah, and the saying of Kaddish and the observance of yahrzeit are common.

There is a second side to religion, namely, its power in the public square. Religion, broadly defined, can mobilize masses of people and threaten governments and undemocratic or unpopular regimes, for better or worse. We recall the role of the Catholic Church in toppling Poland's communist government. Radical Islam remains a destabilizing factor throughout the Middle East.

In China, the Falun Gong movement has emerged as a dangerous challenge to the power of the Communist party. As of this writing, the government in Beijing has arrested hundreds of leaders of the group and thousands of its members who were involved in public demonstrations.

Much remains unclear about the Falun Gong movement. It seems to be based on a mish-mash of influences: part yoga, part tai chi, part Buddhist and Taoist principles, part teachings of a mysterious and cult-like leader. The leader has apparently also confided to western reporters beliefs about alien invaders on earth, and has criticized rock and roll and homosexuality. Some observers are apprehensive that the movement has some features of a self-destructive cult.

So far the movement has not engaged in explicit anti-government agitation. Indeed, millions of Communist party members are also apparently members of Falun Gong, much to the dismay of the party leadership. What probably bothers the party most is the fact that the movement has a spiritual side to it, a source of authority which is outside the party. Philosophical materialism, a cornerstone of both traditional Maoism and the new Chinese capitalism, is threatened by any spiritual force.

The Chinese government faces a difficult dilemma. If it does not crack down on the Falun Gong, the movement may well grow, and the Chinese regime may well go the way of Imperial Rome, the Soviet Union, and Iran under the Shah. If it does try to crush the movement with a mixture of oppressive and co-optation, they may succeed in the short run. But they risk alienating the west and forcing the movement, allegedly numbering tens of millions, underground. A greater explosion may await in the future.

Social theorists throughout this century may not have agreed on much. But one thing most have assumed is that religion would decline as a force in the modern, scientific world, both in the private and in the public sphere. These apostles of modernization have been repeatedly proven wrong. For reasons which are not clearly understood, religion continues to meet the deeper personal needs of human beings while it also serves as a focus for social and political action. And of course, this is certainly true for Judaism.

The Kirshner File

A cornucopia of books...

Summer reading for the serious-minded reader...

Continually in flux, the Middle East is a complex region which all too often defies understanding. *Political Encyclopedia of the Middle East* (Continuum), edited by Abraham Sela of the Hebrew University, is just the book to guide you safely through the shoals of Mideast politics, economics and social developments. Some 560 entries, ranging in length from 50 to 20,000 words, provide an excellent overview of the area.

Sheldon Kirshner in Toronto

Amos Elon's evocative essays on Middle East affairs usually appear in the *New York Review of Books* and *The New Yorker*. If by chance you've missed these sparkling gems of prose and perception which illuminate the period and the personalities since the Six Day War, you can reflect upon them at your leisure in *A Blood-Dimmed Tide* (Columbia University Press).

Peaceful conflict resolution in Israel does not always prevail. From the Altalena incident to Yitzhak Rabin's assassination, violence has reared its ugly head. Ehud Sprinzak, a distinguished Hebrew University political scientist, studies this deadly phenomenon in a first-rate book, *Brother Against Brother* (The Free Press).

Economics is a dismal but necessary science, and in *A History of Middle East Economies* (Harvard University Press), Roger Owen and Sevket Pamuk soberly evaluate the economies of Arab states and Israel and speculate on their respective future.

The tension between modernism and theocracy in the Middle East is palpable. Fouad Ajami, in *The Dream Palaces of the Arabs* (Pantheon), draws on literature, politics and personal experience to paint a compelling picture of the Arab world today.

More often than not, Islam is misunderstood in the West. John Esposito's *Islam: The Straight Line* (Oxford University Press) explains this dynamic religion in historical context.

Nine years ago, Iraq invaded Kuwait, touching off an international crisis. *War in the Gulf: The Iraq-Kuwait Conflict and its Implications* (Oxford University Press), by Majid Khadduri and Edmund Ghareeb, delves deeply into the causes of that flashpoint.

What do the Dead Sea scrolls reveal? *The Mystery and Meaning of the Dead Sea Scrolls* (Random House), written by Hershel Shanks, provides some clear answers.

Should we regard the Bible as the absolute truth? Thomas Thompson, in *The Bible in History* (Random House), argues cogently that it is a body of literature which reflects the philosophic and moral views of its authors.

What lies at the heart of the biblical book of Genesis? David Rohl examines the sources and the archeological evidence and, in *Legend: The Genesis of Civilization* (Random House), concludes that they describe a sequence of real historical events.

Tales of raw human passion course through the Bible, and embarrassed rabbis have been known to conceal the plain language of the original Hebrew text behind euphemisms and unlikely interpretations. Jonathan Kirsch, in *The Harlot by the Side of the Road* (Random House), rips away the veil in a feat of provocative scholarship.

What is the Kabbalah? Neil Silberman, in *Heavenly Powers* (Grosset), argues that it is really a response to the tyranny of potentates and kings.

If you're struggling to learn Hebrew, you can do no better than to immerse yourself in *Hebrew in 10 Minutes a Day* (Raincoast), which turns the task into a creative and imaginative process.

Reference books are rarely dull. Two such volumes, *Encyclopedia of World History* (Oxford University Press) and *Oxford Paperback Encyclopedia*, prove the point beyond any doubt. *The New York Times 1999 Almanac* (Penguin) is also worth perusing.

Biographies can be revealing. *Cardozo* (Harvard University Press), by Andrew Kaufman, is one such bio. It's a workmanlike account of the great U.S. Supreme Court judge, Benjamin Cardozo. Ditto for Howard Greenberg's *Ben Shahn: An Artist's Life* (Random House), a bracing book about that splendid American painter and muralist.

Who has not heard and fallen under the spell of *Fanfare for the Common Man* or *Appalachian Spring*? The Russian-Jewish composer of these beloved pieces is expertly profiled in Howard Pollack's *Aaron Copland: The Life and Work of an Uncommon Man* (Fitzhenry & Whiteside).

Moses Mendelssohn, the 18th-century German-Jewish thinker, was a seminal figure. David Sorkin, in *Moses Mendelssohn and the Religious Enlightenment* (University of California Press), analyzes his contributions from a fresh perspective.

Edith Stein, the Jewish-born Carmelite nun who was canonized as a saint, is thoroughly scrutinized by Jewish and Christian scholars in a knowing book of essays entitled *Never Forget* (ICS Publications).

Claire Drainie Taylor, a Jewish girl from a small prairie town, had a successful career as an actress and radio dialogue writer. Her autobiography, *The Surprise of My Life* (Wilfrid Laurier University Press), is perky and poignant.

The Shubert brothers were synonymous with theatre in the United States. Foster Hirsch, in *The Boys from Syracuse* (Southern Illinois University Press), documents their rise from poverty to prominence.

Aficionados of general fiction and Yiddish will appreciate three works published by the University of Nebraska Press – *Contemporary Jewish Writing in Britain and Ireland*, *The Prairie Schooner: Anthology of Contemporary Jewish American Writing*, and *Anglish/Yinglish: Yiddish in American life and Literature*.

In *Blacks and Jews in Literary Conversation* (Cambridge University Press), Emily Budick intelligently reconstructs the mercurial relationship between Jews and African-Americans. And in his masterful *Trouble in Mind* (Random House), historian Leon Litwack casts an unerring eye on black pain, as exemplified by the Jim Crow laws which demeaned and exploited blacks in the 19th and 20th centuries.

The doleful place of the Ku Klux Klan in American society is traced by Wyn Craig Wade in *The Fiery Cross* (Oxford University Press). The fanatical right-wing fringe in the United States is profiled in *Danger: Extremism* (Anti-Defamation League). Worthwhile companion volumes are *The New Lexicon of Hate* (Simon Wiesenthal Centre), *The Racist Mind: Portraits of American Neo-Nazis and Klansmen* (Penguin) by Raphael Ezekiel, and *Women of the Far Right* (University of Chicago Press) by Glen Jeansonne. In *Beyond the Swastika* (Routledge), a thorough examination of neo-Nazism in Germany, Peter O'Brien contends that it is overstated.

Fascism is anti-Semitism's handmaiden. In *Fascist Italy and Nazi Germany* (Routledge), Alexander De Grand studies their similarities and differences. And in *Fascism, Past, Present and Future* (Oxford University Press), Walter Laqueur sheds considerable light on this chauvinistic ideology.

There are no shortage of books about the apotheosis of fascism, the Holocaust. *Reading the Holocaust* (Cambridge University Press), by Inga Clendinnen, explores it from the victims' and perpetrators' points of view. Lawrence Langer, in *Preempting the Holocaust* (Yale University Press), looks rigorously at the use of Holocaust themes in literature, memoirs, films and painting. Eric Rentschler, in *The Ministry of Illusion* (Harvard), authoritatively charts the course of popular cinema in Nazi Germany.

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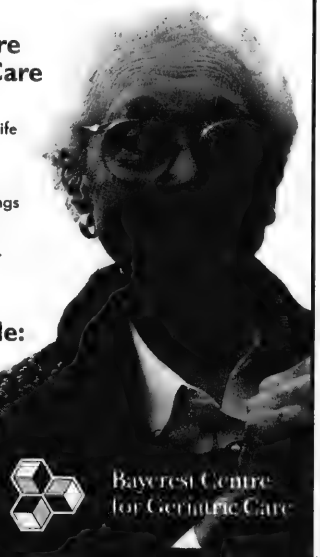
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Our growing problem

By RACHAEL TURKIENICZ

As the month of Elul approaches, we are reminded that we must begin our preparations for the High Holy Days.

During Elul it is customary to engage in prayer, study and self-assessment. The midrash states that on Rosh Hashanah each person and each nation is judged. During Elul we must not only assess ourselves as individuals, but also our contributions to our nation.

There are many activities that immediately come to mind; charitable events, issues of hospitality and education are usually at the forefront of community concerns.

Yet beyond these important issues lie other concerns that are equally important. If individuals perceive actions by their community that they consider wrong or misplaced, they have a responsibility to correct those actions. The first step toward this correction is honest community self-evaluation.

I recently had a conversation with some people who were bemoaning the rifts occurring between different branches of Judaism. These people were singling out one branch of Judaism and accusing it of name-calling and insulting another branch.

I told them how sad it was that all groups of Judaism are engaged in this. They agreed, but proceeded to state that their particular branch did not do this. In other words, they could see the problem but could not see all the contributors. This inability to self-assess on a community level inevitably leads to inaction and prolongs the problem.

A time for self assessment

On Rosh Hashanah we will have to explain to God how we as a nation continue to pull ourselves apart. What will we say to justify that we cannot find a way to pray with each other? How can we explain that to prove some point of authority, we cannot find a way to eat together?

How do we account for the fact that although we are encouraged to learn together, no one is encouraged to teach such a class? We are so tangled in a net of justifying who is right and who is wrong that we have deadlocked the Judaic process of growth.

As parents, we know that disputes among our children cannot always be solved based on right and wrong. Often parents cannot even discern who is right or wrong. And yet, we never lose sight of the goal of keeping peace in the home, sometimes at the expense of right and wrong.

Ironically, as Jewish adults, we don't transfer that skill to the problems of Jewish unity.

Many people are bothered by the realities of what they see in the nation, Israel. Unfortunately, many of these same people are confused or afraid to take action because they fear singling themselves out. Yet to do nothing is to contravene everyone's understanding of Torah.

We are all aware of the problems, we have all blamed the other groups. Each branch has loudly asserted its position and its right to hold that position – and the problem grows.

Perhaps this Elul it is time for each person to assess what they can do about the problem beyond simply discussing and acknowledging it.

The midrash tells of the rivers of the world asking the great Euphrates, "Why do you not make your voice more audible?"

The Euphrates responded: "I don't need to – my deeds speak for me."

Internet matchmaking

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

Last week we began to look at dating and love on the Jewish Highway. This week we get down to business.

There are probably hundreds of sites on the Internet trying to do the work that Shalom Aleichem's Yente did all on her own. Some of these use the services of real-life matchmakers. Others have you do the work. For example, there is YidYour Ideal Date. **[http://www.yid.com]** After registering and providing a bio, you can search the database of Jewish singles by sex, city, age and religiosity. When someone catches your eye, you can strike up a conversation by sending off an anonymous e-mail.

On the other hand, Rabbi Yeheskel and Pearl Lebovic believe in a more personal touch. They apply their "God-given ability" to make sound judgments in assessing mutual compatibility and have personally interviewed a majority of the 7,000 registrants in their Likrat Shiduch database **[http://www.florida.com/shiduch/]**.

The folks at Jewish Singles Connection are trying to create a virtual community for Jewish singles around the world **[http://www.thejewishpeople.org/jsc/]**. They will give you space where you can create your own bio along with a photo, and even set up a link to your home page so that browsers can get to know the real you. This service is free.

One of the most fascinating matchmakers I came across was Shmuel Landau who runs the Orthodox Union's Jewish Deaf Singles Registry **[http://www.ou.org/oupr/ourwaymatchmaking.htm]**. Apparently, today's high intermarriage rate among Jews is even higher among Jewish deaf people.

"The Jewish deaf person is constantly confronted with the question, 'Am I Jewish or deaf first?' Many choose the latter." Landau, who is deaf himself, spends at least 15 hours every week sorting through letters and counselling deaf singles. This matchmaker has made 14 matches so far.

You can find *many* other Jewish singles' sites at Maven **[http://www.maven.co.il/subjects.asp?S=207]**, Zipple **[http://www.zipple.com/singles/links.html]** and Hareshima **[http://www.hareshima.co.il/Organizations/dating.asp]**. Some of these sites are free. Others require a fee.

Still need help finding your match? Fran Greene is willing to lend some advice. Fran is a singles and relationship counsellor **[http://www.jcn18.com/scripts/jcn18/paper/Index.asp?ColumnID=117]**. Her online articles include How to Get a Date, Flirting Tips from the Expert, and the Myths and Realities of Personal Ads. She believes that if you are shy or busy, a properly worded personal ad can work for you.

So, do these ads kindle a flame in you? These personal ads have apparently appeared in Israeli and Jewish papers **[http://members.rotfl.com/cookie4/cabana.html]**.

• Couch potato latke, in search of the right applesauce. Let's try it for eight days. Who knows?

• Sincere rabbinical student, 27. Enjoys Yom Kippur, Tisha b'Av, Taanis Esther, Tzom Gedaliah. Seeks companion for living life in the "fast" lane.

• Desperately seeking shmoozing! Retired senior citizen desires female companion 70 for kvetching, kvelling, and krechtzing.

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a Toronto-based television producer who writes, lectures and teaches about the Jewish Internet. He can be contacted at [highway@home.com].

Jewish Life

JRCC BRIT MILAH

Alex Karlin recently had his brit milah at the Jewish Russian Community Centre. More than 3,000 men to date have had a brit milah at the centre. From left, Yosso Reinitz, Alex Lakher, Alex Karlin and mohel Rabbi Ytzhok Fischer.

Immigration up in smaller centres

By MICHAEL BRIKS

For the second year, immigration to smaller Jewish communities in Canada is on the rise.

Based upon caseload statistics supplied by Jewish Immigrant Aid Services' national service delivery partners across Canada, the Jewish Community of Ottawa experienced a 61 percent increase in the number of its immigrant families over the past year, while Winnipeg, Calgary and Edmonton reported five percent, 17 percent and 12 percent increases respectively.

Jewish newcomer families to Vancouver slipped 18 percent from last year, but the figure remains substantially high overall at 240 new families reported for the 1998-99 fiscal year. The statistics identify only those newcomer families who are actually known to Jewish family service agencies in smaller communities.

What accounts for the increase in numbers? There are a number of possibilities. Traditionally, new immigrant families are drawn to smaller communities for the same reasons as they are drawn to larger Jewish communities – in order to be reunited with loved ones, such as parents, children, brothers or sisters. Employment opportunities, especially in today's job market, serve as magnets for skilled and highly motivated Jewish newcomers, as well.

In addition, a number of provinces, such as Manitoba, have signed with the federal government what have become commonly known as provincial nominee agreements.

In the case of Manitoba, this agreement allows the province to recruit, screen and nominate prospective immigrants who have the skills to fill specific Manitoba labor market demands and contribute to Manitoba's industrial and economic growth. High demand occupations for Manitoba currently include accountants, aerospace industry technicians, computer programmers and computer systems analysts. Highly skilled early childhood educators and daycare managers are also in need!

Guest Voices

There are several requirements of those immigrants wishing to be nominated to the program, including qualifying for an immigrant visa through Citizenship and Immigration Canada and the procurement of a written offer of employment from an employer in Manitoba, which must comply with the criteria determined by Manitoba's immigrant promotion and recruitment branch. But overall, the nominee program provides a reasonable incentive for a skilled and motivated newcomer to ponder a future in a smaller Jewish urban centre, even if it is on the prairies.

A number of Jewish immigrants naturally gravitate towards smaller communities because of familiarity with such settings in their country of origin, or because they believe such places are more cordial and provide a safer environment for their children than the larger metropolitan areas in the country.

Equally, there is a perception that the cost of living is relatively lower in smaller cities and thus the dollar stretches farther – always an important consideration for the immigrant newcomer.

Fear of depersonalization and fierce competition for scarce resources in larger areas may readily be added to our list of reasons.

An article in the *Globe and Mail* (May 24), entitled *Immigrants Face Underemployment in Toronto*, identified that in that metropolitan area, the unemployment rate for Canadian-born men and women in 1996 was six percent. Among recent immigrants, it was 14 percent for men and 21 percent for women. The failure to integrate skilled immigrants, the article further stated, is a serious issue in Toronto.

A relatively new phenomenon, that of active recruitment of potential newcomers to smaller Jewish centres, is also having an impact upon immigration settlement activity in Canada. Several Jewish communities outside the bustling urban areas of Toronto, Montreal and Vancouver have been sadly witnessing a decline in their numbers, particularly among university-age community members who seek higher education elsewhere. Some of those communities have set about, with diligence and determination, to rejuvenate, culturally enrich and increase populations through marketing their cities to potential Jewish immigrants abroad.

Both Windsor and Winnipeg, as examples, have targeted South American sites, namely Sao Paulo and Buenos Aires, to disseminate information about their communities. Their respective agendas are clearly to attract young, professional, synagogue affiliated families, disgruntled with their current political and economic plight, eager for a life of religious freedom and financial opportunities in Canada. In essence, the vision of a better life for themselves and their children in places where Jewish people are reaching out and truly care is not such a bad deal!

Having lived in friendly Manitoba for six years, and knowing the vibrant city of Windsor as I do, I can readily appreciate the lure of the smaller Jewish community for those coming to Canada from abroad.

Michael Briks is the executive vice-president of Jewish Immigrant Aid Services of Canada.

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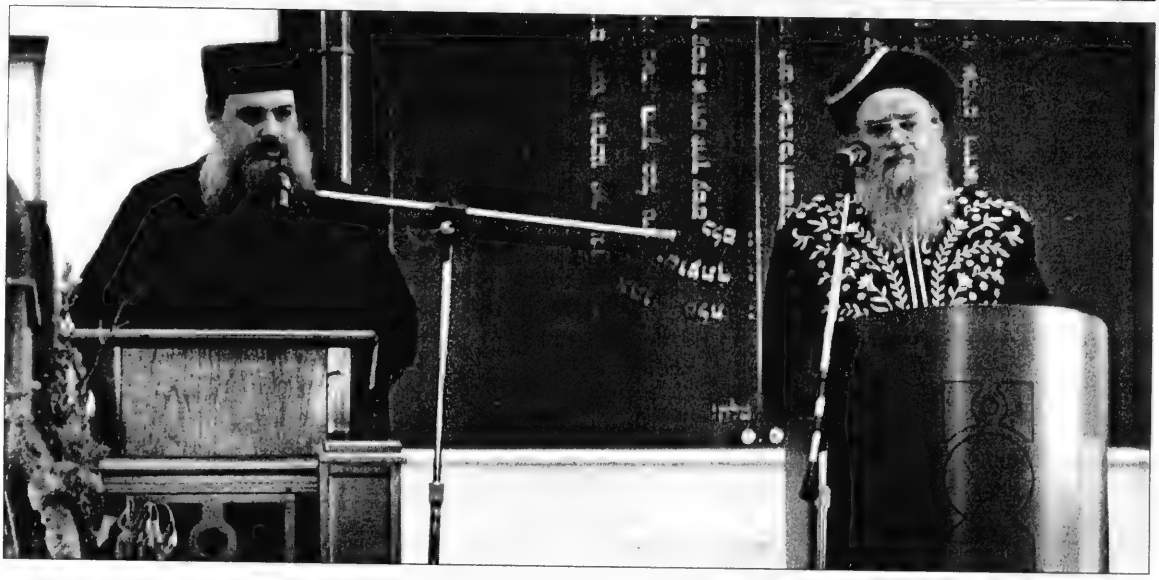

RECAPTURING SCENES OF A SPECIAL VISIT

Last year, the Rishon LeZion, Eliahu Bakshi-Doron, Chief Sephardi Rabbi of Israel, top left, visited the Greater Toronto Area. Here he is seen addressing the public at the Abir Yaakob Synagogue in Thornhill with Rabbi Amram Assayag, the Chief Rabbi of Abir Yaakob and the Sephardic Kehila Centre in Thornhill. [Photos by Miller]

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Beth Tzedec (C)	1700 Bathurst St. (416) 781-3511	6:00 PM	8:45 AM	9:00 AM	7:45 AM	6:00 PM
B'nai Torah (O)	465 Patricia Ave. (416) 226-3700	7:00 PM	8:45 AM	7:00 & 8:00 AM	Mon. Thurs. 6:45, 7:10 Tues. Wed. Fri. 7:00, 7:20	8:15 PM
Chabad Lubavitch Community Centre (O)	770 Chabad Gate (905) 731-7000	7:00 PM	9:30 AM	8:00 & 9:00 AM	Mon. Thurs. 6:50, 7:30 Tues. Wed. Fri. 7:00, 7:30	8:15 PM
Clanton Park Synagogue (O)	11 Lowesmoor Ave. (416)633-4193	7:00 PM	9:00 AM	7:30 AM & 8:15 AM	Mon. Thurs. 6:50, 7:15 Tues. Wed. Fri. 7:00, 7:25	8:15 PM
Darchei Noam (Rec.)	15 Hove St. (416) 638-4783	----------	10:00 AM	----------	----------	----------
Pride of Israel (C)	59 Lissom Cres. (416) 226-0111	7:00 PM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	7:30 & 8:30 AM -	7:00 PM
Shomrei Shabbos (O)	583 Glengrove Ave. W (416) 787-1631	7:00 PM	9:15 AM	7:30 & 8:30 AM	6:45 & 7:30 AM	8:15 PM
Solel Congregation (R)	2399 Folkway Dr. (905) 820-5915	7:30 PM	10:00 AM	----------	Tuesday 7:00 AM	----------
Temple Sinai (R)	210 Wilson Ave. (416) 487-4161	8:15 PM	10:00 AM	9:30 AM	7:30 AM	----------

This is not a comprehensive listing of the synagogues in the Greater Toronto area. The information is provided by the Vaad Harabonim of Toronto and the Toronto Board of Rabbis. The Vaad and the Board will periodically revise the listings. For statutory holidays, please call the Synagogue for any changes in times.

Greater Toronto Area

Composer's recent work features Jewish themes

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to the CJN

Russian-born Toronto composer Yefim Adler is seen with (left) Noreen Green, artistic director and conductor of the Los Angeles Jewish Symphony Orchestra and Canadian Consul General Kim Campbell in Los Angeles.

TORONTO — Yefim Adler, born in Moscow in 1937, arrived in Canada in 1990, bringing little with him except his reputation as a world renowned composer/musician/conductor, and his passion for writing music.

Until he arrived in Canada, Adler had not written music with a Jewish theme. "I always felt that I had a Jewish soul although I did not live as a Jew. You knew you were a Jew even though no one ever mentioned our Jewishness."

He says that things changed in Russia after the Yom Kippur War when Jews were blamed for attacking the Arabs. "That's when I and other Jews began to feel the discrimination and recognized the falsified news."

Adler, who graduated from the Odessa State Conservatoire as a musicologist, received a degree in composition from the Moscow State Gnessin's Music Academy.

Throughout his career in Russia, he wrote two symphonies, a violin concerto, vocal and instrumental compositions for musical theatre, music for children, choral compositions, and music for films, TV and radio.

His walls are filled with clippings and posters of his performances, and his bookshelves hold numerous volumes of his sheet music. He has performed extensively in Russia, East Germany, Poland, Czechoslovakia and Bulgaria.

In 1989, just before leaving Russia, his major composition, *Concerto for Violin and Orchestra,* was premiered at the Grand Hall of the Moscow Conservatoire.

It was after his two sons moved to Toronto that Efim and his wife Nadia, a professional pianist, decided to follow. They arrived in Canada with only two suitcases.

"Our arrival in Canada was a difficult time, but three people changed our lives – Shirley Hanick of the Jewish Immigrant Aid Services of Canada (JIAS), Cantor Benjamin Maissner of Holy Blossom Temple and the Canadian composer/conductor, Louis Applebaum, who was so helpful in my professional life."

"We didn't even have a chair to sit on or any cutlery, but thanks to Shirley, who has become a close friend, we received furniture, dishes, cutlery and some financial help.

"Then she brought us to Holy Blossom and introduced us to Cantor Maissner. From then on, our life became absolutely different. We will always be grateful to her and to JIAS."

Maissner raised $10,000 for the Adlers, hired Nadia as the choir accompanist and commissioned Yefim to write and arrange some music for a special holiday service.

"Cantor Maissner introduced me to Jewish music. He gave me lots of tapes and scores of Jewish music, and he became my mentor. I found new inspiration in Jewish liturgical music and found the Jewish soul that was really always there."

In 1992, Holy Blossom Temple presented a musical event, The Russian-Jewish Connection, which featured Adler's works performed by Russian violinist Victor Danchenko and other world class performers.

Recently, for JIAS' 75th anniversary, Adler was commissioned to create a work, *Jewish Dances*, which was performed at the Ford Centre, and in Moscow where he was the guest of honor at the Moscow International Festival of Contemporary Music.

Published in Moscow by a major publishing house, Adler dedicated the piece to "The Jewish People, who have given in the past and continue to give their talent, energy and strength for the welfare of many nations and states."

A Russian musical magazine, *Musical Life*, recently wrote, "...the composer has created bright concert pieces, attracting with their temperament and masterly orchestration. The author's brilliant techniques of orchestral palette recall the traditions of Russian virtuosos of the orchestra: Rimsky-Korsakov and Stravinsky."

Among his recent compositions are, *Your God, Your Glory, Kol Kochve Voker*, a new arrangement of Ladino Folk Songs and cantorial and liturgical music.

In Russia, Adler says, composers who belonged to the Union of Soviet Composers were privileged.

"We were treated differently than other Jews in the community. I lived in a protective environment. Musicians and composers lived in a state within a state. Now, that no longer exists in Russia. The privileged life of a composer is gone, and many composers are in terrible shape and dying of hunger – they have no work. Although I love Canada, it is not a place to be an artist and earn a living."

"On one side, I am very happy to be here and on the other side, I suffer as many others do, as a composer."

In April, his composition, *Three Pieces for Orchestra*, inspired by the paintings of Russian-born Jewish artist, Marc Chagall, was performed in Los Angeles by the Los Angeles Jewish Symphony Orchestra at the city's University Synagogue as part of a celebration of Music of Canadian Jewish Composers.

Along with other Canadian composers, he was a guest at a concert and reception at the official residence of the Canadian Consul General in Los Angeles, Kim Cambell "who was the prime minister when my wife and I became Canadian citizens." He adds that he had no difficulty communicating with Campbell "because she speaks Russian fluently."

Adler says that "one of my greatest joys in life was to marry my wife of 30 years in a Jewish ceremony at Holy Blossom Temple, in February 1998, surrounded by my family and friends. And for the future, my dream is to be able to continue writing music – the other love of my life."

Producer's Quest examines life's big issues

JOSEPH SERGE
Arts editor

TORONTO — Chances are if you ever watch PBS during its pledge weeks you've seen the Quest series; a series of programs dealing with the New Age mantra of making our lives better physically and spiritually.

Produced and directed by Toronto resident Lili Fournier, the series Quest for Life and Quest for Love also ran on TV Ontario.

It features interviews with some of today's most influential thinkers on the meaning of life including John Gray *Men are from Mars, Women are From Venus*; Barbara Deangelis *Real Moments*; Deepak Chopra *A Path to Love*; Thomas Moore *Soulmates,* Dr. Bernie Siegel *Love, Medicine and Miracles* and many more.

These philosophers discuss some of the more important parts of our lives. The first quest in the Quest For Life series, for example, dealt with discovering one's human potential – how to improve your self-worth; how to deal with fear and pain and how to reverse aging and improve health.

"I wanted to create a series that will inspire people to find the courage to persevere," Fournier said recently, "and not give in to people's opinions of yourself."

One of the best things about this series is it isn't a hard-sell "10 ways to change your life" infomercial. The guests at times contradict each other which allows the viewer to pick and choose a philosophy that best appeals to him or her.

As the first Quest discusses, people are often concerned with their image – how they look to other people and not to themselves. This series won the Best Motivational TV Program award at the Houston WorldFest Film Festival.

Following its run on PBS which was "hugely popular" (in December it was the second highest pledge program), Fournier followed it up with another trilogy, Quest For Love, which deals with powerful insights to love and relationships.

Again, she managed to tap into the thoughts of the leading thinkers on the subject including Erica Jong. "I consider it a real privilege to get these people to address the deepest things in our lives," Fournier said.

The Quest For Love series deals with love and passion, not just the romantic notion of love. "It explores the various forms of ecstasy. You need passion in life to have sexual passion."

A fourth part in this series, Light My Fire, which deals with lasting passion and intimacy in an enduring relationship, is scheduled to air this fall.

If you haven't seen the series yet, and don't want to wait till the next pledge break, you can check out the website at:www.quest-forlife.com

jewish toronto

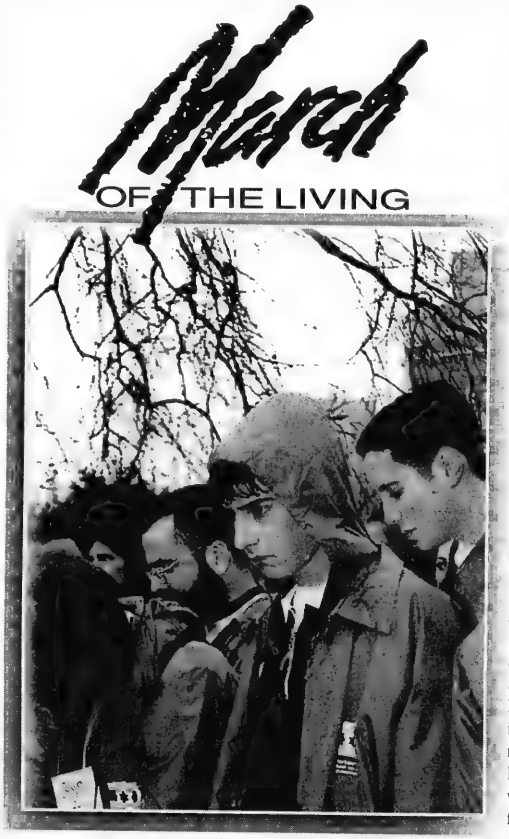
Toronto Societies Kick Off March Fund

Toronto's Societies have helped to kick start UJA Federation's March of the Living Endowment Fund, in order to send more teenagers on an experience which many participants describe as "life altering." UJA Federation's Societies Cabinet is bolstering an overall effort to increase subsidies and the number of young people participating in the program.

The March of the Living takes over 300 Canadian teens to Poland and Israel where they join thousands of others from around the world who march from Auschwitz to Birkenau concentration camps before travelling to Israel.

"The March has a uniqueness that gives our children and grandchildren an opportunity to learn about our past and then face the miracle of Israel," says Michael Rosenberg, who co-chairs the Societies Cabinet with Ralph Snow.

"As a Holocaust survivor and grandfather of a young man who participated in the March of the Living a year ago, I can attest to the tremendous effect the program has on our youth," adds Snow. "My grandson became more sensitive and closer to his grandparents than ever before. For members of the Societies, it is this connection to our Jewish future that makes this Endowment Fund so important."



For Holocaust child survivor and March of the Living chaperone, Anita Ekstein, the March is more than an event - it's an obligation. "I think those of us (survivors) who are alive, have a responsibility to talk about it with young people, if they're able to, because who else will? I guess that's why I do it. I feel I have a responsibility to those who cannot speak for themselves... for those millions of children who didn't make it....and I did."

During this past year, Endowment Fund donations have poured in from many Societies, including: Chmielnicker, Farband of Lithuanian Jews, Keltzer, Ostrovtzer Independent Benefit, Pultusker, Stashiver Young Men & Ladies, Wierzbnicker Friendly Mutual Benefit, and Zaglembier, in addition to the B'nai Brith Raoul Wallenberg Lodge.

Societies were formed around the turn of the century when thousands of destitute immigrant Jews arrived in North America with only the clothing on their backs. In addition, Societies served a social and cultural role, and as they prospered, were also dedicated to special projects within the Jewish community.

Today, the Societies are very active in UJA Federation fundraising. Many community facilities in Israel were built with their generous financial assistance.

For more information on the March of the Living Endowment Fund please call Carol Kassel at (416) 631-5674.

Thank You To These Generous Organizations

During this past year, the March of the Living Endowment Fund has received donations from:

- **Chmielnicker Society**
- **Farband of Lithuanian Jews Society**
- **Keltzer Society**
- **Ostrovtzer Independent Benefit Society**
- **Pultusker Society**
- **Stashiver Young Men & Ladies Society**
- **Wierzbnicker Friendly Mutual Benefit Society**
- **Zaglembier Society**
- **B'nai Brith Raoul Wallenberg Lodge**

Ostrovtzer Society: (l-r) Milton Cohen, Al Speisman and Harvey Silver.

Zaglembier Ladies: (top left) Rose Besser and Frances Iskov. (bottom left) Regina Eisenstein and Regina Goldfinger.

(Second from left) Philip Platt and Percy Goodman of the Keltzer Society are flanked by Marc Bookbinder and Fahima Meranda

Wierzbnicker Friendly Society: (l-r) Martin Baranek, Stephen Werger, Abe Zukerman, Howard Chandler and Howard Kleinberg.

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Campaign 2000 Community Launch

Blitzer Headlines Program

CNN's Senior White House Correspondent, Wolf Blitzer, will be the keynote speaker at the UJA Federation Campaign 2000 Community Launch, August 30.

Blitzer, an internationally respected journalist, has covered major breaking stories world wide for over two decades. In 1994, he was cited by the *American Journalism Review* as the overwhelming choice of readers for providing the "best network coverage of the Clinton administration." In 1996, Blitzer won an Emmy Award for his coverage of the Oklahoma City bombing, and, as CNN's Pentagon Correspondent, he was among a team of reporters who received the prestigious Golden Cable ACE Award for Gulf War reporting. Blitzer's expertise in Middle Eastern issues was honed as the Washington correspondent for *The Jerusalem Post*.

In a telephone interview with *jewish toronto*, Blitzer, who interviewed Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak during his recent visit to the U.S., says top Clinton administration officials are very "excited and upbeat" about Middle East peace prospects. "They think there's a real opportunity not only to finalize a deal with the Palestinians, but also to get negotiations off the ground with the Syrians."

Wolf Blitzer headlines the Campaign 2000 Community Launch.

Also on the program at the Sheraton Centre is "Changing Lives," a mini-documentary by Emmy Award-winning producer, Simcha Jacobovici.

Making her debut Canadian appearance at the Launch will be Israeli performer, Marina Faingold, who began her career as a celebrated child singer. Faingold has performed for Jewish communities in the U.S., and starred in the Israeli production of *West Side Story*. She recently sang at an international song festival in Vitbsk, Russia.

"We want to combine some intellectual stimulation, in addition to providing *ruach* and excitement," says Ronald Appleby, who is co-chairing the Launch with Fran Sonshine.

Advance tickets ($18) for the Campaign 2000 Community Launch can be obtained by calling (416) 631- 5700. They're also available at the door for $20. A kosher dessert reception follows the evening program.

Jill Reitman and her son enjoying last year's Campaign Launch. Photo: Big Dipper Communications

Refugees Return Home

The Jewish Agency for Israel (JAFI) has made it possible for 145 of 217 Kosovo refugees who came to Israel in recent months to return to their homeland. Last week, JAFI flew the departing guests to Macedonia, before they were bused to Kosovo. Seventy-two of the Kosovo refugees plan to stay in Israel until the end of the six-month period granted them by the Government of Israel, which ends in October.

The JAFI campaign to help Kosovo refugees – many of them ethnic Albanians - began during Passover when the Jewish Agency brought the first group of 177 to Israel's Kibbutz Ma'agan Michael. A second contingent of 98 individuals, who arrived a few weeks later, was housed on Kibbutz K'ramim. During their stay, two *sabras* were born one at each of the kibbutzim - and JAFI organized a variety of cultural and social activities for the refugees. They visited various sites throughout the country, worked on a kibbutz, and studied Hebrew.

Each family returning to Kosovo will receive a cash allotment to help with their resettlement, because their homes were destroyed or looted. The funds will come from money collected during the Kosovo refugee relief campaign.

Relief supplies brought to the Kosovar refugees, organized by the Jewish Agency.

jewish toronto

Campaign 2000 Heading for Fifty

UJA Federation's upcoming Campaign 2000 is striving to fund even more new and expanded services than last year for Jews in need. Last year's Campaign for Fifty raised a record $40.5 million, providing additional dollars for a long list of priorities. Campaign 2000 continues the drive to raise $50 million annually by 2001 to assist the vulnerable, strengthen Jewish identity, and rescue Jews in danger.

"With longer life spans and reduced government support, the number of vulnerable Jews is on the rise," says Mel Wolfond, who is co-chairing Campaign 2000 with David Engel. Increased campaign contributions will be allocated to, among other programs, respite services for family caregivers, increased rental and transportation subsidies for the poor, enlarged job preparation and placement programs for Jews receiving government assistance and a residence for Jews with mental illness.

Mel Wolfond (l) and David Engel
Photo: Signature Photography

"Strengthening Jewish values by nurturing Jewish roots," is another important priority, according to Engel. Additional campaign 2000 funds will enable more poor children and those with special needs to experience Jewish summer camps, expand programs for Jewish university students, provide special Shabbat weekends for adults with developmental disabilities and create opportunities for the hearing impaired to become more involved in Jewish life.

New campaign donations will also allow the Jewish Agency, funded by the worldwide UJA Federation network, to continue flights to Israel for 3,500 Ethiopian Jews from the remote region of Quara. The Jewish Agency is also anticipating a large increase in aliyah (60,000 total) from Jews of the Former Soviet Union who face rising anti-Semitism and economic collapse.

Rescuing Ethiopian Jews is a priority of Campaign 2000.

***jewish toronto**, a supplement of the Canadian Jewish News, is sponsored and produced by UJA Federation. Jewish Toronto Website: www.jewishtoronto.net*

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

CANADIAN SOCIETY FOR YAD VASHEM
News Flash
ISRAEL MISSION
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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Monday, Aug. 9, is deadline for Aug. 19 issue, and Monday, Aug. 16, is deadline for Aug. 26. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Friday, Aug. 6

CARLEBACH STYLE

Start off Shabbat at the service "Carlebach" style with the tunes that have rocked the modern Jewish world, 7:15 p.m. at the Village Shul, 1072 Eglinton Ave. W. **Marni** 905-764-1818, ext. 225.

Sunday, Aug. 8

CHANUKAH IN AUGUST

Discovery Children's Museum at the Bathurst Jewish Centre, presents Chanukah in August! Join in a Maccabee scavenger hunt, make delicious treats, create a shamash candle, listen to Chanukah music and play dreidel games, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free with $2 Museum admission. 636-1880, ext. 456.

CAPE BRETON CLUB

All Maritimers are invited to the Cape Breton Jewish Club picnic 11 a.m., Earl Bales Park. Bring your lunch, your family and your lantzmen. **Sam Newman** 782-9850.

BOOK DISCUSSION

The Feminist Book Discussion Group of the North York chapter, Older Women's Network, discusses *A Recipe for Bees* by **Gail Anderson-Dargatz**, 2 p.m., North York Community Centre, 505 Lawrence Ave. W. (basement). **Ruth Goldsmith** 782-6414.

JEWISH STORYTELLING

Jewish Storytelling on the Danforth, hosted by **Alec Gelcer** Come listen, come tell. All welcome. Riverdale Jewish Community Centre, 179A Danforth Ave., 7:30 p.m. $4. 699-8914.

Tuesday, Aug. 10

SOVIET YIDDISH WRITERS

The Committee for Yiddish, UJA-Federation, and the Kultur Gezellshaft evening in memory of the Soviet Yiddish writers murdered by Stalin in 1952, 8 p.m., Beth Tzedec Synagogue. Program participants: poet **Simcha Simchovitch**; **Gerry Kane,** chair of the National Committee for Yiddish, Canadian Jewish Congress; special guest speaker **Gennady Dertkin**, editor-in-chief of the Russian weekly, the *Yonge Street Review*; **Hindi Abelson**; **David Newman**; **Miriam Eskin.** Admission is free and the public is invited.

Thursday, Aug. 12

THE JEWISH MOSAIC

Forest Hill Place series, The Jewish Mosaic: Reflections of Other Cultures, continues with Reflections of China with **Dolly Bell,** 2 p.m., 645 Castlefield Ave. Reserve. **Marlene** or **Susan** 785-1511.

And What Else Is New

ISRAEL SCOUT CARAVAN

Israel Scout Friendship Caravan is coming to Hamilton and Toronto. The caravan, composed of 10 Israeli teenagers who bring a message of friendship, culture and peace from Israel through song and dance, performs in Hamilton Aug. 18 at 7:30 p.m. at Shalom Village, and in Toronto Aug. 19 at 7:30 p.m. at Mel Lastman Square. The visit is sponsored by the Jewish Advisory Committee on Scouting and Guiding, UJA Federation Canada, and UJA Federation of Hamilton-Wentworth.

SHOE MUSEUM TOUR

Adath Sholom Sisterhood is taking a tour of the Bata Shoe Museum Tuesday, Aug. 17, 2:30 p.m. Special exhibit: All About American Shoes – Levine Shoes. $6 adults, $4 seniors and students. Take subway to St. George station. Reserve. **Bunnie Gross** 633-9691

VOLUNTEER AT ASHKENAZ

Festival of New Yiddish Culture needs you! Volunteers required to assist with administration and promotion, transportation, billeting visiting artists, parade and site decor preparation, as well as many on-site opportunities. Volunteer orientations 7 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 11, at Bloor JCC and Monday, Aug. 16, at Earl Bales Park. 410-9851.

TENNIS FAMILY DAY

Families are invited, free of charge, for morning and evening sessions of tennis at Canada's international women's tennis championships on Monday, Aug. 16, at the National Tennis Centre at York University. Catch world-class tennis action and participate in activities planned specifically for Lever 2000 Family Day.

Pick up tickets, on a first-come,

Continued on page 19

Sam says it's time to live a little!

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Sam Ruth
Former CEO, Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care

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Sam Ruth - Member, Two Neptune Drive Development Committee

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What's New

Continued from page 18

first-served basis, at the front gate, starting at 9:30 a.m. for the matinee session and 5 p.m. for the evening session. Help support the Boys and Girls Clubs of Canada by bringing new or previously enjoyed sports equipment. 665-9777, ext. 285.

SINGLES SCENE

For 30-50 age group, Midland Boat Cruise, 30,000 Islands, Sunday, Aug. 15. Leaves Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue 8:30 a.m., returns 6 p.m. $32 includes deluxe coach and snacks. Must be prepaid by Wednesday, Aug. 11. Call 633-3838 to reserve. For additional information, call **Rhonda** 905-731-9441.

FOR SENIORS

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Casino Rama Aug. 11 and 25; barbecue party Aug. 15, 2-4 p.m.; community garage sale and flea market Aug. 22; ballroom dancing Thursday mornings 10 a.m. 395-7881.

LZA Seniors Club is taking registration for Miami Trip 2000. Limited seats available for four and six weeks. For information/registration **Libby** 782-2059 or **Shelagh** 250-1234. Ladies Folkdancing class Thursdays 1:30 p.m and Cultural Discussion Group Tuesdays 10 a.m. in the Borochov Cultural Centre, 272 Codsell Ave. Centre is open for socializing Monday to Friday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: Aug. 25, morning cruise, matinee performance of *Move Over Mrs. Markham* at Gryphon Theatre; Oct. 12, *West Side Story* at Stratford. **Lena** 785-5773. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Aug. 5, lecture on Jerusalem by **David Shalom**; Aug. 12, bingo; Aug. 19, guest speaker **Pearl Gladman**, national director, Field Services, B'nai Brith; Aug. 26, video. **Jerry Bengall**, president, 905-707-7334 or **Malka Colla**, chair of social committee, 630-5771.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Therapeutic Touch – **Florence Baum**, nurse, Therapeutic Touch practitioner, will be available to provide Therapeutic Touch treatments, Tuesday, Aug. 10, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Parkinson's Support Group session, Stretch Your Mind, Tuesday, Aug. 10, 1:15-2:15 p.m.

Irving Naftolin is giving a ballroom dance lecture Thursday, Aug. 12, 10 a.m.

Israeli Club Etrog: Do you speak Hebrew? Join club members every Tuesday at 7 p.m. for movies, lectures, dances, sing-alongs, bingo, picnics. Aug. 10 is a lecture. **Anna** ext. 110.

Movie, *Sergeant Bilko*, Sunday, Aug. 8, 2:30 p.m.

WAGMAN CENTRE

Wagman Centre, 55 Ameer Ave. 785-2500.

Niagara Parks Butterfly Conservatory, Tuesday, Aug. 17 and Thursday, Aug. 19. Bus leaves 10 a.m., returns 5 p.m. Wagman Centre members and Terrace residents $10, non-members/guests $15. Reserve. Bring your own picnic lunch. **Mara Swartz, ext. 2275** or **Andrea Domonkos** ext. 2299.

Wellness Education Group presents Lipreading and Other Ways to Improve Communication, Wednesday, Aug. 18, 1:30-2:30 p.m. Presenter **Mary Beth Jennings**, audiologist, Canadian Hearing Society. Register ext. 2267. $2 guests paid at door.

Lunch and Learn, fourth session of Challenges of Successful Aging, Tuesday, Aug. 31, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. $3 members, $6 non-members. Kosher dairy lunch served. Reserve at Wagman Service Desk. **Mara**.

Annual general meeting Thursday, Sept. 2, 1-4:30 p.m. Agenda includes guest speakers, new constitution, new Council representatives. Register at Wagman Service Desk. **Mara**.

Roof Top Garden hours : Mondays 9:45-11:15 a.m.; Tuesdays 2:30-3 p.m.; Wednesdays 9:45-11:15 a.m.; Fridays 9:30-11 a.m.

For Stroke Recovery Group, Tuesdays 1-2:30 p.m. **Felicity Lukace** ext. 3573.

Creative Writing group, Mondays 10 a.m. to noon. **Mara**.

Library is open Monday through Thursday, 1-3 p.m. Large print books in English, Hebrew, Yiddish, Hungarian, also talking books. **Kathy Gerber** ext. 2231.

Music Appreciation Tuesdays 2-3 p.m.. For Wagman members only. **Tracey Sanford** ext. 2273.

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.

Summer on the Roof programs:

Hu-Tsa-Tsa Klezmer Music, Thursday, Aug. 12, 8-10:30 p.m. Members $5, non-members $8.

Come help recognize the volunteers featuring Take 3 Plus 1, Thursday, Aug. 19, 7-9:30 p.m. $8 (includes barbecue), admission only (no barbecue) $4.

BATHURST JC

Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. 636-1880.

Judy & David concert, Sunday, Aug. 22, 11:30 a.m., Leah Posluns Theatre. $10. Ext. 0 for information.

School and Daycare: ext. 351.

Limited September spaces in Tic tac Two for Tuesday/Thursday mornings. A two-hour program focusing on a Judaic curriculum, age-appropriate activities with music and gym time.

Limited September spaces in morning junior kindergarten, focusing on cognitive and social skills, enhanced with Hebrew instruction, music, gym time.

SINGLES EVENTS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 20

APPRECIATION AWARD

At the 1999 Canadian Diabetes Association (CDA) Ontario division Annual General Meeting Awards Dinner, Esther Schwartz from the Toronto branch Jewish chapter was one of five volunteers from across the province honored with an Ontario Appreciation Award for dedicated service to CDA, in a ceremony themed A Night With the Stars. Making the presentation is Ontario Division past president Paul McCarten. [Ken Boodhoo photo]

A MEETING IN ISRAEL

Pat Alpert, national president of Hadassah-WIZO Organization of Canada, and Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak met in Israel recently.

DEDICATION OF ROSE GARDEN

Members of Bereaved Jewish Families dedicated a Rose Garden at Earl Bales Park recently in memory of their beloved children. Instrumental in the creation of the garden were members of the steering committee (from left) Ned Levitt, Murray Scheinert, Sharon Wineberg, Sheila Browne, Kay Rodness, Paul Goldstein, Shirley Midanik, Hilary Prusznowski, Bernie Prusznowski.

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On Campus

Students go to Israel on leadership scholarship program

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Four Canadian students have been selected to take part in the Hillel Leadership Scholarship program in Israel this year.

Torontonians Yael Ben-Dat, Natalie Pakes and Jory Scherer, along with Nava Mizrahi of Vancouver, will be studying at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

Scherer is receiving a stipend from Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University (CFHU); the other three have combined scholarships from CFHU and the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Hillel International, based in Washington, D.C., administers the program.

The students were chosen, along with 17 American counterparts, to participate in the program, which runs at both the Hebrew University and Ben-Gurion University.

The program includes leadership development seminars, and courses in the sociology of North American Jewry and Jewish life in the former Soviet Union. There are also site visits throughout Israel, as well as the opportunity to lead a seder in the former Soviet Union.

Participating students are required to take leadership roles in Israel-related groups on campus, once they return home.

Mizrahi is in the University of British Columbia's honors program in Religious Studies, with a minor in International Relations.

She is interested in the areas of academia, law and Jewish communal service.

Currently she is specializing in Islam and Judaism, and hopes to take Arabic and Islamic Studies when she is in Israel. "I think it's really important to understand their rich culture and heritage as well," she said in a phone interview.

A former international president of B'nai Brith Girls, Mizrahi took an active role at UBC as president of Vancouver Hillel and Israel Week chair, to name a couple of her involvements.

Pakes, 20, is a psychology student with a minor in Jewish Studies at McGill University. She has been involved with Chabad and Hillel, where she studied Gemarah.

An alumna of the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto (CHAT) and United Synagogue Day School, she has been to Israel four times and hopes to make aliyah. Her year at the Hebrew University will be "the perfect step," she said. "I think it's important to go and try it out for a bit. I want to spend a year in the holiest place in the world."

Yael Ben-Dat

Nava Mizrahi

Natalie Pakes

Jory Scherer

Scherer, 21, is studying Jewish Education at York University. An alumnus of CHAT and former part-time youth director at Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue, he studied for a year at Israeli yeshivot before entering York, where he has been involved with the Jewish Student Federation.

Scherer is one of the founders of a new Jewish group called "Goat Cheese," a play on the French word chèvre (goat cheese) and the Hebrew word chevra. The group plans to raise money for tzedakah by organizing events such as concerts, he said.

In the coming year, Scherer hopes to hone his Hebrew language skills so that he will feel comfortable teaching Hebrew in the future.

Ben-Dat, 19, is majoring in Psychology and Jewish Studies at the University of Toronto, where she recently completed her second year.

An alumna of Associated Hebrew Schools, CHAT and Camp Ramah, where she worked this summer as a counsellor for campers with special needs. Ben-Dat, like the other participants, expressed enthusiasm about the program.

Along with the academic aspects, she said, "one of the things that is so appealing is that you're putting yourself in an environment surrounded by people seeking similar things to what you're seeking. I'm hoping to find a group of people who share my interests and my passions."

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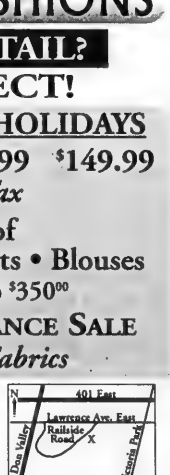

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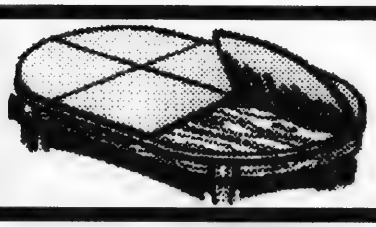

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Coast to Coast

'Donation makes Canadian history'

Cancer research centre receives $20M donation

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

VANCOUVER — The research centre for prostate cancer at Vancouver General Hospital, headed by urologist Dr. Larry Goldenberg, formerly of Toronto, recently received a $20 million donation from a patient.

The donation, made by Jim Pattison, is believed to be the largest charitable donation ever given by an individual to a medical facility in Canada.

"This donation goes beyond generosity. This donation is making Canadian history," said hospital president Murray Martin. "This will certainly allow us to create one of the leading places in the world for prostate research."

Pattison, 70, said that he became excited about the research centre for prostate cancer after listening to Goldenberg's plans to expand and strengthen research.

Goldenberg said the hospital's prostate research and clinical treatment centre, which was opened a year ago, has already gained worldwide reputation.

"I believe that we provide probably the best care for prostate cancer in the world, and now, with the kind of money we are getting, we will be able to press forward even more," said Goldenberg.

Vancouver urologist, Dr. Larry Goldenberg.

He said that prostate cancer will affect some 16,000 Canadian men this year, killing an estimated 4,000. "I believe that scientists are on the verge of some major breakthroughs."

Goldenberg, who attended the Associated Hebrew Schools of Toronto and the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto, graduated from the University of Toronto Medical School in 1978 and interned at the Mount Sinai Hospital.

He did his residency at the University of British Colombia and was a winner of a Terry Fox Research Fellowship in cancer endocrinology in 1984.

He is a professor in the department of surgery in the division of urology at the University of British Columbia.

"My research involves the study of novel treatment approaches for all stages of prostate cancer. In patients with early, localized tumors, we have developed and tested clinical protocols in which hormone therapy is administered prior to surgical removal of the prostate.

"For patients with more advanced cancer, continuous hormone therapy has been a mainstay form of treatment."

Goldenberg is the Canadian principal investigator of an international group study of men with metastatic cancer.

Goldenberg said his "outstanding team or researchers have the ability to take research from the bench in the lab to the bedside – what we call translational research."

In making his presentation to the research centre Pattison praised Goldenberg for his vision, passion and determination.

Goldenberg is married to radiologist Paula Gordon. They have two sons, Adam, 12 and Mitchell, 10.

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Ottawa gets female mohel

By DIANE KOVEN
Ottawa Correspondent

OTTAWA — Dr. Lisa Rosenkrantz considers herself blessed.

She says she has a "wonderful husband, three terrific sons, a rewarding family medicine practice," and as a mohel, she has a special role in the Jewish community.

Before becoming a mohel, she was active in the community, yet she felt her connection was more tenuous, she explains. "I felt very connected to the Jewish community, yet at the same time I felt disconnected...

"The idea of becoming a mohel began percolating in my head after the birth of my third child."

But timing is everything, and at that juncture in her life, time was something she had very little of, she says.

"I had three small children; I was chief of the department of family medicine at the Queensway-Carleton Hospital, I went on a UJA young leadership mission to Israel and became very involved in that, but nothing really pulled the threads and intertwined them."

About two years ago, Rosenkrantz decided to follow her dream. She gave up her position as chief at the hospital to free up some time and she began to seriously investigate the possibility of becoming a mohel.

After some initial reading and discussions with Rabbi Steven Garten of Temple Israel, where she is affiliated, she asked the Brit Milah Board of North America to send her the textbook and course material required for certification.

"Rabbi Garten had trained some mohels when he was in Toronto, as an educator," says Rosenkrantz, "so he brought his own flavor to the process."

In spite of the fact that she had performed close to 2,000 circumcisions in her 18 years of practice in the nearby village of Carp, the study process was intense, she says

"The issue was learning the laws and the liturgy and the history – what it means today in our modern world."

"Couples are much more involved in childbirth than ever before. Both parties are wanting to be part of the whole experience," she says. "Couples ... are coming to this [brit milah] with more understanding and more commitment to doing it."

Rosenkrantz was brought up in the Reform movement in Hamilton and has maintained that affiliation in Ottawa.

The Reform movement has been in the forefront of "gender equity" in Judaism, she says, noting that that there is nothing halachically wrong with a woman being a mohel.

She points out that Tzippora, Moses' wife, was in fact, the first female mohel – Tzippora "circumcised Moses' son to avoid the wrath of God."

After 5,000 years, however, there are only 25 woman in North America certified as mohels, three of whom reside in Canada.

Rosenkrantz says she meets with the parents prior to the event to get to know them and to explain to them both the medical procedure and the rituals they can expect.

She says she must also satisfy herself that the parents intend to bring up their child as a Jew, with all that the commitment entails, because the brit milah is far more than merely a surgical procedure.

As part of the procedure she freezes the "tender area" to alleviate the baby's pain, she says.

She involves as many family members as possible in the ceremony, and in addition to the traditional godparents, she has people light candles which, she says, "represent the presence of the Divine."

She says that one grandparent might hold the baby for the circumcision and the other for the naming; one person may bless the wine, another the bread. She says she also provides an opportunity for the parents to say something,

She says being a mohel is an intensely personal and "very powerful experience" for her, one which she finds very spiritual. "I am on to something new and exciting."

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פון ש. סימכאָוויטש

עס איז אָנגענומען, אַז דער העברייִש־אַראַמייִשער קאָמפּאָנענט פון ייִדיש איז אַ באַדייטנדיקער און באַטרעפט אַרום צוואַנציק פּראָצענט פון אַלגעמיינעם ייִדישן שפּראַך־אוצר. כּמעט אַלע ווערטער און באַגריפן, וואָס האָבן צו טאָן מיטן רעליגיעזן לעבן און אַפילו דעם טאָג־טעגלעכן לעבנס־שטייגער זיינען גענומען פון העברייִש־אַראַמייִשן מקור. דער דאָזיקער עשירות'דיקער שפּראַך־רעזערוואַר האָט צוגעגעבן דעם ייִדיש־לשון קאָלאָריט און האָט עס געראַטעוועט פון דער סכּנה פון דייטשמע־ריזמען, וואָס האָבן זיך ביז ניט לאַנג געמערט אין ייִדיש־גאָרטן ווי שוואָמען נאָך אַ רעגן.

די שאַפערס און בויערס פון דער מאָדערנער ייִדישער ליטעראַטור, פון די קלאַסיקערס ביז הייַנטצייטיקע דיכטערס און פּראָזע־שרייבערס, האָבן אַריינגעבראַכט וואָס מער ווערטער, ווערטלעך און אַפילו פּסוקים פון תּנ״ך, תּלמוד, די מדרשים א.אַנד. כּמעט פון זיך אַליין איז ביי אַלע ייִדיש־שאַפערס אָנגענומען געוואָרן אויסצולייגן די־אָ ווערטער ווי אין אָריגינאַל, ד.ה. ניט פאָנעטיש. אין דער זעלבער צייט זיינען די אותיות א' ע' ו' י' פאַרוואַנדלט געוואָרן אין וואָקאַלן, וואָס דאָס האָט דערמעגלעכט, אַז אַלע אַנדערע ייִדישע ווערטער זאָלן געלייענט און געשריבן ווערן פאָנעטיש.

מיטן דערווייטערן זיך פון די נייע דורות פון ייִדיש־טראַדיציאָנעלן חינוך און לעבנס־אופן, איז די־אָ צוגאַנג געוואָרן אַ שטערונג צו דערלערנען און באַהערשן די ייִדישע שפּראַך. עס האָבן זיך דערהערט רופן און פירלייגן אויסצובייטערן דעם פאָנעטישן פּרינציפּ אויך אויפן העברייִש־אַראַמייִשן קאָמפּאָנענט פון ייִדיש. אָט די ראַדיקאַלע רעפאָרם איז רעאַליזירט געוואָרן אויף אַ גרויסן מאַסשטאַב אין סאָוועט־רוסלאַנד. די ייִדישע קאָמוניסטן פון דער א.ג. „יעווסעקציע״ האָבן געהאַט דערביי נאָך אַ מיין, נעמלעך, צו דערווייטערן און אָפּפרעמדן די ייִדישע מאַסן פון טראַדיציאָנעל ייִדישן לעבנס־שטייגער. אַזוי אַרום איז פון שבת געוואָרן „שאַבעס״, פון יום־טוב — „יאָנטעף״ און פון יתום — „יאָסעם״.

אָט דער איינפיר האָט צעטיילט די ייִדיש־שרייבערס און לייענערס אויף צוויי באַזונדערע מחנות: די ייִדיש־סאָוועטישע און אַ צאָל פון זייערע נאָכפאָלגערס איבער דער וועלט, און דער רוב ייִדיש־שאַפערס אין מזרח־אייראָפּע, אַמעריקע, ארץ־ישׂראל און אַנדערע לענדער. די דאָזיקע צעטיילונג האָט אָנגעהאַלטן כּמעט 70 יאָר, ביזן פונאַנדערפאַל פון ראַטן־פאַרבאַנד.

איז ניט קיין וואונדער, אַז דער ייִדישער וועלט־קאָנגרעס האָט זיך פאַראינטערעסירט מיט דעם ענין און אונטערגענומען אַ פּראָיעקט פאַר דער ווידער־פאַראייניקונג פון ייִדיש. ס'איז אויך גוט געשען, וואָס די אויפגאַבע איז איבערגעגעבן געוואָרן דעם באַגאַבטן עסייאיסט, קריטיקער און לעקטאָר, דר. משה וואָלף פון פּאָרטלאַנד, אָרעגאָן, פאַראייניקטע שטאַטן. דער אויסוואַל איז געווען אַ גוטער מחמת דר. וואָלף פאַראייניקט ביידע טראַדיציעס און נוסחאות, די אַלגעמיין ייִדישע און די ייִדיש־סאָוועטישע.

אַ געבוירענער אין וואַרשע, האָט ער נאָך באַוויזן איינצואָפּן אין זיך די רייכע קולטור־רעליגיעזע השפּעות פון פּוילישן ייִדנטום. די מלחמה און נאָך־מלחמה יאָרן האָט ער פאַרבראַכט אין סאָוועט־רוסלאַנד, געדינט בעת דער צווייטער וועלט־מלחמה אין דער רויטער אַרמיי, שטודירט אין מאָסקווער אוניווערזיטעט און באַקאַנט געוואָרן ווי אַן אָנגעזעענער פּסיכיאַטאָר. אין 1992 האָט דר. משה וואָלף אימיגרירט, צוזאַמען מיט זיין משפּחה, קיין אַמעריקע און דאָ זיך קונה־שם געווען ווי אַ גייסטרייכער עסייאיסט, ליטעראַטור־קריטיקער און לעקטאָר.

אָט די מעלות קען מען זען אין זיין נייער לעקסיקאָגראַפישער אַרבעט, אַ בוך פון 112 זייטן אין אַלבום־פאָרמאַט, וואָס טראָגט דעם צו לאַנגן נאָמען: „העברעיִשע און אַראַמישע ווערטער אין דער ייִדישער שפּראַך, זייער אויסלייג און אַרויסרעד, זייער טייטש אין ענגליש און רוסיש״. די אַרבעט איז אונטערגענומען און אַרויסגעגעבן געוואָרן פון ווידערפאַראייניקונג פּראָיעקט פון ייִדישן וועלט־קאָנגרעס, בשותּפות מיט דער ייִדישער פעדעראַציע פון פּאָרטלאַנד, וואו דר. משה וואָלף איז אַ תּושב זינט זיין קומען אין אַמעריקע. דאָס בוך איז זאָרגפעלטיק אַרויסגעגעבן מיט גרויסע לייענבאַרע אותיות, אָן גרייזן און דרוקפעלערן. צווישן די ווייכע טאָוולען פון בוך איז איינגעזאַמלט אַן אוצר פון העברייִש־אַראַמייִשע ווערטער, באַגריפן און אויסדרוקן פון אַלע געביטן פון לעבן, וואָס זיינען פאַראייניגט געוואָרן אין משך פון דורות אין ייִדיש־לשון. אָט דער רייכער ווערטער־אוצר איז איינגעסדרט לויטן אלף־בית מיטן אָנגענומענעם בכל התּפוצות אויסלייג, באַגלייט מיט דעם פאָנעטישן ייִדיש־סאָוועטישן אויסלייג פון יעדן וואָרט. כּדי נאָך מער בייהילפיק צו זיין די לייענער און לערנער אין אַלע וועלט־טיילן, זיינען אַלע ווערטער און אויסדרוקן באַזאָרגט מיט אַ פּאַסיקער איבערזעצונג אויף ענגליש און אויף רוסיש.

פאַרשטענדלעך, אַז אין אַ בוך פון עפּעס מער ווי הונדערט זייטן איז ניט איינגעזאַמלט געוואָרן דאָס גאַנצע העברייִש־אַראַמייִשע שפּראַכוואַרג, וואָס ייִדיש פאַרמאָגט. אָבער אַ סאָלידער אָנהויב איז געמאַכט געוואָרן מיט דר. משה וואָלפ'ס אַרבעט און דערפאַר קומט אים אונדזער יישר־כּח.

Winnipeg CJA sets target at $3.25 M

By MYRON LOVE
Prairies Correspondent

WINNIPEG — The Combined Jewish Appeal (CJA) has announced its new management team for the 1999-2000 (5760) campaign.

Campaign co-chairs are longtime community workers Peter Leipsic and Charles Shore, and Women's Campaign is being led by Sharon Wolchock, past president of the National Council of Jewish Women of Canada, and currently a vice-president of the Canadian Jewish Congress.

Committee members include Gail Asper, Sheldon Berney, Marjorie Blankstein, Bob Brown, Marsha Cowan, Larry Hurtig, Mel Lazareck, Sandra Secter and Bob Silver.

Jerry Koffman, CJA executive director says that this year, instead of a Super Sunday telethon, there will be a Super Week.

The campaign team is setting a financial goal of $3.25 million, a $190,000 increase over last year. By 2002, campaign leaders hope to raise its goal to $4 million.

"The annual campaign does well," Koffman says, "but we have a host of programming needs, such as ESL classes for new immigrants, that fall just outside our grasp."

Koffman emphasized the need for the CJA to communicate its activities with members of the Jewish community on an ongoing basis.

The organization has created Reshet Winnipeg (Network Winnipeg), a monthly e-mail newsletter, and in August, the first issue of *Commumnity Magazine* is due to come out. The bi-annual publication will be distributed free to nearly 6,000 Jewish households in the city.

"We can't just go to people to ask for money. We have to make a compelling case. We have to keep people abreast of what is happening in our community and the Jewish world in general," says Koffman.

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Grade 2 chess champion

By MYRON LOVE
Prairies Correspondent

WINNIPEG — An 8-year-old Winnipegger is the Canadian Grade 2 chess champion.

Justin Lasker, a student at the Board of Jewish Education's Shore Early Years School, won the title at the Canadian Chess Challenge tournament in Summerside, P.E.I. in late May. He won eight games out of nine over two days.

(The Grade 1 champion was Harris Kaufman of Toronto, grandson of Winnipeg Jewish community leaders and philanthropists David and Nora Kaufman.)

Lasker started playing chess competitively in kindergarten. His sister Erica, 9, also plays competitively, finishing fifth in the provincial championships in her age group.

In July, he is heading to Vancouver for another competition.

Scene in Ottawa

By
G.K. SIMCOE

Last week Nova Scotians went to the polls and handed Russ MacLellan his premier "pink slip," opting to bring the provincial Tories back to power. The impact of the election result on all of the five parties in the House of Commons is significant. Naturally, they all try to spin the event to their advantage – at least, publicly.

The Liberals dismiss the result, referring to the frequent tendency of Canadians to split their federal and provincial votes. That is, back a Tory provincial government when the Liberals are in power federally. The problem with this theory is this: the split vote theory refers to voters in a given province hedging their bets by supporting one party federally and counterbalancing that support by backing another party on the provincial level.

In this election Nova Scotians simply confirmed their universal contempt for the Liberal party. In case Jean, Eddie and Alan J. have forgotten, not a single Liberal was elected in Canada's "Ocean Playground" in the last federal election.

The Tories crow that after an extended period of political exile, the voters have finally reconciled with their true partner. All is forgiven (or at least forgotten), happy days are here again and the pork-barrel politics reminiscent of the Buchanan era can resume.

Unfortunately, that tune is not to be found in the premier-elect's songbook. John Hamm is a physician in the modest and gentle style of "Mendel the country doctor." He offered voters no extravagant promises nor did he suggest the aggressive slash and burn approach of premiers Ralph Klein and Mike Harris. In truth, he probably has more in common with NDP Premier Roy Romanow than with any of his five fraternal Tory premiers.

For their part, the New Democrats are wildly scrambling around to salvage some consolation after suffering a humiliating failure to convert early polling leads into a historic first Maritime NDP government.

The charismatic NDP leader, Robert Chisholm presented a bold face and commented on the difficulty of breaking through the "entrenched" two-party dynamic. The fact remains that despite a 16-month political limbo that Nova Scotians had to endure, the New Democrats returned three fewer MLAs than in the previous election. That's a loss whichever way you spin the tale.

Coast to Coast

Jewish community thriving in Kitchener-Waterloo

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

KITCHENER-WATERLOO — If you're tired of gridlock in Toronto traffic and the high housing costs, and you seek a calmer small city way of life, officials of this community have the answer.

In an audacious recruiting drive, they want Jewish families to come to the twin cities of Kitchener-Waterloo because they have a well developed infrastructure, including one of the smallest Jewish communities in North America to have its own day school.

This modern version of a tale of two cities has a venerable, active Orthodox congregation in Kitchener, just a few minutes from the downtown core, and an active Reform congregation across the unmarked border in Waterloo.

Housing costs are $100,000 less for a new home, said Simon Adler, Congregation Beth Jacob president, a lawyer who was brought up in Toronto but moved here in 1976.

"There's no rush hour here," he added.

"It's a far superior place to raise a family," said Howard Budd, 53, who comes from a long line of Kitchener families, and who is active in support of both Jewish and non-Jewish causes.

A retirement residence, on a life lease basis, with 20 apartments and 12 nursing beds, is scheduled to be built above the shul's education wing, and though the project is in the early stages, according to Howard Rotberg, 48, a past shul president, it will end the long wait seniors now face in getting into a home for the aged with kosher meals in Hamilton or Toronto.

"We'll be able to look after our people from cradle to grave," he said. Born in Brantford, Rotberg has lived in Kitchener since 1978.

Kitchener needs physicians, especially cardio-physicians, who can take advantage of the superior medical facilities available, he said.

Steven Silver, the 36-year-old president of the day school, is realistic enough to know that the community can't enter into a job search for prospective residents, but being in Canada's technology triangle (Kitchener-Waterloo and Cambridge) he believes will open up jobs in the area.

According to Silver, it is possible to rent a three-bedroom house here for $800 a month.

The Beth Jacob day school, dedicated to the memory of Rabbi Shraga Phyvle Rosensweig, who served the community for 36 years, has 18 students from kindergarten to Grade 6, and six in the pre-kindergarten class.

"I love this place and its close-knit families," said New-York born Rabbi Nathan W. Langer, 43, who has two sons in the day school.

He took over at Beth Jacob 30 months ago, and has a history of being comfortable in smaller congregations, including B'nai Abraham in Winnipeg, just prior to this one.

His wife Marcia (they've been married for 22 years) teaches junior kindergarten at the day school.

"We're both committed to Canada now," said Marcia Langer.

"Living costs in Kitchener are 33 percent less for sure compared with Toronto," said Rabbi Langer

With a total of 200 to 300 families, including the unaffiliated Jews, Adler said the community has enjoyed modest growth.

In addition, it is home to about 500 Jewish students at the University of Waterloo and Wilfrid Laurier University, both in Waterloo.

But most Jewish newcomers to the community come for business, not academic reasons, Adler said.

Beth Jacob has a membership of 150 families, while Temple Shalom has a membership of 75 families.

"I enjoy the place. It's got a different pace," said Roz Adelberg , a longtime member of Temple Shalom.

The Reform congregation, with a religious school of 45 students, shares a building known as The Cedars with Westminster United Church.

"It's the only building planned to hold two different congregations from the ground up," said Ernest Ginsler, chair of the Cedars building committee.

The unusual two-congregation building probably resulted from a chat over a fence between two neighbors of different faiths but similar interests, Ginsler said.

Since it now rents the property, (to be applied to the purchase price), the temple will make a decision in about a year on whether to buy outright, Ginsler said. "We're starting to burst at the seams."

Beth Jacob is a modern Orthodox congregation situated in a handsome building, with women and men sitting apart, but with no mechitzah, said Adler. "We're a very tolerant community," he said.

The history of Beth Jacob is an interesting one. One noteworthy example is the fact that for years it had a woman shamas (sexton), Bessie Brown, who took over from her husband.

In a 25-year history of the congregation published in 1983, Eve Gordon, a daughter of one of the community's pioneers, writes of Brown: "Today some of the very children that she lovingly chased with her broom are now grown and administering the affairs of the synagogue."

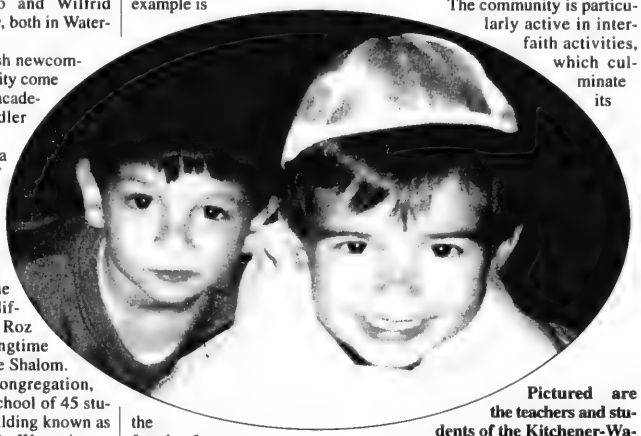
The Beth Jacob day school students and the Temple Shalom students meet once a week.

One of the few unfederated communities in Canada, the Jewish community here sends all the money raised in its annual campaign to Israel.

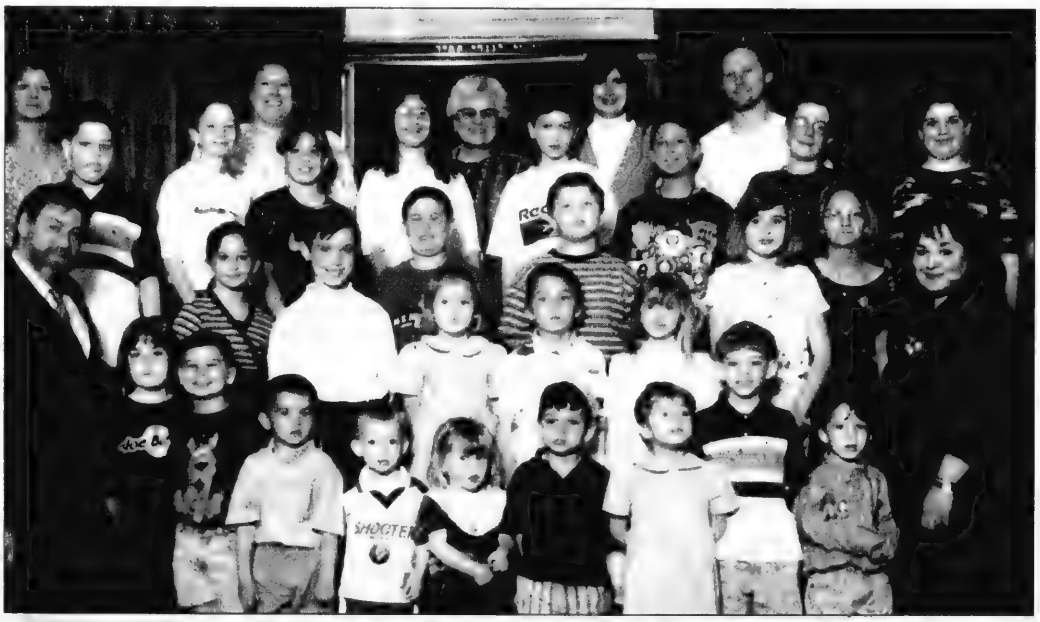
The vitality and energy of its active 74-member seniors group is exemplified in the weekly dinners 13 members have had for 50 years, according to Joe Roseman, president.

The community is particularly active in interfaith activities, which culminate its Holocaust Education Week with a student seminar that attracts 600 students each year, said Paul Walman, vice-chair of the Ontario region, Canadian Jewish Congress.

"I think we're the only Holocaust committee that has on it a woman who was an actual liberator at Buchenwald," he said.



Pictured are the teachers and students of the Kitchener-Waterloo Hebrew Day School. With them is Congregation Beth Jacob Rabbi Nathan W. Langer (front row, left). The city is one of the smallest communities in North America to have its own day school.



Holocaust and Hope now touring Israel

TORONTO — Thirteen students from across Canada, accompanied by two leaders, are now in the midst of the third annual Holocaust and Hope Student Tour to Israel, co-sponsored by the League for Human Rights of B'nai Brith Canada and Canadian Friends of Massuah.

The trips are designed to expose Canadian high school students to both Israel and the Holocaust in a meaningful manner, and to encourage their continuing participation in anti-racist activities on their return.

This year's group includes two Jewish students, Emily Krangle-Long of Whitehorse in the Yukon Territories and Aislin Walsh of Hunter River, P.E.I.

The students are recommended by their teachers, many of whom have participated in similar tours for educators, with the final selection made by a League committee. The leaders this year are Marni Silver, of B'nai Brith's Young Leadership Network, and Peter Brotherhood, a teacher at St. Mary's Secondary School in Cobourg, Ont. Brotherhood was also one of the leaders of the 1997 student tour and is a past participant in an educators' tour.

The League has been sponsoring biannual educators' tours to Israel and Poland for more than 10 years. Participating teachers have come from the public and Catholic school systems in all the Canadian provinces.

During their two-week stay in Israel, the student group is visiting the major tourist areas as well as selected Holocaust memorial institutions and is given an opportunity to spend time with teenagers. Their mission will conclude with a three-day stay at the Massuah Institute for the Study of the Holocaust, where they will take part in in-depth seminars on the history and aftermath of the Holocaust as well as meeting with survivors. They will also undertake a variety of hands-on projects to project their understanding and feelings of what they have learned.

The Massuah Institute was created in the 1960s as a living memorial to members of Zionist Youth Movements and other victims of the Holocaust. Its teaching methods have been disseminated to educators across Canada, the United States and Europe and its programs are offered in a variety of languages to accommodate immigrant students in Israel and visitors from abroad. More than 10,000 students and 2,500 members of the Israeli Defence Forces attend Massuah lectures each year.

This summer, Massuah is hosting teachers from the former Soviet Union, who will participate in a program designed specifically for them. Among other foreign visitors this year have been university students from the United States and delegates from Sweden and Finland who are designing Holocaust memorial programs in their own countries.

Massuah is also an official locale for the annual Yom Hashoah (Holocaust memorial) ceremonies. This year's remembrance, dedicated to the story of the Holocaust in Soviet Russia and to Jewish combat, was attended by over 6,000 people, including the current Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak.

מזל טוב Mazel Tov

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Label the back of all photos and enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope for return. Send all your photos to *The CJN*, Mazel Tov, 1500 Don Mills Rd., Suite 205, North York, Ont., M3B 3K4.

Mazel tov to Lori Goldberg & Dale Eisen on their engagement on Feb. 21. Thrilled parents are Eddy & Tzippy, Liz, and Johnnie.

Derrick & Vanessa Barnett and Norman & Naomi Zinman are delighted to announce the engagement of their children Natalie & Daniel.

Mazel tov to Linda & Alan Ennis on your 25th anniversary. Love from daughters Jessica and Jillian, parents William & Dina Tenenbaum, family and friends.

Esther and David Gold are happy to announce the engagement of their son Ari to Daniella Elkin of Montreal. Mazel Tov!

Frank & Judith Wilson and David & Rebeca Koifman are proud to announce the forthcoming wedding of their children Barbi & Avi.

Mazel tov to newlyweds Chantal and Sean Pasternak. Proud parents Rick & Claire Neron and Ron & Robyn Pasternak wish them much love and happiness.

Congratulations newlyweds Haya & Stephen Elliott from parents Rita & Boris Sadeavecsus and Aprille Sanmiya, grandparents Rachael Gerkovitz, Charles & Phyllis Mint.

Mazel tov to Robyn & Ilan. Love, Pnina & Uri Lenga, Sophie & Joel Shafer, grandparents, Bella Rochwerg, Ida Shafer, Ibi & Sandor Weiss.

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Treatment of 13 Iranian Jews said to be improving

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The treatment of 13 Iranian Jews recently arrested on charges of espionage has improved, thanks in part to pressure exerted by Canada's Jewish community.

Apparently sensitive to foreign criticism, Iran has eased the lot of the incarcerated Jews from Shiran and Isfahan following rallies and prayer vigils throughout Canada and the rest of the world.

In Canada, demonstrations have taken place in Toronto, Montreal, Ottawa, Winnipeg and Vancouver.

Due to these worldwide protests, the imprisoned Jews now have access to their families as well as to Red Cross officials, said Bernie Farber, executive director of Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region, in an interview last week.

Canadian Jewry, he said, took "a lead role" in protesting the imprisonment of the Jews, whom Iran accuses of spying for the "Zionist regime" and "world arrogance," the United States.

And since Canada, unlike the United States, has an embassy in Teheran, the Iranian capital, Canada remains a "key player" in efforts to free the captives, Farber added.

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy has condemned Iran's action and called for a fair trial and humane treatment of the Jewish inmates.

However, he has yet to actually call for their release, said Les Scheininger, chair of Congress' public policy and international affairs committee.

"More can be done by Canada," he said.

Meanwhile, Moshe Ronen, Congress president, has asked for a meeting with Axworthy. He hopes that Canada will alter its position and ask for the unconditional release of the prisoners.

"These are trumped-up charges," he declared.

Last week, Ronen talked with Israeli Foreign Minister David Levy by phone for an update of the situation.

Ronen said that Iran may be responding to international appeals to resolve the matter. "But it's too early to be optimistic," he warned.

The recent unrest in Teheran – the most serious since the Islamic revolution in 1979 – has reportedly frozen the issue.

The demonstrations and counter-demonstrations have pushed the fate of the Jews off Iran's list of priorities, according to Sam Kermanian, secretary-general of the Iranian American Jewish Federation in Los Angeles.

"In a way, it's better that this case is out of the news," he was quoted as saying by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

Kermanian suggested that a low-profile approach may persuade Iran to settle it before it spins out of control.

Iran, with an estimated 25,000 to 35,000 Jews, is home to the largest Jewish community in the Middle East outside Israel.

Its Jewish population was about 100,000 before 1979.

According to the London-based *Jewish Chronicle*, at least 17 Jews, including community leaders, have been executed in the past two decades.

Iran broke diplomatic relations with Israel in the first weeks after the revolution, and has since become one of Israel's arch enemies.

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Israel gets nuke-capable subs

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — A new era in Israeli naval capability was ushered in with the arrival of the first of three German-made submarines in Haifa.

The new Dolphin submarine is superior in speed and maneuverability to anything currently in Israel's naval arsenal, according to Israeli officials.

"It is a different kind of submarine from any I have known," the submarine's commander told Israel Army Radio.

Some reports indicate that the submarine has been modified to carry cruise missiles with nuclear warheads.

If Israel were attacked with unconventional weapons, the submarine would be unharmed and ready for retaliation, the reports said.

Israeli defence officials refused comment on the submarine's strategic capabilities.

For three decades, there have been reports that Israel possesses nuclear weapons. Israeli leaders have repeatedly refused direct statements on the subject, saying only that the Jewish state would not be the first nation to use nuclear weapons in the Middle East.

The submarine's capabilities have raised concerns among Israel's Arab neighbors.

The Dolphin and two other submarines that are expected to arrive later this year, Leviathan and Tekuma, were built at a cost of some $300 million apiece by Germany, which offered them to Israel in return for Israel complying with an international request not to respond to Iraqi Scud attacks on the Jewish state during the 1991 Gulf War.

En route to Israel, the Dolphin cruised past the site near the Greek island of Crete where the Dakar submarine was lost at sea during its maiden voyage 30 years ago.

Crew members on the Dolphin scattered 69 flowers, one for each of the deceased Dakar sailors.

Levitts case sent to beit din

Continued from page 1

"From the first time that they mentioned a beit din," Katz said, "I personally – and it's on record – wrote them a letter saying, look, this is a matter now before the secular courts. If it's decided that it doesn't belong in the secular courts, then we'll go to a beit din."

Levitts sued rabbis Yitzchok Kerzner, Mordechai Levin and Avrohom Lowinger for libel and slander, for inducing breach of contract, and for restraint of trade, following the refusal by the Kashruth Council of Toronto (COR) to allow the sale of Levitts fresh kosher meat in establishments under its supervision. (The company's deli products, however, are authorized to be sold in COR-supervised establishments.)

Because COR is unincorporated, it cannot be sued. Rabbi Kerzner is chair of the Rabbinical Vaad Hakashruth; Rabbi Levin, executive director of the Kashruth Council; and Rabbi Lowinger, chief mashgiach of the council.

According to the ruling, Levitts' claim, "although couched in property and civil rights terms ... is an attack on the shomer Shabbat and *shchitahs chutz* (ritual slaughtering from outside the community) policies" of the Kashruth Council."

The policies, as outlined in the ruling, refer respectively to a requirement adopted in the mid-1980s that applicants for COR certification must be shomer Shabbat; and to a practice of certifying ritual slaughterers only within one's own community.

Levitts has kosher certification from the Va'ad Ha'Ir of Montreal (MK) as well as the Orthodox Jewish Council Vaad Hakashrus (Star-K).

It is agreed that Levitts meats are kosher, according to the ruling. However, the products do not meet COR's standards of kashrut, which include the stipulation that the owners be Sabbath observant.

Both COR and MK have made exceptions under a grandfather clause for companies, like Levitts, that were already kosher under their supervision prior to the adoption of the Sabbath observance policy.

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Search Committee
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Montreal, Quebec
H3W 3E8
Only those candidates selected for an interview will be contacted.

CJN Rosh Hashanah Photo Contest

The CJN announces its fifth annual Rosh Hashanah photo contest. We are asking readers to submit their own original photographs either of Israel or on any Jewish theme in their community.

Anyone can enter except *CJN* employees or members of their families.

A maximum of three photos per entrant may be submitted. Please write your name, address and phone number on the back of each photo. We can only return the photos if you provide a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

You may mail or deliver your photos to: *The CJN* Rosh Hashanah Contest, The Canadian Jewish News, 1500 Don Mills Road, Suite 205, Toronto, Ont., M3B 3K4.

The contest closes at 5 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 16, 1999.

The judges will choose three photographs which, in their opinion, are the most expressive and evocative. These three photos will be published in *The CJN* Rosh Hashanah issue, Sept. 9, 1999. Each of the "winning" photographers will receive a cheque for $100.

We will undoubtedly receive many worthy submissions. But only three will be selected as the "winners." The decisions of the judges will be final. The odds of winning depend upon the number and the quality of submissions received.

Winning entrants will be notified by telephone before Shabbat on Aug. 27, 1999.

Any litigation respecting the conduct and awarding of a prize in this contest may be submitted to the Régie des Loteries et courses du Québec.

The strange case of the Levy fortune

Continued from page 1

One hundred and eighty years ago, Elazar and Shimon Levy, two impoverished peddlers from Baghdad who bought, sold and repaired old furniture and home furnishings, purchased a heavy jar made of clay from a woman living in a village near the Persian border.

By happenstance, the jar broke into pieces, disgorging a treasure trove of pearls, diamonds and other jewels.

The next day, in the Iraqi port of Basra, the Levys sold a few of the diamonds and bought two boat tickets for passage to Britain, leaving their families behind in Baghdad.

According to Meiri, they settled in London and opened a jewelry shop. The business was so successful that one of their precious stones was placed in a crown worn by Queen Victoria.

As they prospered, the Levys invested in real estate, both in London and in the countryside. Elazar Levy died in 1841, and his brother a few years later.

"Nobody knows how many children they left in Baghdad," said Meiri. His brother, Baruch, an Israeli journalist, has written of the Levys for the Tel Aviv daily *Ma'ariv*.

"Nor do we know how many children they had from their second marriages in London, and why their inheritance was not divided between the legal inheritors."

The case languished for several generations, but was reopened following the arrival of Iraqi Jews in Israel in the early 1950s. In general, they emigrated from Iraq without any of their assets, which were confiscated by the Iraqi government.

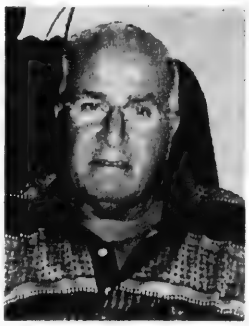
Sixteen years ago, the Levy claimants in Israel formed the Agga Levy Society to pursue their claims to the brothers' real estate fortune.

It is estimated to be worth in the vicinity of $1 billion today.

More concretely, the claimants hired a lawyer. Assisted by a British colleague, he collected facts and documents from Levy-related families in Israel and the Diaspora.

"Even the Israeli government took it seriously," said Meiri. "Prime Ministers Levi Eshkol and Golda Meir asked the Israeli embassy in London to help the lawyers."

Yet nothing came of these efforts, and the story was forgotten once again until it was revived by a young Jew who had escaped from Iraq, settled in Holland and promised his dying father that he would not rest until he found the treasure.



Aboud Sasson

"The young man started digging in every place that could lead him to discover any new sources of information," said Meiri. "He was lucky. He discovered that Elazar and Shimon had changed their names to Lawrence after immigrating to Britain."

This raises the question of whether the Levys are indeed related to Britain's royal family.

In the 18th century, a merchant from Venice, Zaccaria Levy, who may or may not have been an Iraqi Levy, settled in Britain. In 1826, his son, Joseph, changed the family name to Laurence. By the next generation, the family had abandoned Judaism and embraced Christianity.

Are the Levy's related to royalty?

On Dec. 12, 1992, Timothy Laurence, a direct descendant of the Levy clan, wed Princess Anne, Queen Elizabeth's daughter, in a Church of Scotland ceremony. She had been married to Mark Phillips.

Sasson is uncertain whether Timothy Laurence is, in fact, genetically related to Elazar and Shimon Levy. But he believes that a Levy is married to one of Queen Elizabeth's cousins.

Apart from having ascertained that the Levys anglicized their name, the young Iraqi Jew in Holland stumbled upon the will of one of the original Levy brothers. Attached to it was a list of their assets and the names of their heirs.

A claimant, Moshe Shahal, a minister who served under Yitzhak Rabin and Shimon Peres, went to London to substantiate the young man's findings.

"Shahal discovered that a lot of the assets were still registered in their names," said Meiri.

They include agricultural land in Kent and Devon counties and property in the centre of London.

By Meiri's estimation, no less than six lawyers, including Shahal, are currently working on the case.

It is, as may be imagined, enormously complex and riddled with conundrums.

"We traced five or six bank accounts of the Levy family," said Ofer Shahal, speaking on behalf of his father, who was away on a business trip. "We started a correspondence with the banks, but it led nowhere."

Sasson said that he is looking into the unexplained disappearance of a large sum of money in a Levy bank account.

"Someone took it. We don't know who. The account was worth 80,000 pounds sterling in the 1920s. Today it is valued at 80 million pounds."

Becker, a chemistry professor at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, agreed that "there are some mysterious things going on, yet to be solved."

But he pointed to successes. "So far, we have been able to collect, quite successfully by ourselves, some very interesting documents and explore a few banks' accounts..."

Asked what the Agga Levy Society is contributing to the search for legitimate heirs, Sasson said it is drawing up a Levy family tree. "We want to make a connection between the Levy family in England and the Levys in Israel," he said.

Joseph Levy, the Iraqi-born proprietor of a Toronto dental supply company who can trace his ancestry back to the two brothers, has been embroiled in the case for more than four decades.

Levy, who immigrated to Canada in 1973 by way of Israel, said that his late father, Abdullah, told him about the inheritance in 1954.

He immediately hired a lawyer, a relative named Yitzhak Levy, but Levy came up short.

Three years ago, Levy retained the services of three lawyers to study the case, but there have been no breakthroughs. "We are continuing," he said with a tone of weary resignation.

The hunt for the lost inheritance has attracted the attention of the Babylonian Jewry Heritage Centre, based in Or Yehuda, Israel.

Zvi Yehuda, director of research, said that there have been no new developments of late.

"Nothing has happened."

"The problem is that no one takes this story seriously," sighed Baruch Meiri. "People are skeptical."

His brother, Avner, is not exactly holding his breath. "There are still a lot of obstacles to overcome before the inheritors can make their inheritance a reality."

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The Week in Israel

July 26

• Foreign investments in Israel totalled $2.3 billion (US) during the past eight months, an increase of 44 percent over the previous 10 months.

July 27

• Prime Minister Ehud Barak and Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat held their second meeting to discuss implementation of the Wye Agreement. *(PA officials subsequently stated they reject Barak's plan to link implementation of the Wye accords with the start of final status talks.)*

July 28

• The Palestinian Authority asked Israel to help in its preparations for the Y2K computer bug. According to *Ha'aretz*, the Palestinians are particularly concerned that computer glitches could disrupt the functioning of hospitals.

• A military court sentenced a Palestinian, Salem Sansour, to three consecutive life terms for two 1998 attacks, in which a rabbi was stabbed to death in his home in Hebron and scores of others were injured.

July 29

• A Knesset vote to expand the size of the Cabinet was postponed after the speaker, Avraham Burg, received a report, which later proved to be false, that veteran legislator Amnon Rubinstein had died. Burg later reconvened the Knesset to announce that the report was false. The vote on the size of the Cabinet was rescheduled for the coming Sunday.

July 30

• Immigration to Israel in the first half of 1999 was up by 14 percent compared to the same period last year, mostly as a result of a dramatic leap of 130 percent in the number of new arrivals from Russia. Through to the end of June, 29,200 new immigrants have arrived from the former Soviet Union.

• Prime Minister Barak said in Alexandria, he was ready to implement the Wye accords as they are, if he could not persuade the Palestinians to change their approach.

Files from JTA and Ha'aretz.

Israel's Arab citizens

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

Mideast Analysis

During the course of delivering the customary speech at the Knesset's opening session last month, President Ezer Weizman devoted a paragraph to Israel's Arab citizens. "...we must ...do everything to enable the attainment of full equality between the communities and their integration into the systems of the state," he declared.

Two days after his exhortation, a delegation of Israeli Arab members of parliament met with Weizman to register a protest. They claimed that Ehud Barak, the prime minister-elect, was disregarding Arab parties in the coalition negotiations. Barak, they told Weizman indignantly, had neither invited Arab parties to join his government, nor offered an Arab a place in his cabinet.

Before forming a government, Barak met with representatives from the Arab parties, United Arab List, Balad and Hadash, which won a total of 10 seats in the May 17 election. And while he reiterated his commitment to "peace and equality," and promised them that he would channel more funds to the Arab sector, he did not offer them a cabinet position.

Bitterly disappointed, particularly in light of the fact that 94 percent of Israeli Arabs voted for Barak as opposed to Benjamin Netanyahu, Israeli Arabs staged a demonstration outside the Knesset a day after he was sworn in as prime minister.

More in sorrow than anger, one Arab member of parliament, Abdel Wahhab Darawasha, accused Barak of being unable to break a psychological taboo and bring Israel's one million Arabs, a loyal minority comprising 20 percent of its population, into the national consensus. Another Arab MK, Taleb Sanaa, was less diplomatic. "...we thought we would be part of the political map, join the government and have an influence," he said. "But now we are being pushed to the margins."

For all the acrimony the issue aroused in the Arab community, Barak's failure to appoint an Arab minister was in line with Jewish public opinion. According to a survey conducted by Tel Aviv University's pollster, Tamar Hermann, 52 percent of Jewish respondents objected to an Arab minister, while 40 percent were in favor. Almost eight percent of the respondents had no opinion on the subject.

From the vantage point of Israeli democracy, Barak's decision was certainly a great disappointment. Israeli Arabs have been appointed to important jobs in the past. An Arab deputy minister has sat in the cabinet, and presently, Israel has an Arab ambassador and an Arab Supreme Court judge. Full cabinet membership, however, is still closed to Israeli Arabs, at least for now.

But in a related development, there has been a significant breakthrough which expands the civic rights and responsibilities of Israeli Arabs. On July 20, with Barak's consent, three Israeli Arab MKs – Hashem Mahameed (United Arab List), Sallah Tarif (One Israel) and Ayoub Kara (Likud) – were, for the first time, permitted to join the Knesset's foreign affairs and defence committee.

Justice Minister Yossi Beilin described the appointments as "a historic moment and another step towards turning Israeli Arabs into a legitimate component in the fabric of Israeli society."

Yet much more remains to be done, as Israeli Arab MK and prime ministerial candidate, Azmi Bishara, reminded voters during last May's election campaign. Due to the security situation, Israeli Arabs are still second class citizens, denied their fair share of municipal allocations and of senior posts in the civil service and in major state corporations.

Yet there has been progress. Before 1966, Arab villages were under military rule and Israeli Arabs' freedom of movement was restricted. They have come a long way in the past three decades, but for some Israeli Arab leaders, like Bishara, this has not been enough. He has proposed that Israel should be a "state of its citizens" rather than a Jewish state. The message is bold, but hardly any Israeli Jews are ready for such a revolutionary transformation.

Palestinian Legislative Council Speaker Ahmed Qurie, sometimes known as Abu Alla (left), is seen with Knesset Speaker Avraham Burg. Burg invited Qurie to visit the Knesset last week. [Isranet photo]

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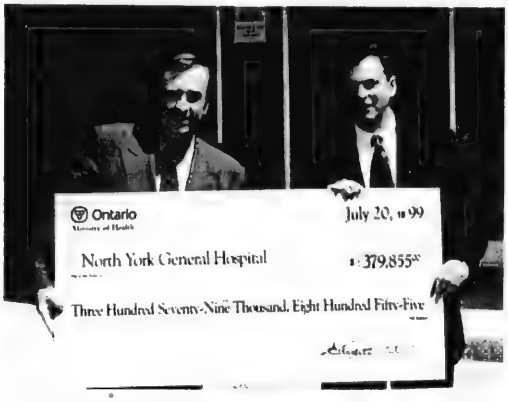

FUNDS FOR NORTH YORK GENERAL

David Young, MPP (right) has announced an additional $379,885 for North York General Hospital this year, as part of $20 million in new health-care funding for rapidly growing communities. He recently made the official presentation to Murray MacKenzie, president and CEO of the hospital.

Surgeon lengthens limbs

By MIRIAM CHINSKY
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Dror Paley, an orthopedic surgeon born in Israel and raised in Ottawa, is doing precisely what he wants, using his skill in limb lengthening and reconstruction to make a profound difference in the lives of many of his patients, children and adults, who hail him as a miracle worker.

One of his patients, Jordan Eppel was born with one leg shorter than the other. To compensate, he wore a built-up shoe until he was almost 11. Then, his parents began looking for a better solution to the problem.

Discovering Paley through the Internet, they brought their son to him for assessment, but agonized several weeks trying to decide whether the 2½-inch discrepancy really justified the radical surgery, adjustment, monitoring and therapy that were recommended.

Dr. Dror Paley

They opted to go ahead only when a 37-year-old former patient of Paley told Jordan, "It will be worth it all your life!"

A University of Toronto graduate, Paley completed his surgical internship at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, returning to Toronto for his orthopedic residency.

As well, he sub-specialized in hand surgery at Sunnybrook Hospital, and pediatric orthopedics at the Hospital for Sick Children.

His interest in limb lengthening was sparked at a conference in 1983 when a visiting Italian surgeon, Dr. Renato Bobelli, introduced the Toronto audience to a revolutionary method for equalizing and restructuring abnormally short, deformed or diseased limbs.

Developed in western Siberia in the 1950s by a Russian Jewish physician, Dr. Gavriel Abramovitch Ilizarov, the procedure involved surgically dividing the bone through a very small incision, and anchoring the two segments with fine wire or screwlike pins to the "Ilizarov frame," an external fixator. This allowed new growth of bone and soft tissue in the gap as the appliance was very gradually pulled apart.

Intrigued, Paley who already understood English, Hebrew, French and Spanish, began studying Italian and Russian in order to learn the techniques of the Russians and Italians. Because the procedure originated in the Soviet Union during the years of isolation, it was not widely known outside that area.

In 1985, withdrawing their entire savings, Paley took his pregnant wife, Torontonian Wendy Schelew and their young son, to Italy, where he spent four months studying with doctors in Lecco. "I was young and eager to take a chance," he says.

From Italy, he was determined to go to the source, and the family set out for the Soviet Union.

Ilizarov, the son of poor parents, had started as a shepherd boy, but his brilliance and drive, and according to Paley, "fine medical education, one good aspect of the social system," gave him the tools for the innovative orthopedic research which was his strength, although he was a general practitioner.

Paley studied with Ilizarov for three months before coming back to Toronto.

The Hospital for Sick Children invested in the costly equipment needed, and Paley was able to train two other surgeons in the Ilizarov method. He makes it clear that he very much wanted to stay in Toronto to focus on the limb surgery and followup, but when a job was not available, he decided to investigate opportunities in the United States. This, he notes, was in 1986, before the brain drain to the United States. (Within two or three years, the surgeons he had trained left the country.)

Paley contacted Johns Hopkins, but there was nothing in his chosen field. However, his application was forwarded to the University of Maryland and he received a call offering him a job.

Today, Paley is director at the Maryland Centre for Limb Lengthening and Reconstruction which is affiliated with the University of Maryland. He is also professor of Orthopedic surgery and chief of Pediatric Orthopedics at the university.

Since 1987, over 3,000 limb lengthening surgeries have been performed at the centre on patients from 49 U.S. states and 35 countries around the world including Canada. Paley and his colleagues, Dr. John Herzenberg and Dr. Kevin Tetsworth also train physicians from numerous countries.

Paley affirms that other orthopedic surgeons in the United States now perform limb-lengthening surgeries but says that no other centres in the country specialize in the technique. He has travelled to such diverse areas as Nepal, Australia, Turkey, Israel, six Arab countries some 40 locations in all, to lecture and teach.

In 1992, he received a call from a Saudi Arabian representative in Washington who asked if he would be willing to go to Saudi Arabia to perform surgery on the young daughter of a prince. He said that he would only operate if the girl could be brought to Baltimore where he had the equipment and staff.

Before deciding, the caller, who had also contacted Ilizarov, asked, "By the way, what religion are you?"

"The same as Dr. Ilizarov," Paley replied.

"What's that?"

"Jewish."

There was a brief silence at the other end of the line, but then arrangements were made and the Saudi patient was brought to Baltimore. She underwent successful surgery and when she was recovering, the Paleys invited the Saudi entourage to their home for a barbecue. Later, the Paleys were invited to visit with the Saudis at their palace in Riyadh. Paley has since lectured in Saudi Arabia.

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CJ Kids

Celebrate Jewish holidays

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

A lot of books about the Jewish holidays, especially ones written for kids, are really very boring. Well, now there is a new one, that you will enjoy very much.

The book is called *Celebrate! Stories of the Jewish Holidays*, by Gilda Berger (Scholastic Press, 1998). Each chapter is a different major holy day: Shabbat, Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Sukkot, Chanukah, Purim, Pesach and Shavuot.

Berger tells, in her own words, stories that have something to do with each holiday. For instance, the chapter about Shabbat tells the story of how God created the world.

An appealing parable added by Berger (a parable is a little story that is meant to help you understand the main point a little better) is about the Spirit of Shabbat coming to God, and complaining that everything else had been created in pairs. Only it was created single.

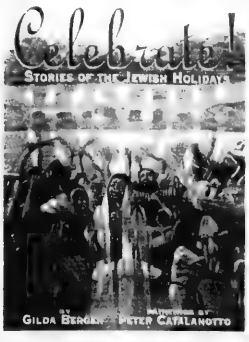
God answered that one day each week the children of Israel would welcome Shabbat like a bride, and that it would give them "a foretaste of the peace and glory of the world to come."

Other stories are Jonah and the whale, for Yom Kippur; the story of Esther for Purim; and Abraham being told to sacrifice his son, Isaac, to God, which is read from the Torah on Rosh Hashanah.

After the story, you will find information about the holiday and about how we celebrate it, crafts, and recipes that are easy enough for kids to make (some need an adult's help) but sound really tasty.

I would like to try the Shabbat kugel, with noodles, sugar, eggs, cinnamon, apples, raisins and orange and lemon juices; the Sukkot vegetable casserole, with onion, mushrooms, rice, sweet potato, broccoli and cheddar cheese, and hamantaschen on Purim.

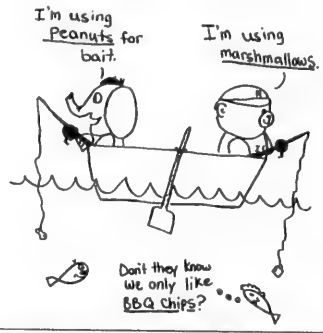
Since Rosh Hashanah is coming up in early September, you might like to make the greeting cards that the book describes. During the year, you can make a gragger for Purim, or a dreidel for Chanukah.



Peter Catalanotto drew wonderful paintings to go with each chapter, using dramatic colors and interesting details.

Another interesting thing in the book is a sort of calendar, that shows when the stories happened in relationship to each other.

CHUBBY + HOTDOG By: Alyssa Guttman



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MI MAKIR: A SEARCH FOR THE MISSING

Montreal artist Yehouda Chaki's exhibit brings his unique collection of books and portraits to the Robert McLaughlin Gallery at the Civic Centre, 72 Queen St., Oshawa, Ont., Aug. 5 to Oct. 17. The title, Mi Makir, Hebrew for "Who knows," comes from the radio announcement played often in Israel after the World War II: "The Department for the Search for Missing Relatives asks who knows and who is informed," where lists of missing people were read out in the hope a listener could supply information. The installation of books and portraits refers to the Holocaust and the artist's sense of loss. For more information call 905-576-3000.

Brooks to direct *Endgame* at Harbourfront

By KATHRYN KATES
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Soulpepper Theatre Company is presenting Irish playwright Samuel Beckett's 1954 classic, *Endgame* from July 22 to Aug. 28 at Harbourfront Centre, with director Daniel Brooks at the helm.

Brooks, a native North Yorker, began his university studies majoring in science. "I was an unhappy boy. So, I went travelling to Europe and Israel for a year, spending four months on a kibbutz, where I wrote a lot. When I came back, a friend suggested I take a look at University of Toronto's undergraduate theatre program."

During the university's summer breaks, Brooks and fellow students including Leah Cherniak, co-founder of Theatre Columbus, and actress Mary Ellen Mahonney, formed a theatre company. After graduating in 1981, Brooks continued his thespian studies at New York's famed Circle On The Square.

"I did a lot of acting during my first 10 years out of school. I did a one man show. I toured South America with it, and everywhere I went, I took various classes in theatre, dance and clowning," Brooks says.

"All along, I was developing my understanding of theatre. Underneath, I think I always wanted to direct. About nine years ago, I stopped acting except in my own work, because I found myself having what I thought were stronger ideas than the directors I was working with. Maybe I'm a control freak or maybe I had some kind of theatrical vision that I wanted to explore."

Realizing this new direction, Brooks joined forces with Tracy Wright and Don McKellar, and formed the Augusta Company. Brooks also co-created and performed in a theatrical Passover seder called the *Theory of Relatives*, produced four years ago at Toronto's Tarragon Theatre.

The director has collaborated with Guillermo Verdecchia on a number of productions including the award winning *Insomnia*, and with Daniel MacIvor on *House* and *The Soldier's Dreams*, which both won Brooks a Dora Award For Best Direction.

Brooks also won the 1997 Chalmers New Canadian Play Award and the Pauline McGibbon Award, given every three years to an emerging director.

"This award meant the most to me because it is a recognition of a body of work, rather than the idiosyncratic acknowledgment of one play over another. [That] doesn't really mean too much to me because once you begin to judge a work of art in terms of being better than another, you are already taking it in the wrong way," Brooks said.

"I think theatre, in particular, is a creative medium and there are a number of ways to give recognition. Parties are a more interesting celebration of a theatre community than an award ceremony, which I feel are pretty arbitrary and much more about interpersonal relationships than art."

Soulpepper Theatre Company, consisting of 12 of Canada's leading artists, was created last year in order to present classical masterworks. Brooks will be directing a cast of four including Peter Donat and Diego Matamoros, who enlisted the director for this production.

Brooks says, "I've known Diego Matamoros for years, he suggested *Endgame* because he had an instinct the play would be right up my alley, as it were. When I reread the play, after a number of years, I realized how deeply influenced I had been by it."

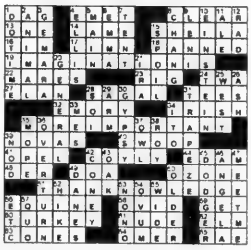
Beckett originally wrote *Endgame* in French, while living in Paris. Brooks describes it as unique, with an incredibly refined vision of suffering. "It's one of the most impressive and influential plays of the 20th century. It doesn't really reveal its story, it just happens. The audience is almost like a fly on the wall. The writing is extraordinary in its simplicity, directness, sound of the phrases and what it expects."

After *Endgame* and a summer camping trip with partner Jennifer Ross and their two daughters, Emma 7 and Kate 2, Brooks will be dividing his time between Augusta Company and his other theatrical endeavor, Da Da Kamera – that tours internationally.

"I often ask myself why I got into this profession. Sometimes it gets really hard. It's very personal, with great amount of pressure because a lot is on the line. The potential for failure is very public. It can be hard to make good art and in terms of that, I'm ambitious about making something that is worthy."

For tickets to Soulpepper Theatre Company's *Endgame* call the Harbourfront Box Office at 973-4000. Tickets cost $20-$46.

ANSWERS TO THIS WEEK'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE.



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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

MIRVISHES BRINGING BROADWAY'S CABARET

Toronto theatre entrepreneurs **David** and **Ed Mirvish**, proprietors of the Princess of Wales Theatre, are bringing an acclaimed Broadway production of the stage musical *Cabaret* to Toronto Sept. 8 to Oct. 16.

The production, which focuses on the decadent glamor of Berlin's Kit Kat Klub in the 1930s, won four Tony Awards last year, including one for Best Revival. It is based on characters found in *Berlin Stories*, which British writer **Christopher Isherwood** published 60 years ago in 1939. Material from the stories was later shaped into the film *I Am A Camera* (1955) and the 1972 cinematic classic *Cabaret*.

Directed by Sam Mendes, the new musical incorporates songs from the Kander/Ebb soundtrack of *Cabaret* that were not part of any previous stage version. It is supposedly much more gritty ("real, rough and raw") than previous productions — the figures onstage are "garish, ghoulish and aggressively arresting," said the *New Yorker*.

It has played continuously to sold-out houses in New York since its opening last year.

The Toronto cast features **Joely Fisher** as Sally Bowles; she is the daughter of **Connie Stevens** and **Eddie Fisher**. **Norbert Leo Butz** plays the emcee, and **Rick Holmes** plays the role of Cliff.

$26.50-$93. 872-1212 or 800-461-3333. Web site, www.mirvish.com

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More from Interwar Berlin: The legendary **Comedian Harmonists**, the once-popular Berlin group that was the subject of a film at the last Toronto Jewish Film Festival, are again the object of attention.

Joe Boyd, a longtime devotee of the group, has produced a remastered album of the band's music, and after 20 years is preparing to release it as a CD on the Hannibal label.

In the late 1920s, the band's amazing arrangements of standards such as *Night & Day*, *The Last Roundup*, *Tea For Two* and **Duke Ellington's** *Creole Love Call* thrilled audiences around the world.

The Brooklyn-based Boyd describes the Comedian Harmonists' arrangements as "the Mills Brothers meets Spike Jones."

"They have to be heard to be believed," he said. "This timeless music has long been a treasured secret of collectors. In Germany the recordings have never stopped selling."

Since some of its six members were Jewish, the band was eventually silenced by the Nazis.

The CD is being released as part of the EMI Electrola archive.

***

Looted Painting Returned: The Seattle Art Museum has done the decent thing and returned a **Henri Matisse** painting to descendants of its original owner. The Nazis confiscated it during WWII.

Painted in 1927, Matisse's *Odalisque* was donated to the museum by two west-coast collectors who purchased the painting from a New York gallery in 1954. It had previously belonged to a Mr. Rosenberg, a Jewish art dealer in France, whose heirs discovered the whereabouts of the painting from a book.

Accomplished with the assistance of the American B'nai Brith, the restitution marks the first time that a US museum has returned an artwork looted by the Nazis to its rightful owner. The process, which involved a long investigation, took more than two years.

"We said we would do the right thing and hopefully people agree that that's what we've done," said museum director **Mimi Gates**. "We regret that it took so long (but) if we were going to be responsible, we didn't have any alternative."

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Arts Briefs

• The Committee for Yiddish, UJA Federation and the Kultur Gezellschaft is sponsoring a memorial evening in honor of **Peretz Markish,** a Soviet-Jewish writer murdered during Stalin's purge of Jewish intellectuals in the 1950s. Included will be a musical program and recitations based on the writers' works. Beth Tzedec Synagogue, Aug. 10, 8 p.m. Free.

• Shooting has begun on *Life's Little Miracles*, a dramatic documentary focusing on Toronto's world-famous Hospital for Sick Children. The first of 13 half-hour episodes will air on the Life Network in September.

• The Royal Bank Seniors Jubilee, the large annual seniors entertainment showcase, returns to Roy Thomson Hall Aug. 15 to 20. Its five shows feature more than 1,300 talented senior performers in a variety extravaganza. $14-$26. 872-4255.

• The return engagement of the musical *Fame*, which starts Aug. 10, has been extended by two weeks to Sept. 3. $26.50-$89.50. Princess of Wales Theatre. 872-1212.

• The Shakespearean fairy tale romance *The Tragedie of Cymbeline* opens at the Lagoon Amphitheatre on Toronto's Centre Island, Aug. 5, 3 p.m. and runs to Sept. 6. Suggested donation $5 or PWYC. 715-5471.

Poet confronts difficult realities

By **BILL GLADSTONE**
Special to The CJN

In *Why Poems Should Not Be Fictions*, one of the pieces in Libby Scheier's *Kaddish For My Father: New and Selected Poems*, 1970-1999 (ECW Press), the Toronto poet seems to imply that there's already too much artifice in the world and that the poet should perform her art unmasked, without resorting to a narrative disguise.

Although at times resembling novelistic prose, Scheier's poetry seems intensely autobiographical, more like a personal diary than fiction. Whether this is an illusion is immaterial: with *Kaddish For My Father,* we are lowered into a seething inferno of words that seems, on the surface, to be a no-holds-barred emotional journal that the poet kept of her father's illness and death from 1995 to 1997.

Unhealed memories parade through these pages like so many Banquo's ghosts. Scheier describes a difficult, abusive, bullying father, still intimidating even though frail and dying, with whom she is desperately seeking an elusive peace.

The reader does not long remain a stranger: quickly we are brought into the solipsistic circle of the poet's grief, which seems as angry and troubled as the storm clouds that sometimes threaten her city. We become privy to recollections of a childhood sexual assault, fantasies of fraternal incest, and to repeated descriptions of her rage against her father and the tortuous Oedipal posturings of family members around him as he lay dying.

Light equals spirit

An intensely physical poet, Scheier does not shy away from confronting difficult realities; no one could accuse her of being demure. If she owes much to Allen Ginsberg's poetic *Kaddish* of the 1950s in which he detailed his mother's descent into madness, she also boasts a Ginsberg-like fascination with body parts and functions, especially sexual. She steps gingerly into the sensual garden of Sappho.

Counterbalancing the acute physicality is an intense spirituality that is manifested through her repeated consultation of the sky above her Harbourfront home. Light equals spirit in the calculus of these poems, and Scheier is constantly divining the heavens as if redemption might arrive along with the purity of a sunrise or the brilliant transparency of the morning air.

Religious imagery also runs through many of the roughly 36 poems in this non-traditional Kaddish. Scheier evidently seeks redemption in her Jewish roots – or, at least, in her revisionist brand of Judaism in which women don phylacteries.

The poet struggles to reconcile herself to her Jewishness, as she does with the fact that she is and will always be her father's daughter. He is, she says, the "yud of my heart," a pun that underlies the meaning of her mourning cycle of poetry. A yud is a Jew; it is also the 10th letter of the Hebrew alphabet and the first letter of the Holy Name, and thus an essential doorway to spirituality and self-fulfillment.

In an early poem, *Wheelchair, 1*, which is typical for its shocking honesty, Scheier writes of "how simple it would be to just tip the chair and watch him tumble down a steep ravine, never to hurt anyone again." But she knows she cannot.

She confronts the painful, universal conundrum of childhood anger with bravery and uncommon literary skill.

Sometimes her free verse is elevating, but more usually it is degraded and undisciplined, like most modern poetry. Since her best pieces are prose, she might do well to attempt a novel, even if it means donning the fictional mask. More joy and a lot less anger would definitely round out her artistic palette.

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A treasure trove of history

By KATHRYN KATES
Special to The CJN

Malta would be worth trillions, if being rich in history could be counted in coins. The population of 380,000 can trace its origins back to 4000 BCE.

Malta consists of five islands – Malta, Gozo, Comino and two uninhabited islands – which are approximately 200 square miles in total. Situated at the crossroads of the Mediterranean Sea, the Maltese islands are about 60 miles from Sicily and 180 miles from Tunisia.

Marasaxlokk

Historically, control over Malta was a prerequisite for domination of the Mediterranean. Malta's colonizers included the Phoenicians, Carthaginians, Romans, Byzantines, Arabs, Normans, Castilians, Knights of St. John, the French and finally the British.

Malta gained its independence from Britain in 1964 and became a republic a decade later.

Apart from the beautiful beaches, tourists can also visit the many historical sites.

The Maltese owe their Catholic faith to Paul the Apostle – he was shipwrecked on Malta's shores in 60 CE. They speak a Semitic language which is similar to Arabic, but it has a hint of Romance.

Much of the culture is rooted in era of the Knights of the Order of St. John, who ruled the islands from 1530 until Napoleon conquered them in 1798.

The origins of the Knights of the Order of St. John date back to the 11th century. They were Christian pilgrims who were expelled from Jerusalem and later from Rhodes. Emperor Charles V gave Malta to the knights in 1530 and they quickly improved trade and commerce on the islands.

The Turkish leader Suleiman wanted to destroy the order and to use Malta as a base to attack southern Europe and so he invaded the islands. The Great Siege of 1565 lasted four months, and although heavily outnumbered, the knights, assisted by the people of Malta, defeated the Turks.

After their victory, the knights ushered in a golden era of culture, architecture and arts. The castles and wall fortifications found today in Malta are vestiges of this era.

Up until the siege the medieval city of Mdina served as Malta's capital. Under the rule of the Grand Master Jean Parisot de la Valette, who thwarted the Turks, a new fortified city was built and named Valletta in his honor.

The knights originated from Europe's richest families, and Valletta, which overlooks the Grand Harbor, reaped the benefits of this wealth.

During World War II, the islands served as a strategic base for the Allied invasion of Sicily.

The Maltese weathered horrendous aerial attacks and were honored for their valor in 1943. They received a plaque from U.S. President Franklin Delano Roosevelt and the prestigious George Cross from England's King George VI.

A great way to learn about Malta is to check out the audiovisual show, *Malta Experience*, in Valletta. After the movie, visit St. John's Co-Cathedral, formerly the conventual church of the order, and the Grand Master's Palace, which now houses Malta's Parliament and the armory.

From the Upper Barracca Gardens, formerly the private gardens of the Italian knights, one can see across the Grand Harbor to the fortified towns of Vittoriosa, Cospicua and Senglea, commonly referred to as the Three Cities.

The Wartime Experience, housing the George Cross in its lobby, the National War Museum in St. Elmo, and the Lascaras War Rooms, where U.S. General Dwight Eisenhower and British Lord Mountbatten devised their combat strategies during Word War II, are a must for history aficionados.

Nicknamed the Silent City, Mdina, with its winding streets, offers visitors the multi-visual, Mdina Experience. Not to be missed is The Knights of Malta – a recreation of history through the use of 120 life-size characters, dressed in period costumes and set in historical chambers.

Other places of interest include the Maritime Museum in Fort St. Angelo, the quaint island of Gozo's Citadel and its museums, the Ggantija Prehistoric Temples and picturesque Marsaxlokk – a fishing village in Malta's south where Turkish forces landed and the knights surrendered to Napoleon.

Maltese and English are Malta's official languages. Accommodations are plentiful and the average temperatures range from 13 C in the winter to 30 C in the summer.

Canadian Airlines and British Airways connect with Air Malta at London's Heathrow Airport – Terminal 4. One Malta lira costs approximately $3.90. For more information contact, Malta National Tourist Office, New York at 212-695-9520.

Neolithic temples predate Stonehenge.

The Maltese countryside.

Fishermen still use the *dghajsa*, as their forefathers did.

The war museum in Valletta. Turkey seiged the island in 1565. In 1943 the Maltese were honored for withstanding three years of German bombing.

The Citadel in Victoria, Gozo, was built by the knights of Malta.

Business Profile

Retail whiz makes life easier for pharmacists

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Time was when "druggists," as they used to be called, had to be as adept at mixing up a decent chocolate shake as at preparing a batch of antibiotics.

Pharmacists of yesteryear had to do it all, from sweeping floors, preparing prescriptions (sometimes using mortar and pestle – remember those?) to staffing a lunch or soda fountain counter. Most pharmacists, especially those in small towns, were sole proprietors – merchants as well as health care professionals. The big chains, which assumed a large part of the average practitioner's workload, did not flourish until the 1950s.

That doesn't mean life for pharmacists has become easier. If anything, the job is even more demanding, given the arrival of new, more complex drugs on the market, and the endless ways one drug can interact with any other. The person behind the counter has a lot to worry about when it comes to delivering front-line health care; whether there are enough detergents or cosmetics on the shelves can only be a distraction.

Enter Drug Trading Co. Ltd., and its energetic president and CEO, Larry Latowsky. Headquartered in Toronto, Drug Trading is Canada's largest retail organization and the country's leading pharmaceutical dispenser. What that means for the average, overworked, independent pharmacist is this: The company provides complete retail, professional, technical, marketing and other services, freeing practitioners to focus on their job's enormous health-related responsibilities.

"We act on behalf of 1,500 independent pharmacists across Canada," says Latowsky, a 19-year retail veteran who was appointed to the top job at Drug Trading last October. "We are in the business of providing solutions."

Essentially, the company is a one-stop centre, functioning much like a co-operative, but perhaps a bit more aggressively. Those who join pay a membership fee (anywhere from $3,000 to $7,500 a year). Drug Trading requires the purchase of a core amount of services.

In return, the independent pharmacist has a load taken off his or her shoulders. The company offers a full range of retail services to pharmacies operating under four national banners: IDA, Guardian, RxCentral and Community Drug Mart, as well as to independent, non-banner stores.

Drug Trading negotiates with over 1,000 different vendors whose wares are sold in pharmacies, whether soft drinks, potato chips or diapers, and is able to get its members chain-like costs. It also goes to bat for pharmacists on issues of legislation and professional concerns; it helps with merchandising problems; it provides nearly 100 million pieces of advertising and marketing materials a year; and through a 10-year agreement signed in 1997 with Medis Health and Pharmaceutical Services Inc., it provides wholesale distribution services of drugs and pharmaceutical supplies to its members.

Larry Latowsky, president and CEO of Drug Trading Co. Ltd.

"Whether it's dispensing or point of sale or operational services of product pricing signs, we do it," says Latowsky.

The numbers tell the story: Last year, Drug Trading members filled over 41 million prescriptions, more than any other drug store organization in Canada, and rang up about $3 billion in sales. In the first four months of 1999, sales were up 11 percent, and in a 45-day period this past spring, 40 independent pharmacies converted to either IDA or Guardian banners.

As Latowsky understates, "Pharmacy is a good business."

So good, in fact, that Latowsky is now offering what the company calls a new "repositioning" program, the final element in its two-year plan. "Pharmacy 2000" is designed to maximize members' collective purchasing power (leading, it is hoped, to lower costs for consumers), while preserving a drug store's small-town approach to personalized service. The company describes it as a "holistic" new tack that will harmonize every aspect of drug store operations, from the dispensary through to the impulse-driven front of the shop. A key to the program will be the launch of PharmAssist, a new marketing program that will link all four banner stores' dispensary services, technology and consumer-focused programs.

Among the new initiatives Latowsky envisions are more in-store clinic days, professional development opportunities and better patient information.

The company also plans to expand its dispensary software system, known as Nexxsys, to provide total patient care, from tracking prescriptions and refills, to providing the customer with information on dosage and possible interactions with other drugs.

Apotex, Canada's largest pharmaceutical company, has recently teamed up with Drug Trading to form a program that will provide members with a one-stop inventory of medications available in any dispensary.

A multi-million-dollar advertising campaign that will emphasize a pharmacist's partnership with the patient will kick it all off this autumn. It's the boss's intent to have 2,000 stores join the new program, not as another millennium kicker, but as a realistic goal.

Behind the breakneck speed at which Drug Trading is moving is Latowsky, who is described in the retail business as a turnaround specialist. His mission has been to lead the company's transformation from a wholesale distributor to a retail services company. The firm employs 200. Most – 1,100 – of its member pharmacies are in Ontario, with the rest in Western Canada (275) and the Maritimes (125). About 200 members are in rural areas, "and in many centres, they are the only provider of service," Latowsky says. There are no Drug Trading affiliates in Quebec, "but we're looking into that."

Adding to his full plate is the fact that regulations governing pharmacists vary from province to province. "We represent our members, no matter where they are."

Latowsky, 39, who makes his home in Thornhill with his wife, Karen, and two young daughters, got his start with what he calls a kitchen-table degree in pharmacy, courtesy of his father Norman, once an independent pharmacist who went on to become president of Top Drug Mart and chair of United Cigar Stores.

After graduating from York University, the younger Latowsky quickly racked up a record of fast start-ups and turnarounds. As president and CEO of Toronto-based Drug World Ltd., from 1983 to 1990, he is credited with expanding the business from one store to 10. He then orchestrated a merger with BiWay, an affiliate, to leverage the assets of both businesses.

As a senior executive at BiWay from 1990 to 1996, he helped guide the company through its $30-million turnaround. As president of Bargain Shops, a national, 200-store chain, he led the business from a negative to a positive return on investments in two years.

Last fall, Latowsky joined a company that was founded in 1905 with a mandate "to support and service independent pharmacy." In 1933, Drug Trading established Independent Druggists' Alliance (IDA), now the oldest pharmacy chain in Ontario. Guardian Drugs was born in 1964.

Despite growth and successes over the decades, Drug Trading faced losses of $8 million in 1996, and embarked on an extensive restructuring effort from wholesale distribution to retail service provision. It sold its wholesale assets to Medis Health (with which it has its distribution deal) and closed its Scarborough distribution centre.

The company is now enjoying stability and growth, and has grand plans for the future. Stores will be redesigned to accentuate the dispensary without detracting from other areas. To date, the company has entered into new arrangements with 120 suppliers, including exclusive deals with Hallmark and Coca-Cola.

Like the old-fashioned, white-smocked druggist of yore, Latowsky lives by a simple professional creed: "To fairly promise and to over-deliver. So far, I think it's worked."

Sonny Goldstein, CLU,CH.F.C.
President

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330 OBITUARIES

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330 OBITUARIES

BERMAN, Leslie Brian, M.D. - Passed away at the Hamilton General Hospital on Tuesday, July 20, 1999 at the age of 56. Beloved son of Anne Berman & dear father of Michal, Leora, Tammy, Mark & Danielle. Loving brother of Jeff Geffen & Pam Phillips. Dr. Berman will be sadly missed by many close family, friends and professional colleagues. Dr. Berman was buried at the New Adas Israel Cemetery. Donations to the Hamilton Hebrew Academy to establish a special a special student fund at the wish of Dr. Berman's children would be appreciated. 905-528-0330.

BOURKOVSKAIA, Raiza - on July 22, 1999.
COHEN, Rivka - on July 22, 1999, late of 765 Steeles Ave. W.
ELLIS, Hilda - on July 22, 1999, late of 775 Steeles Ave. W.
KISHINEVSKI, Palia - on July 22, 1999, late of 21 Miles Crt.
KOTT, Esther Judith - on July 22, 1999, late of 114 Ranee Ave.
KRUGER, Toby - on July 22, 1999, late of 44 Stormont Ave.
ROSENFELD, Borris (Baruch) - on July 22, 1999, late of Israel.
FEYGIN, Serafim - on July 23, 1999, late of 4222 Bathurst St.
GOLDREICH, Esther - on July 23, 1999, late of 7440 Bathurst St.
SHERMAN, Brenda - on July 23, 1999, late of 29 Northover St.
TRAITMAN, Fay - on July 23, 1999, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
HECHT, Saba - on July 24, 1999, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
KURINNOY (Kourinai), Polina - on July 24, 1999.
WASSERMAN (nee Levine), Cheryl - on July 24, 1999, late of 123 Thistledown Blvd.
KROVBLIT, Mordechai - on July 25, 1999.
VOIKHANSKY, Borris - on July 25, 1999, late of 6030 Bathurst St.
WEISFELD, Joseph - on July 25, 1999, late of 3900 Yonge St.
WILDER, Max - on July 25, 1999, late of 1201 Steeles Ave. W.

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NIFTY 50'S

Divorced Jewish female, 51, 5'5", attractive, affectionate, fun loving, independent, outgoing, good sense of humour and family values, enjoy opera, theater, long walks. Seeking a professional male, 45-55, financially secure, intelligent, with similar interests. AD#1077

PAMPER ME

Single female, 40, full figured, attractive, friendly, happy, affectionate. Seeking a male, financially secure, who will spoil and pamper me, and I will be loving companion for life. AD#1136

LONG TERM

Single female, 40, Jewish, green eyes. Seeking a male who is established, kind hearted and a business man. AD#1215

CITY AND COUNTRY GIRL

Single Jewish female, non smoker. Seeking an attractive male, 63+, with a great sense of humour, who enjoys the arts and travelling. AD#2059

LET'S HAVE COFFEE

Divorced Jewish female, 46, petite, attractive, blond, easy going, compassionate, enjoy dining & dancing, theater, exploring new places, family life, proud of my Jewish heritage. Seeking a single Jewish male, 46-58, non smoker, with similar interests. AD#1305

SEEKING COMPANION

Single female, attractive, honest, easy going, warm, petite. Seeking a Jewish male, 38-45, kind, reliable, educated, similar interests. AD#1456

MARRIAGE MINDED

Single female, never married, late 30's, professional, pretty, traditional values, observant, spiritually atuned. Seeking a male, well educated, honest, established, 40-50, strong, giving, sensitive, with a passion for life and growth for himself and others. AD#1213

COMPANIONSHIP

Separated female, 46, seeking a Jewish male,warm kind hearted, gentle, great sense of humour. AD#1360

SPECIAL MAN

Single female, on the outside is fun loving, spontaneous, attractive, on the inside is sensitive, secure. Seeking a male who likes what is on the outside but more deeply likes what is on the inside. AD#1451

FAMILY VALUES

Single Jewish female, attractive, 42, university educated, employed, honest, intelligent, affectionate, loyal, caring, sensitive, confident. Seeking a Jewish male, over 40, financially and emotionally secure, honest, generous, with family values. AD#1637

THOUGHTFUL

Single female, slim, trim, beautiful, petite, warm, caring, intelligent, thoughtful, enjoy long walks, nature, cooking, music, Jewish traditions. Seeking a quality Jewish male, who is caring and sharing. AD#2057

LET'S ENJOY GOOD MUSIC

Divorced Jewish female, slim, pretty, petite, warm, caring, giving, enjoy nature, walks, cozy fires, family and friends. Seeking a male, 58-68, for caring and sharing. AD#1452

EQUAL

Single Jewish female, 5'4", 120lbs, long dark brown hair, green eyes, athletic build, employed, two university degrees, enjoy outdoors, camping, jogging, dancing, fine dining. Seeking a handsome male, late 20's to early 40's, who is outgoing. AD#1047

SERIOUS RELATIONSHIP

Very attractive Jewish female, 39, 5'3", very slim, golden hair, enjoy travelling, hiking, dancing, swimming, cooking, reading. Seeking a professional male, 39-45, sincere, honest, non smoker, with similar interests. AD#1321

LET'S HAVE COFFEE

Single Jewish female, attractive, dark hair, clear complexion, 5'6", medical professional, enjoy sailing, tennis, cycling, hiking, outdoor activities. Seeking a Jewish male, professional, 38-45, no baggage, successful, kind, for long term relationship. AD#2051

COMPANIONSHIP

Single female, retired, professional, 5'3", attractive, kind, caring, warm, with many interests. Seeking a male, late 60's, intelligent, for companionship. AD#1264

UNIVERSITY GRADUATE

Single female, late 50's, 5'4", nice, bright, brown curly hair, brown eyes, university graduate, lots of fun to be with. Seeking a male, 55+, over 5'8", bright warm, funny, a university graduate. AD#1015

GOOD VALUES

Divorced Jewish female, attractive, slim, blond hair, brown eyes, late 40's, educated, non smoker, intelligent, great sense of humour. Seeking a male, 48-60, professional, intelligent, honest, secure, caring, good values, great sense of humour. AD#1389

LOOKING FOR A RELATIONSHIP

Single female, 38, dark hair, blue eyes, professional, employed, good hearted, down to earth, family - friends oriented, enjoy working out, walking, quiet evenings. Seeking a male, family & friends oriented, enjoys movies, live theater, long walks. AD#2050

To renew your ad call 416-236-6644

Men seeking Women

To respond to an ad, call 1-900-451-4552 Ext. 65

LONG TERM RELATIONSHIP

Single Jewish male, 37, 5'7", slim, full of life, fun to be with, enjoy long walks, dining and dancing, hiking, movies. Seeking a Jewish female, 28-37, for long term serious relationship. AD#1613

HOPELESS ROMANTIC

Divorced male, professional, Eastern European background, 5'10", slim, fit, handsome, down to earth, non smoker, enjoy movies, sunsets, and a healthy life style. Seeking a female, 30ish, affectionate, slim, attractive, for a long term relationship. AD#1323

MARRIAGE MINDED

Single male, easy going, sincere, enjoy movies, art, books, long walks, a wide variety of interests. Seeking a female, 25-35, for a serious relationship. AD#1603

FUN TO BE WITH

Single male, 34, 6', brown hair, blue green eyes, slim, enjoy movies, dining out, trade shows, culture, adventures. Seeking a Jewish female, 30-36, 5'5"+, easy going, outgoing, with similar interests. AD#1596

ACTIVE

Single male, professional, active, enjoy fun and games, travelling, dining out, sports activities. Seeking a female, who is attractive, intelligent, athletic, with similar interests. AD#1312

HEALTHY LIFESTYLE

Divorced male, 5'10", handsome, professional, slim, fit, down to earth, non smoker, a hopeless romantic, enjoy sunsets on the beach. Seeking a slim, attractive female, in her 30's, who is kind and affectionate. AD#2058

PROFESSIONAL

Single Jewish male, 50, professional, enjoy sports, fishing, walking, movies, dining out. Seeking a Jewish female, 38-45, attractive, with similar interests. AD#1416

HOPELESS ROMANTIC

Divorced male, Eastern European background, professional, 5'10", slim, fit, non smoker, down to earth, romantic, enjoy sunsets and a healthy life style. Seeking a slim, attractive female, 30ish, for a long term relationship. AD#2052

ROMANTIC AT HEART

Single Jewish male, late 40's, 5'10", grey blue eyes, sincere, warm, gentle, compassionate, good sense of humour, enjoy the theater, bowling, tennis, long walks. Seeking a female, single or widowed, Orthodox preferred, but not required, with similar interests and personality. AD#1150

FRIENDS FIRST

Single Jewish male, 53, fit, employed, live in Thornhill. Seeking a Jewish female for friendship, with no expectations. AD#2053

LIKES TO SHARE

Single Jewish male, 37, honest, caring, fun to be with. Seeking a female, who is attractive to enjoy life to the fullest together. AD#1088

DEVOTED TO YOU

Single male, 5'8", 160lbs, athletic build, greenish-blue eyes, handsome, honest, generous, kind, smart, enjoy exercising, reading, swimming, tennis. Seeking a Jewish female, no children, wonderful, devoted, ready to start a family. AD#1528

SERIOUS RELATIONSHIP

Single Jewish male, 45, 5'10", slim, active, widower, affectionate. Seeking a female, who is kind and fun loving. AD#2049

THE PHOENIX RISES

Divorced male, 50's, young looking, attorney, entrepreneur, slim, trim, 5'8", dark, athletic, marshall arts master, Palmid, Chacham, Kamballist, wish to return to Orthodoxy and study. Seeking a female, 30-50, slender, attractive, wise, supportive, for long term relationship. AD#1104

BUSINESS DEGREE

Single male, 46, conservative looking, have a Business Degree, love the stock market, enjoy dancing, antique, country, art auctions. Seeking a female, who is nice, with similar interests, children are welcome, and non-slim female are OK! AD#1477

ONE WAY TO LOVE

Single Jewish male, 37, good looking, compassionate, fun to be with, with a great sense of humour. Seeking a female, 29-37, who is a Jewish lively and bubbly. AD#1562

THE RIGHT STUFF

Single male, 45, 5'8", Jewish, professional, sincere, intelligent, affectionate, down to earth, family oriented. Seeking a Jewish female, 38-46, with similar qualities, for a meaningful relationship. AD#1378

LADY OF HIS DREAM

Single male, 40, slim, 5'11", 165lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, sincere, hopeless romantic, enjoy walking on the beach, bowling, tennis, swimming, sports, 60's music. Seeking a slim, attractive female, with a great sense of humour. AD#1610

WARM AND CARING

Single white male, 57, romantic, self employed, businessman, enjoy travelling, movies, quiet times, good conversation. Seeking a female with similar interests. AD#2044

SERIOUS RELATIONSHIP

Single male, 50's, young looking, 5'8", slim, professional, trim, world explorer, strong, well educated. Seeking a slender female, 25-45, intelligent, compassionate, attractive, very wise and adventurous. AD#2045

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Sports

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Female rabbi loves to watch the ponies run

By HARLAN ABBEY
Special to The CJN

BUFFALO — The Triple Crown attracts hundreds of thousands of horse racing fans from all walks of life, but Audrey Korotkin is probably one of the few rabbis among them.

Or if not, certainly the only rabbi who knows nearly all the trainers, jockeys and owners by their first names.

Rabbi Korotkin, who was ordained recently at the Hebrew Union College's (HUC) Cincinnati campus, formerly served as executive director of Triple Crown Productions, which coordinated coverage of the Kentucky Derby, the Preakness and the Belmont Stakes.

Prior to that, she won racing journalism's Eclipse Award, racing's equivalent of the Oscar, for her work as a radio journalist covering the sport in Baltimore.

There probably has never been a rabbi with such an unusual background.

"Blame it on my grandparents," joked Rabbi Korotkin, who is married to Don Clippinger, editor of *Thoroughbred Times*, a weekly racing magazine based in Louisville, Ky.

A native of the Washington, D.C. area, Audrey would visit her grandparents, Freda and the late Michell Korotkin, as a youngster.

"They loved racing," she said. "They took my father (Arthur) and my aunt Barbara to all the area race tracks and even drove to Kentucky to visit the famous breeding farms.

"I can remember going to the old Liberty Bell Park and my grandfather would hold the program up to me – I was only two or three at the time – and let me pick a horse for him to bet on.

"Of course, I couldn't even read yet, but they instilled in me a great love for the sport."

Rabbi Korotkin enrolled at the University of Maryland, majoring in Soviet and East European studies with a broadcasting minor, with ambitions of becoming a foreign correspondent.

"When I went to work for WBAL radio in Baltimore, I found I liked covering local news," she related.

"Racing is the number three industry in Maryland and the news director told me to learn everything I could about the sport.

"That was in 1979, the year of Spectacular Bid. I loved the human interest stories and the people in racing. My family was very supportive of my work in journalism and enjoyed hearing me on the radio.

"I met my husband through racing," Rabbi Korotkin continued. "We were introduced by a mutual racing-writer friend at the Maryland Hunt Cup timber race in 1982.

"We were just acquaintances until five years later, when we ran into each other in Hialeah Park in Florida and started dating."

Looking back on her days as a racing reporter, Rabbi Korotkin remembers:

"My favorite horse is Creme Fraiche, trained by the late Woody Stephens and winner of the 1985 Belmont. Whenever I could, I'd go see him race. I always brought mints to him and I spent time with him in the barn.

Rabbi Audrey Korotkin

"He even got to recognize my voice and would start whinnying if he heard me at the other end of the barn.

"My second favorite horse was Easy Goer, whom I'd spotted on the training track at Saratoga before he ever started. He was really majestic looking and would show off for the backstretch crowds, posing for pictures like he was Secretariat.

"He wasn't, of course, but he did win the '89 Belmont – and broke my heart when he lost the Derby and Preakness."

Audrey and her husband gave up daily journalism and moved to Louisville where she began doing freelance publicity for area race tracks in addition to her Triple Crown Production duties.

"We were also doing some PR for non-profit agencies, but we both felt something was missing in our lives," Clippinger said.

"We joined Congregation Temple Shalom in Cincinnati and began studying with Rabbi Stanley Miles."

"It opened up a whole new world to me," Rabbi Korotkin continued. "I became active in the congregation's social action work, in the local Jewish federation and in its community relations council.

"After three or four years, I came to realize this is what I should be doing full-time."

Her first year of rabbinical studies (1994) at HUC's Israel campus, was a strain:

"Don and I were apart except for Chanukah and Passover. He was doing publicity for the Preakness – the first race I missed since 1979 – but he arranged for me to hear it on the telephone at midnight."

In addition to her studies, Rabbi Korotkin is the weekend rabbi at Anshe Emet in Piqua, Ohio, two hours away from their home in Fort Thomas, Ky., and 30 miles north of Dayton, Ohio.

"It's a very small congregation of 25 families, but I'm going to continue there while working toward my PhD in rabbinics and Talmud at HUC.

"It's nice for them and for me; they won't have to 'break in' a new rabbi each year."

Rabbi Korotkin, who used to have time to ride, is not sure what track to follow once her studies are completed.

"I've though about becoming a congregational rabbi, but I have four more years before I have to make that decision.

"Right now, I'm enjoying my studies and teaching some communications courses to my fellow rabbinical students.

"It's funny how life changes so dramatically in so short a time."

Rabbi Korotkin doesn't feel that her transition is any more unusual than other "non-traditional," older rabbinical classmates: lawyers, ad agency executives, government workers...

"I think as we get older, many of us find we need an outlet to fulfill our spiritual needs.

"Now, I'm invited into people's lives and families at the most joyful and also at the most painful of times," she said.

"It's a tremendous responsibility and also an incredible blessing."

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PAN AM GAMES, MACCABI STYLE

Canada's soccer team kibbitzes around just prior to departing Pearson Airport for the recently-concluded Pan Am Maccabi Games in Mexico City. The Canadian indoor soccer squad finished fourth in the six-team competition, losing the bronze medal game to Brazil by a score of 6-3, after leading 3-0. Argentina won the gold medal while Mexico took the silver.

The Inside Back

Red tape entangles Eliyahu

By JORDAN MAX

Mr. Eliyahu Hanavi,
c/o Messianic Era Developments Ltd,
Jerusalem

Dear Mr. Hanavi,

Thank you for submitting, or rather, announcing your proposal for a Third Temple, Beis HaMikdash Shlishi, a large synagogue-type development in the Jerusalem municipality. We are pleased that you have selected our city for this project. We have conducted a preliminary assessment of your project's feasibility, and note the following issues which must be satisfactorily addressed for municipal approval prior to construction.

Last Laugh

The proposed site, being the current Temple Mount, is zoned B-1 for a religious institution.

However, we understand that you also plan to conduct "animal sacrifices" (further explanation is required) and hold a court of Jewish law there, as well. Our religious affairs department informs us that this is quite unusual for a synagogue, and this would have to be reviewed carefully. We note that city bylaws prohibit bringing farm animals into the city proper.

Notwithstanding your claim that smoke will ascend directly upward, a noxious odor abatement plan will be required. Moreover, we note that this site is not zoned for an abattoir and open-air grill (we assume this is some type of restaurant), so a mixed-used designation would be required, which might require an amendment to the city's master plan. It may be more likely that Moshiach will come before the master plan can be amended. Alternative sites should be considered. Perhaps the Teddy Kollek Soccer Stadium can be retrofitted for your purposes.

You had stated that your Beis HaMikdash Shlishi concept will accomodate millions of persons on the three major pilgrimage holidays, hundreds of thousands on Shabbat, and thousands on a daily basis. We are doubful that the space available will adequately handle these large crowds, and current fire code regulations for occupancy will have to be strictly followed. As well, adequate parking has not been addressed in the development plans.

Use of this temple will likely generate considerable traffic and congestion, even if public transit is assumed to be available. We note that the space under the Temple Mount may be suitable for underground parking, however, local residents may not be in favor of such a large development and traffic volume.

We suggest that their input and agreement would be most helpful in the approval process. There are also day care centres, public washrooms, non-smoking areas, lighting, signage and conscientious objector (the "apikoros" by-law) requirements which must be satisfied.

Once these issues have been resolved, architectural plans and designs will have to be reviewed by a committee comprised of local councillors who will review the height, density, artistic and asthetic design, and may require significant alterations. To date, we have not received any specific model or drawings. Notwithstanding your claim that your client, God Himself will build the project, we would need to see the drawings and confirm his architect, contractor and subtrade qualifications and licences. The ministries of labor and interior will need to review the immigration and work permits of all construction workers. This being Israel, we also anticipate that construction will take considerably longer than a day, as you maintain, therefore arrangements will have to be made for local disruption during construction.

While we respect your opinion that the establishment of the Third Temple is solely in your client's hands, our legal department has determined that the municipality has jurisdiction for development before, during and even after the Messianic Era. In the event that your client acts unilaterally, we will immediately seek an injunction through the courts. This should be avoided at all costs by adhering to the municipality's approval process, which is expected to take four to five years.

Again, we thank you for considering building your project in Jerusalem and look forward to further discussions and refinements of this important project and tourist attraction.

Sincerely,
The Planning Commission,
City of Jerusalem

THIS RECIPE BROUGHT TO YOU BY...
HERB CAPLAN
WE SELL Amana
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FOR LESS

WATERMELON & RED ONION SALAD

1 1/2 tblsp chopped shallots
1/3 cup raspberry vinegar
1/3 cup fresh raspberries, pureed and strained
2 tblsp chopped mint leaves
2 tsp honey
1/3 cup light olive oil
sea salt (to taste)
pinch of cayenne pepper
2 med. red onions, thinly sliced
1 bunch watercress, stems removed
1 handful of arugula
8 cups watermelon, cut into 1" cubes
1/2 cup fresh figs, chopped
1/3 cup blueberries

In a large bowl, whisk together the shallots, vinegar, raspberry puree, mint, honey and olive oil. Season to taste with salt & cayenne pepper.

Separate the red onions into rings. Pour the raspberry vinaigrette over the onions and marinate in the refrigerator for at least 15 mins; reserve the vinaigrette.

To serve, divide into 6 portions, arrange on a bed of watercress and arugula. Top with cubed watermelon, figs and blueberries; place red onion rings on top. Drizzle the reserved raspberry vinaigrette on top of the completed salad.

About Teens

Dear Karilani,

I thought all of my school problems would end with the start of summer. I was wrong. My report card is being mailed to my house. The problem arises in regards to my grades. I did not do well at all.

My parents are expecting B+'s and A's. I don't think they will be satisfied with the marks that I have. I knew of their expectations the whole year, and I lied to them to get them off of my case. I told them my marks were high. The difference is, what is good to me is not necessarily good to them.

I'm afraid of how they are going to react when they see my marks. I'm worried that they will punish me and take away my free time, and in turn, embarrass me in front of my friends. What should I do?

Worried

Dear Worried

First, you should not lie to your parents. However, because you have already lied, it is important to tell them the truth now. Once the report card comes, your parents will confront you anyway, so it is better if you admit to your mistake and approach them first.

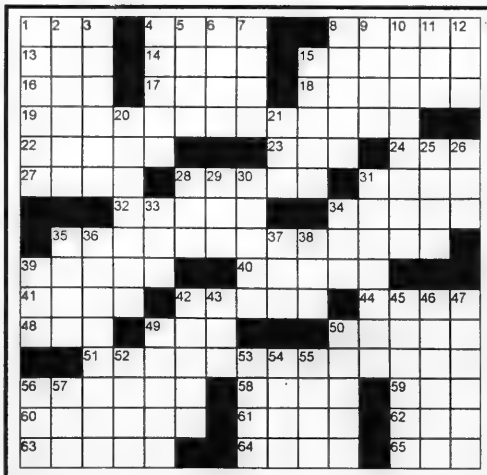
When you speak to your parents, there are a variety of issues that must be discussed. Firstly, tell them that you lied about your marks during the year. Then tell them what marks you finished with, so that when the report card comes they will not be shocked.

Another issue that must be discussed is the differing level of expectations you and your parents have about your grades. If you feel you can't achieve A's and B+'s, then you must make this point very clear to your parents. Tell them why you feel these marks are unattainable. If they maintain the same expectations of you, you will have to work harder to achieve the higher grades.

The final issue is the punishment. First, see what it is before telling your parents how you feel about being embarrassed. If the punishment will embarrass you, explain this to your parents, and see if there's another way of dealing with your punishment.

Remember that this problem stemmed from your lies. Good communication with your parents is very important. Try not to scream. Speaking to them rationally will give them a greater insight into your life.

Karilani is a composite name for three girls, who are close friends and in Grade 11 in Toronto



The Canadian Jewish News

Brainy Words

By Matt Gaffney and David Bianco (QSyndicate@aol.com)

Across

1 Hammarskjold of the UN
4 ____ *V'Emunah* (1988 Conservative Judaism statement)
8 Exonerate
13 First list item
14 Pitiful, as an effort
15 *Otherwise Known As ____ the Great* (Judy Blume book)
16 Former "SNL" star Kazurinsky
17 Describe
18 Gave a bad review, a la Joel Siegel
19 PART ONE OF A QUOTE
22 Some horses
23 Preordain the outcome
24 American rival
27 Verve
28 Katie of "Married... with Children"
31 Golf bag supplies
32 Georgia college
34 Like Leopold Bloom
35 PART TWO OF QUOTE
39 Sky wonders
40 Make a diving grab
41 German auto maker
42 In a playfully reserved fashion
44 Dutch cheese
48 ____ *Yiddisher TamTam* (bimonthly newspaper)
49 1988 film with Meg Ryan and Daniel Stern
50 Greenpeace concern
51 PART THREE OF QUOTE
56 Horse-related
58 *Metamorphoses* author
59 *I Can ____ It For You Wholesale*
60 Ottoman Empire base
61 Adam and Eve's status
62 Common street name
63 Ice cream parlor sights
64 Between Passover and Shavuot
65 Charlotte of "The Facts of Life"

Down

1 Languish in prison
2 Noah's Ark passenger
3 *Amoraim* work
4 Important island in US Jewish history
5 Common street name
6 *Mother Earth* publisher Goldman
7 Circus structure
8 Agassi rival
9 Nazi filmmaker Riefenstahl
10 SOURCE OF THE QUOTE
11 Stout
12 Cool, to kids
15 Ruin
20 Moshe Dayan, notably
21 *Rosemary's Baby* author Levin
25 ____ Bank
26 Silvery-gray color
28 ____ *Married an Axe Murderer* (Myers film)
29 Give uzis
30 Hitler victim
31 Acrobat's equipment
33 My, to Leon Blum
34 Judge Lance
35 Sulk
36 Nullify a decision, a la Stephen Breyer
37 Wise bird
38 Actor Scheider of "Jaws"
39 Indicate agreement
42 ____ Island (New York funspot)
43 Common street name
45 Sandy Koufax was one
46 Actress Lansbury
47 "____ in St. Louis"
49 Noted anti-Nazi resisters
50 More along in years
52 Raise
53 Taboo
54 Egg, to Salk
55 From side to side
56 List-ending letters
57 Quid pro ____

(This week's answers are on page 30.)

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Composer continues to bring fresh new sounds

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — After more than half a century, Milton Barnes, one of Canada's most prolific and eclectic composers, continues to explore new directions.

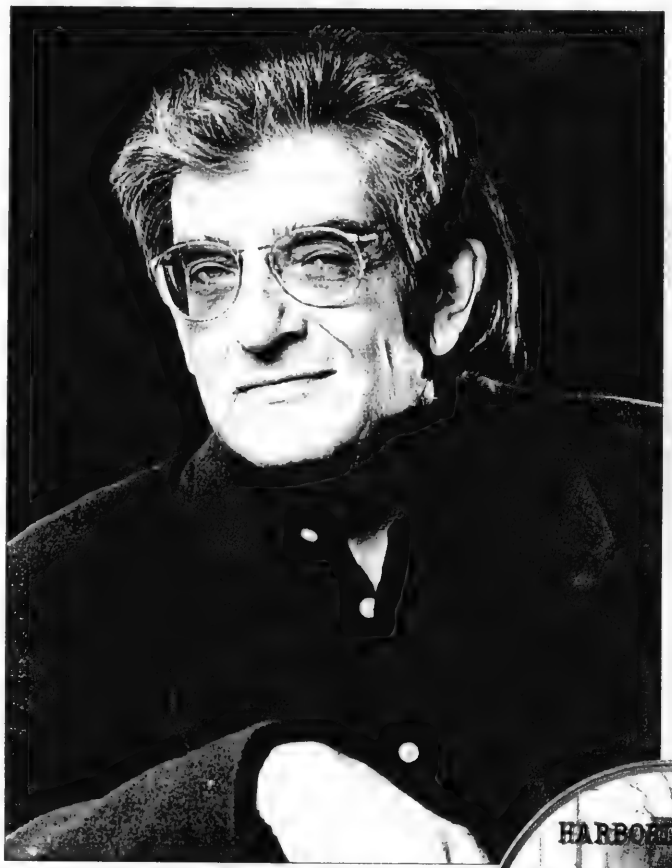
This summer, the Festival of Sound, an annual event in Parry Sound, featured Barnes' *Harbord Street*, performed by Trio Lyra, the title track of a new CD the trio launched this year.

Barnes recently conducted his own work, *Shir Hashirim*, at the Song of Songs, a multi-faith concert. And Chamberworks Players premiered his *Tango 99* at the du Maurier Centre in Hamilton.

With CD launches, premieres, broadcasts and numerous performances of his music, Toronto-based Barnes continues to bring fresh new sounds to the musical landscape.

Barnes began his musical career as a jazz drummer and guitarist when he was at Oakwood Collegiate.

By his third year, he had formed his own band, and he began earning money playing at resorts in Muskoka, Jackson's Point and at special events elsewhere. He also had a keen interest in acting and appeared in his high school's productions.



Milton Barnes

Barnes grew up in a household that loved music. He was influenced by his mother Yetta, who sang folk songs around the house, and by his father Willie, who loved classical and cantorial music.

"Instead of going into my father's building business where I worked for him during the summers, I chose a musical career. My parents thought it was a gypsy thing to be a musician."

After graduating from high school, Barnes went to study at the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto, studying with John Weinzweig and Ernst Krenek.

At the conservatory, where his friends included musicians such as Leon Major and Kurt Reis, he began writing music for university productions. He also studied conducting with some of Canada's best-known maestros, Victor Feldbrill, Boyd Neel and Walter Susskind.

Barnes later graduated from the Vienna Academy of Music, where he studied orchestral and opera conducting, and his reputation as a composer began to take root on the Canadian scene.

He founded the Toronto Repertory Orchestra in 1964, broadcasting and recording extensively for CBC radio and television.

Inspired by his Hebraic lineage

Subsequently, he appeared as guest conductor with orchestras across the country and created scores for television, theatrical productions and films including, *Blood and Guts* and *The Care Bear* movies.

In the late '50s, Barnes became aware of a need to look at Jewish music. "There was very little Jewish concert music being written. It was Ernst Bloch's music that influenced me and his music brought awareness of the potentiality of Jewish music. Shortly after, I began writing my first Jewish theme piece, *Poème Juif*."

With more study of Hebrew and Jewish music, Barnes became inspired by the notion that "I was born into and have a Hebraic lineage from biblical times to the present. I was impressed and it awakened my Jewish psyche."

Simultaneously, while composing universal music, Barnes wrote a number of other works based on Jewish themes, including *Lamentations of Jeremiah* for cello or viola, which is based on a painting by Rembrandt. And he began arranging music for Jewish holidays and festivals.

A live concert was commissioned by the Toronto Arts Council to honor the music and history of the Toronto Jewish Folk Choir.

Barnes conducted the concert, where his original piece, *The Fantasy on Jewish Themes*, premiered. It later became the centrepiece of a documentary video of the choir, called *Keeping the Flame Alive*.

Barnes' *Variations on a Hebrew Theme* was performed recently by the Amadeus Ensemble featuring violinist Moshe Hammer. Jewish Music Toronto commissioned *Séfarad*, which was premiered by Zimriyah Choral and subsequently performed by the Elmer Isler Singers and the Jewish Folk Choir.

Barnes has written more than 100 works, mostly on commission, that have been presented by orchestras, chamber groups, choirs, soloists and dance companies.

A recently released CD, titled *Erica Goodman and Friends*, features *Barnes Divertimento for Harp & Strings*, one of the most played Canadian chamber works on radio.

Conductor Sir Neville Marriner, jazz flutist Paul Horn, percussion ensemble Nexus, and violist Rivka Golani are among the internationally renowned artists who perform and record his works.

Liona Boyd calls his *Fantasy for Guitar* "one of my most successful pieces all over the world." She recorded the piece for Columbia Records.

Barnes is very vocal about his "dislike of faddism in music. The current trend in avant-guard music," which he describes as minimalism, "is not challenging to the mind; it is very simplistic," he says.

"We grew up with great lyrics and great music, but when rock music came in, the quality disappeared."

Looking back, Barnes says he takes joy in his musical accomplishments and in his three sons, who have all followed in his footsteps into the world of music. Singer/songwriter Micah was formerly with the Nylons, drummer Daniel is known in Toronto Jazz circles, and Ariel is a cellist in Vancouver.

"Last week, two of my works were broadcast nationally on CBC radio. "I realized that hundreds of thousands of people were listening to and enjoying my music. I get a real kick – it is very satisfying to know that others recognize that my music is good – I feel that I am making a contribution to the world."

Barnes says his latest project is a concert work called *The Classical Cat Minnie Minou* "to celebrate the 23 birthday of my centenarian feline companion Minnie Minou which I share with my partner Marilyn Wollin."

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This Week

GTA

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The number of Jewish immigrants up. ***Page 5***

On Campus

MADA service reveals diversity in Israeli life. ***Page16***

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International

Heather Lang, 25, monitors human rights abuses in Israel. ***Page 30***

Arts

Harry Lewis goes in Search of Broadway. ***Page 34***

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Candlelighting: 8:07
Elul 1, 5759
Havdalah: 9:12

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TOURISTS IN THE KREMLIN

Prime Minister Ehud Barak takes time out from his visit last week in Moscow to stroll with his wife Nava in Red Square. ***Please see related story on page 29.*** ***[Israel Sun Photo]***

European Jews: Is there a renaissance?

By RUTH E. GRUBER
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

ROME — A decade ago, the Jewish communities in Communist-dominated eastern and central Europe were generally written off as dying remnants of the pre-Holocaust past.

Forty years of Communist restrictions – and decades more than that in what was then the Soviet Union – had compounded the devastation of the Shoah.

Most who openly identified themselves as Jews were elderly. Many, if not most, other Jews chose to conceal or deny their Jewish identity. Many others, particularly in the former Soviet Union, faced active persecution. To many observers, the Jewish chapter in this part of Europe was virtually closed.

The collapse of communism 10 years ago changed everything. The institution of religious freedom and the disintegration of Communist-era taboos triggered social, cultural and religious Jewish revival.

Ten years after The Wall fell

Exact figures have not been compiled, but throughout eastern and central Europe, thousands of Jews, particularly younger people, have discovered, recovered or reclaimed long-buried Jewish roots and openly declared their Jewish identity.

This may be via a superficial public self-identification as a Jew, participation in study groups and secular Jewish activities, or immersion in traditional, religious Jewish life.

Continued on page 28

Caplan goes to cabinet

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Last week Elinor Caplan was sworn in as Canada's minister of citizenship and immigration, almost exactly a century after her grandparents immigrated from Poland to Canada.

"I guess I've always felt blessed that [my grandparents] chose Canada, and that Canada accepted them," she told *The CJN* by phone from Ottawa. "We know the history, and I've always felt very fortunate."

Her appointment last week by Prime Minister Jean Chrétien came as a surprise, Caplan said. "It is of course thrilling, and a wonderful honor… So few people ever have the opportunity to [serve in the cabinet of Canada], and to have such a significant portfolio."

Among her responsibilities, Caplan, 55, will oversee substantial changes to the Immigration Act set out in a white paper last winter.

Elinor Caplan

Caplan was elected member of Parliament for Thornhill in June 1997. Previously, from 1985 to 1997, she was an Ontario MPP for the riding of Oriole.

She served as Ontario's minister of health in the late 1980s, under David Peterson's Liberal government. Federally, she served as parliamentary secretary to the health minister. She has held a variety of positions both municipally and provincially since entering politics as a North York alderman in 1978.

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Remembering the night the poets were killed.
Please see page 9.

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Syria slams Arafat— please see page 27

The News in Brief

CANADA

International Symposium

TORONTO — The Toronto branch of Ohr Somayach International will participate in an international symposium on Torah Responses to a Challenging Generation. The program will be a day-long series of lectures by staff of Ohr Somayach offered first on Sept. 5 in New York, and on Sept. 6 in Toronto. Lecturers will include rabbis Mordechai Becher, Mendel Weinbach, Dovid Gottlieb, Yitzchok Breitowitz and Eliezer Breitowitz. The Toronto symposium will be held 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Leah Posluns Theatre.

Green Wants Bar Mitzvah

TORONTO — Shawn Green, the 26-year-old Toronto Blue Jays outfielder, says he wants to have a belated bar mitzvah.

"Since I've been in the big leagues, I've learned a lot more about my religion, my heritage," Green recently told the *New York Times*. His heritage helps him when he plays on the road, he said. "I might not get booed as bad as somebody who isn't Jewish in certain cities, because there are always some Jewish fans at the games who are cheering a little bit."

ISRAEL

Israelis Go Without Water

JERUSALEM — Hundreds of thousands of drought-stricken Israelis were without water for several hours last week when disgruntled workers at the state-owned water company cut off the supply. Among the cities affected were Tel Aviv, Herzliyah, Beersheva and Beit Shemesh. Strikers said they would next turn off the taps in Jerusalem.

The job action by workers for Mekorot came after they walked off the job last month in a protest over wages and plans by the government to privatize the company. Mekorot management accused the workers of endangering the public, and appealed to the National Labor Court to order workers against further job actions during negotiations.

Takes Consulting Job

JERUSALEM — Former prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu has agreed to work for an Israeli high-tech company. Netanyahu will serve as a strategic marketing consultant for BATM, the firm's president told Israel Television last week. The firm develops, manufactures and markets communications equipment.

More Kwara Jews Arrive

JERUSALEM — The July 29 arrival of 82 Jews from Ethiopia's Kwara region marks the end of the most recent Israeli government effort to repatriate Ethiopian Jews. Over 1,300 Ethiopian Jews have arrived in Israel since the end of June, when pressure from American Jews and the Jewish Agency for Israel resulted in stepped-up efforts to bring to Israel the Ethiopian Jews left behind in previous operations. According to Jewish Agency officials, approximately 500 Jews remain in Kwara and will be evacuated in the fall after the end of the rainy season.

WORLD

Condemns Anti-Semitism

MOSCOW — Russian President Boris Yeltsin condemned Russian anti-Semitism during a meeting at the Kremlin with Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak. Individuals who commit "disgusting acts of anti-Semitism" will be punished, Yeltsin was quoted as saying. He also vowed to increase Russia's role in Middle East peacemaking, which he described as "going too slowly."

During a meeting with Russian Prime Minister Sergei Stepashin, Barak voiced concern about Russian arms sales to Iran.

In a related matter, vandals desecrated six Jewish graves at a cemetery in Siberia. A local prosecutor said the attack in the city of Tomsk, the latest in a series of incidents in Russia involving Jewish targets, was discovered shortly before Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak began his visit to Moscow.

Firebomb Explodes

ATHENS — A firebomb recently exploded outside the office of the Greek-Israeli Friendship Union in Athens. No one was in the organization's office at the time of the blast, and the explosion caused no injuries, police said. The device, consisting of two propane gas canisters, caused minor damage to the entrance of the first-floor office.

Bubis Blasts Germans

BERLIN — The leader of Germany's Jewish community, Ignatz Bubis, lashed out at his fellow Germans for refusing to allow the Holocaust to remain in public consciousness.

"Every person in Germany feels responsible for Schiller, for Goethe and for Beethoven, but none for Himmler," Bubis told the weekly newsmagazine *Stern*. A large part of the German public wants to "only look forward," he said; but he warned that to face the future, they must also look to the past.

New Motion Filed

NEW YORK — Alleged Nazi death camp guard John Demjanjuk has filed a motion to dismiss the U.S. government's latest attempt to strip him of his citizenship. Demjanjuk claimed that the denaturalization proceeding amounted to double jeopardy since he had already faced a similar action. After being stripped of his U.S. citizenship in 1981, Demjanjuk was extradited to Israel in 1986 to stand trial for crimes against humanity. He spent five years on death row before the Israeli Supreme Court determined that there was reasonable doubt that he was the notorious guard known as Ivan the Terrible, who operated a gas chamber at Treblinka in 1942-43.

Ad Removed

NEW YORK — The Lycos Web browser site recently removed an advertisement placed by Jews for Jesus that appeared on the search engine page dealing with Jewish matters.

B'nai Brith Canada welcomed the decision, saying Jews for Jesus had "abused the credentials of a reputable company such as Lycos in order to give legitimacy to propaganda and indoctrination."

The Canadian Jewish news

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The squeeze on the Jewish middle class

By PAUL LUNGEN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Canadians, it is said, are being taxed to death. There's federal tax, provincial tax, property taxes, GST, PST, payroll taxes and numerous fees and levies for necessary services. Add in mortgage payments, insurance fees, car loans, clothing, food and travel expenses and it's understandable why many economists and one national newspaper say that working Canadians are finding it difficult to make ends meet.

Special Report

Yet for many in the Jewish community, contending only with those costs would be a relief, a walk in the park on a sunny day, compared to the much greater financial burden they have taken upon themselves. After all, their non-Jewish neighbors generally don't have to pay for private schools, kosher food, synagogue dues, Jewish camps, bar and bat mitzvahs and the other items of Jewish life that cut into a family budget.

Living a Jewish lifestyle is proving to be very expensive, many in the community are finding. Without meaning to minimize or deprecate the hardships facing low-income families, it is the Jewish middle class, in particular, who may be suffering the most. Well-to-do families are insulated from most costs while lower income families tend to qualify for education subsidies and other financial aid from the various communal institutions.

Guidy Mamann

It is ironic that a time when Jews in the Diaspora have never been freer to live a Jewish lifestyle, the cost of doing so has never been greater.

In an unscientific survey of members of the community, almost all point to the cost of providing a Jewish education as the greatest single cost they incur.

And it was likely always so.

This reporter's father recalls, even in the old country, during the 1930s, not every one could afford to send their children to Jewish day schools. He attended Tarbut, an elementary day school, and recalls that it cost his father about four or five days' wages for one month's tuition.

But as expensive as education may have been in the old country, things appear to have gotten worse. Tuition at a day school can range from $6,000 to $12,000 per student per year. Tuition for children with special needs can be even greater. Tuition at a supplementary school is substantially lower, generally under $1,000 per year.

With three children enrolled in Jewish day schools, a typical family would be faced with costs of $21,000 per year or more. And that's paid for with after-tax income, although a tax receipt is issued for a portion of the fees.

Add to that the cost of sending children to a Jewish camp, synagogue dues, memberships to Jewish organizations, kosher food, the costs of life cycle events like bar and bat mitzvahs and trips to Israel, and about the only bargain for those seeking to maintain a Jewish lifestyle would be an annual subscription to *The CJN* (under $30).

Zac Kaye, executive-director of Jewish Campus Services of Greater Toronto, believes the daunting costs of affiliation present a ticking time bomb for the Jewish community. "What they are finding in the United States," he said, "is that, without major help, the demographics of the day schools will be made up of people who are poor who qualify for subsidies and the rich. Those in the middle earning professional salaries will be squeezed. My sense is that it's beginning to happen here."

Lawyer Guidy Mamann agrees: "Primarily, the high cost of Jewish education affects the middle class more than anyone else." Low income families qualify for subsidies while the most affluent are not affected, he said.

The father of four girls, Mamann said, "Each will have a Jewish education and I know it's going to cost me a lot of money."

When faced with the tremendous costs associated with a day school education, some families will opt for another solution that is within their financial reach, but Mamann contends that a day school education is crucial to informing Jewish children about their past, and teaching them about Jewish rituals and the importance of avoiding intermarriage.

Currently a "crisis" in Jewish ed-

Continued on page 22

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From the editor's desk

Serene baseball excellence

We greet each new month in the Hebrew calendar with a lyrically rich and moving prayer that beseeches God to grant us the manifold blessings of life on earth for yet another month.

In the course of expressing our love for and confidence in God, we reassert an everlasting belief in the fellowship of all Jews. *Chaverim kol Yisrael.*

This sense of fellowship, with its myriad daily manifestations, permeates Jewish life and has done so throughout Jewish history.

Thus, the Jewish Agency, the federation system, indeed all communal associations, are rooted in this sense of fellowship.

We are taught never to stand by in idle inattention at the plight of our fellow Jews. Bred deeply into our framework of values is a sense of shared destiny and common purpose.

For good and for ill, that shared destiny has often meant that the behavior of one Jew has reflected on the status of all Jews. Jewish history is rife with such examples.

That, in part, explains why we often rejoice at the publicly noticed, grand achievements of our co-religionists and recoil at their low misbehaviors.

Of late, the Jewish community in North America, and particularly so in Canada has been able to find great delight in the much noticed achievements of Shawn Green.

Green is a young, 26-year-old Jew presently excelling in the professional sport of baseball for the Toronto Blue Jays.

He plays his right field position with elegance and grace, chasing down fly balls "swiftly as an eagle," and with the "strength of a lion," throwing out runners.

At the plate he combines a keen eye with a sharp inner focus, broad and brawny shoulders and a smooth-as-molasses, controlled swing through the strike zone.

But as impressive as his production with the bat and his reliability with the glove, is his serene, humble, dignified comportment on and off the field. He has never lost his temper in front of the camera; he has never publicly berated a teammate, opponent or umpire.

In all, he has set an outstanding example of exceptional skill and exceptional character for every baseball-loving youngster, Jewish or not. And this has been, perhaps, his greatest achievement.

Because of his superb play as a baseball player, he has attracted the attention of the sports writers.

Because of his superb play as a Jewish baseball player, he has attracted the attention of virtually the entire Jewish community of North America who happen also to be baseball fans.

Reporters throughout the American League are writing about him. Last week, he was the subject of a lengthy story in the *New York Times* under the headline "Daring to Compare Jays' Green: Budding Star Has Great's Look."

In the article, the reporter, Chris Broussard, wrote: "Green has come

to cherish one product of all the attention – an increased awareness of his Jewish heritage. In a sport that historically has boasted few Jewish stars – Sandy Koufax and Hank Greenberg are the only Jewish players in the Hall of Fame – Green has become a source of ethnic pride, drawing cheers from Jewish fans in practically every ball park he enters and being featured in many Jewish publications.

"I definitely get a lot of support from the Jewish community," Green said..."and it feels good to be welcomed like that."

"It's great to have the support of the Jewish community," Green told Rosie DiManno of the *Toronto Star*.

"It's like being part of a big family, wherever I go."

In those 11 few words, Green eloquently expressed the intangible essence of *chaverim kol Yisrael*, the fellowship of all Jews.

With Green's rise to the baseball top, there is now speculation that he may wind up playing for the New York Yankees. Given the lore and the lure of the Yankee pinstripe, we understand the gravity in the speculation.

Our first hope for Shawn Green, as an individual and as a person, is that he enjoy a long, exciting, productive, rewarding, satisfying career wherever he chooses to play out his career.

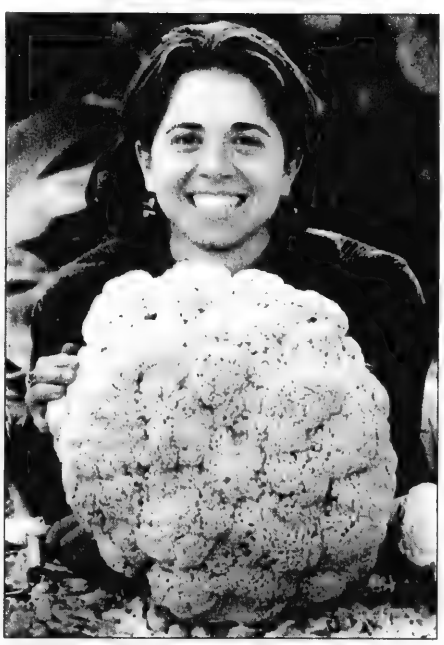
But our second hope is for Shawn Green to be a lifelong member of the Toronto Blue Jays.

We are all so very proud of him. *Chaverim kol Yisrael.*

Go Jays go!

MBD

SEE JN



A RECORD CAULIFLOWER

Jerusalemite Keren Roman, a student at Hebrew University, displays her *Guiness Book of Records* 10 kilogram cauliflower, the largest in the world. [WZPS photo]

Greater Toronto Area

Number of Jewish immigrants up, JIAS reports

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Jewish Immigrant Aid Services of Canada's (JIAS) national office saw a 13 percent increase in the number of Jewish newcomers sponsored over its last fiscal year, compared to the previous 12 months.

JIAS national's recent annual meeting heard that in 1998- 99, the agency sponsored 1,803 Jewish immigrants in 704 families, in areas outside Toronto and Montreal.

That's up from the 1,593 individuals in 665 families who came under community sponsorship during the previous year.

Again this past year, most newcomers settled by JIAS arrived from the former Soviet Union. Many also came from Brazil and Argentina.

Those sponsored by JIAS's national office settled in Vancouver, Ottawa, Winnipeg, Calgary and other cities. Emigres who chose to live in Toronto and Montreal were sponsored by the local JIAS offices in those cities.

JIAS national president Sharon Hochberg decided not to renew her term. Hochberg, of Winnipeg, stepped down due to "personal family matters," as she put it, paving the way for Bonnie Osoff-Bultz of Calgary to assume the leadership.

Two of them are expected to come under family reunification provisions, one to Vancouver and the other to Tecumseh, Ont.

JIAS says it believes that a third family has gone to Israel.

The fourth, consisting of a single mother and her two children, is expected to arrive in the coming weeks in Windsor, where the Jewish community has offered support.

Another highlight of the past year was the successful Immigrant to Immigrant conference held last May in Winnipeg, at which established immigrants met with more recent newcomers to share their experiences and explore the job market.

The agency's national executive director, Michael Briks, outlined JIAS's goals for the coming year. They include:

- enhancing the agency's presence and influence among other immigrant organizations, such as the Canadian Council for Refugees;
- advancing services to immigrants and refugees in smaller Jewish communities and helping small communities access provincial and federal grant dollars;
- developing an immigrant youth leadership training conference, slated to take place in Montreal in 2000;
- continuing to identify and approach sponsors in the private sector for special projects;
- bolstering relations with federal government departments and with JIAS's global partner, Hebrew Immigrant Aid Services (HIAS);
- and improving consultations with relevant Jewish communal agencies.

Jewish Kosovars on agenda

Osoff-Bultz, a 50-year-old clinical social worker, told *The CJN* her priorities are to maintain the agency's integrity, and to bring about improved communications between JIAS, the federations and local Jewish family service agencies.

Among the big issues having faced JIAS over the past year was the plight of refugees from Kosovo. The agency was flooded with hundreds of letters, faxes and e-mails offering support for Jewish Kosovars, both those sheltered in Canada and those who fled to neighboring countries.

While none of the Kosovars who stayed at Canadian installations identified themselves as Jewish, overseas, four Jewish Kosovar families had expressed interest in coming to Canada.

BBYO FLOOR HOCKEY LEAGUE

BBYO's Floor Hockey League held their playoffs recently. Seen is the Chapter Kavod team, which placed second in the playoffs.

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Greater Toronto Area

Israeli program trains Orthodox men for IDF duty

By NICOLE SALAMA
Student Intern

TORONTO — For most Israelis military service is a given. Men and women generally go into the military at the age of 18.

But not everybody ends up going. An estimated 6.5 percent of men – most of them are haredi – are exempted from the mandatory three year service for religious reasons.

Orthodox men who enlist can go into regular military programs with the majority of Israelis or they can choose other options. Hesder, a three year program divided equally between military training and study at a yeshiva, is a common choice.

Gili Prager chose neither of the above. Instead he opted for Bnai David, a 12-year-old program that helps prepare young Orthodox men to serve a full term in the Israeli Defence Force (IDF) amongst their secular peers.

In Toronto representing Bnai David, Prager recently spoke with *The CJN* about the program.

It offers a year-long post secondary school program to help ease the transition from school to the military. Prager said 85 percent of

Bnai David

the Orthodox men who go into the regular military without participating in special programs lose their religious dedication.

He said he got involved in Bnai David to encourage "Orthodox people to be part of Israeli society and take responsibility in all parts of life, especially in the army."

Named after King David, who was both a learned man and the leader of the army, Prager said the goals of Bnai David are twofold: "to bring up leaders of the next generation in the army to have a solid Jewish education and Jewish point of view of different issues..." and "to do kiruv and be a bridgehead between the Orthodox and non-Orthodox communities."

Prager said Bnai David was founded by Rabbis Eli Sadan and Yigal Levinstein; they stressed the importance of encouraging religious men to enter the military after realizing there was a need for motivated and talented Orthodox military leaders.

Prager said the program accepts 120 applicants out of 600. The boys live on site in Eli, a town in the region of Samaria.

They study classic yeshiva subjects, such as Tanach and Gemarah, and Halachah in a military setting is emphasized. As well, they study Jewish philosophy, general studies and do physical training.

According to Prager, the focus of the studies is to help the students see military service "as a mitzvah of defending the Jewish people and the land of Israel."

Of those who finish the program 50 percent become officers and many pursue higher ranks and military careers, he said.

He added that a program like Bnai David has an impact on Israeli society – it involves the Orthodox community in Israeli life, it bridges the gap between the streams of Judaism and it attracts motivated and talented men to the IDF.

Prager believes that Orthodox men who serve in the IDF are role models. Their dedication is based on "their belief in the Torah and the Jewish people."

CJC SUMMER STUDENT PROGRAM

Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region is marking the 15th anniversary of its summer students' camps program. This year's staff have chosen to create a program which addresses the issues of friendship, leadership, discrimination and bullying, as well as Judaic themes, including an Israel awareness program and one which centres around the concept of tzedakah. Among the program's participants are (from left) Shani Sahian and Monika Rosman, a sciences major at McMaster University and past president of her campus Jewish Student Union. Sahian and Rosman were joined by fellow summer students Stacey Wintre and Morris Glazman for a program at Camp Northland B'nai Brith. Referred to as the Haganah Program, it set out to make a pre-independence Israeli immigrant experience authentic to more than 150 10, 11 and 12-year-olds at the camp.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

If you enjoy photography or being a videographer, then Baycrest Centre needs your help. Volunteers are needed on a regular basis to video and photograph music therapy sessions so they can be analysed after each session. Times can be flexible but must be during weekdays. For more information and to set up an interview, call Sandy Frankel, 785-2500, ext. 2576.

***

Male volunteers are needed to visit elderly men living in the community who are facing difficult challenges in their lives. Each volunteer is carefully matched to a client, and provided information and support by the coordinator of the Specialized Volunteer Program, Circle of Care. Phone Susan Samila, 635-2860, ext. 461 for more information.

***

St. Clair West Services for Seniors has a transportation program to help senior citizens or people with difficulties who are unable to use taxis, the TTC or Wheel-Trans. Volunteers are needed to help provide this transportation. If you own a vehicle and could volunteer one or two days a week, call Joan Baird, 787-2114, weekdays.

***

The Pat Arato Aphasia Centre has openings in September for the following volunteer positions: Communications Volunteers - working with small groups of aphasic adults to encourage and facilitate communication; Computer Volunteers - a blend of computer skills and people skills required to teach entry level computer to aphasic adults. Training provided by speech-language pathologists. Call 226-3636, ext. 26.

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Greater Toronto Area

Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs marks its 70th year

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

Jules Surdin

TORONTO — Almost two million Yom Hashoah candles, commemorating those who perished in the Holocaust, have been lit in Jewish homes.

The man who came up with the idea 17 years ago, was honored recently at the Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs (FJMC) 70th anniversary international convention, held at the Nevele Grand Hotel in the Catskills. The organization is an umbrella for men's clubs in Conservative congregations.

Jules Surdin, a past president of the Men's Club at Beth Tzedec Congregation, used to wonder how future generations would commemorate the Holocaust, he told *The CJN* in a recent interview.

A 79-year-old grandfather of 10 and a past president of the congregation, Surdin proposed in 1982 that Beth Tzedec's Men's Club distribute candles to the congregation in conjunction with Yom Hashoah.

Congregants were encouraged to light the candles on Yom Hashoah and give tzedakah as part of the program, entitled Remember the Six Million.

Funds raised from the 2,200 candles distributed at that time were used to support Jews in Arab lands through the Dr. Ronald Feld Fund.

A native of Toronto, Surdin served in the Royal Canadian Air Force during World War II. The closest he got to Europe, he said, was Dartmouth, N.S. He knew nobody who was lost in the Holocaust.

Surdin's Jewish community involvement goes back to the 1930s, when he served as president of Balfour Boys Club Young Judaea and president of Balfour Lodge of Habonim.

More recently, he was president of the Council of Jewish Brotherhoods, Metro Toronto and president of the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism, Ontario region (now part of Canadian region).

An alumnus of Parkdale Collegiate, Surdin also attended Brunswick Avenue Talmud Torah and Handelman's Cheder.

Longtime Beth Tzedec members, Surdin and his wife Pearl joined Beth Hamidrash Hagadol (the McCaul Street Synagogue) shortly after their marriage in 1944. The congregation later merged with Goel Tzedec to form Beth Tzedec.

Surdin's involvement with the Men's Club began when one of his three daughters attended Sunday school, and he was invited to stay for the Men's Club breakfast meetings.

"This is where you get to know people," he said.

The club has 800 members, of whom 150 to 200 are active, said Surdin.

This year, over 300 Beth Tzedec volunteers packaged candles and hand-delivered them to congregants.

In all, almost 20 Canadian synagogues distribute a total of 10,000 candles yearly. The FJMC distributes 150,000.

Surdin developed idea of Yom Hashoah candles

The program was picked up in the United States after it won an award at a previous FJMC convention. Joseph Winokur of Temple Ner Tamid in Peabody, Mass., who was honored along with Surdin, enhanced the program by developing specialized packaging and a yellow candle (to recall the yellow armbands Jews were required to wear during the Holocaust)

To enhance the program here, Surdin helped create and promote a yahrzeit candle holder designed by Herman Reches, a Toronto ceramicist who died in 1997.

Over the past 17 years, funding from the program – which has also been adopted by some Reform and Orthodox organizations – has benefitted Holocaust memorial activities, Camp Ramah scholarships and Jews in need around the world.

"When I go, I'll go with a smile, because I'll know I did the right things when I was around," said Surdin.

"My dream is that a candle will be lit once a year, on the 27th of Nisan, in every Jewish home in North America."

Yeshivat Or Chaim and Ulpanat Orot
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Honeymoon over?

Barely one month after he cobbled together a governing coalition of 75 Knesset members, it appears Israel's Prime Minister Ehud Barak is being asked to vacate the honeymoon suite. The hard-pounding Israeli media have already resumed the cynical posture they displayed against Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. Last week for example, Joel Marcus of *Ha'aretz* wrote: "Within a month of Barak chalking up a landslide victory, the media wondered if we hadn't exchanged Netanyahu for Barakyahu."

And the ever expressive, never diffident, Israeli public, their expectations raised by the nature and the extent of Barak's election victory, is also beginning to grumble its disappointment.

The public's assessment of its new prime minister's performance was released last week in a survey conducted by Professor Ephraim Yaar and Dr. Tamar Hermann of The Tami Steinmetz Centre for Peace Research at Tel Aviv University. Some 501 people were interviewed by telephone for the survey, a representative sample of the adult Jewish population in Israel, including residents of the territories and the kibbutzim. The poll's margin of error was 4.5 percent.

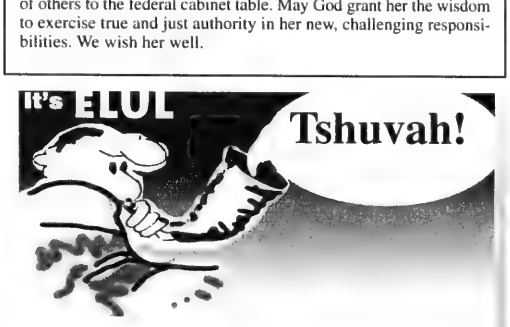
The following are some of the survey's key findings: "The public is divided between those claiming that Barak's policy is indeed different in both form and content from that of Benjmain Netanyahu and those claiming it is either different only in style or not at all...The public is also divided over whether the timetables Barak has established for the various channels of the peace process are helpful or harmful to Israel's interests, with greater numbers believing they are harmful rather than helpful.

"It appears that Barak's new national priorities, placing peace before social-domestic issues, does not enjoy broad support among the public. Moreover, there is also significiant objection to Barak's approach to the peace process, as expressed in the presentation of defined timetables for advancing the process. In addition, there appears to be broad agreement among the public that peace with the Arab world cannot be expected to contribute to resolving the internal problems of Israeli society."

The survey is instructive at a number of levels, not the least of which is the one that demonstrates how intense and unceasing is the Israeli public's scrutiny of its leaders' decisions and its involvement in the politics of the country. Is any public office in the democratic world more demanding?

Good luck, minister

It is with heartfelt sincerity and pride that we extend congratulations to Elinor Caplan, who last week was appointed to the federal cabinet as Minister of Citizenship and Immigration by Prime Minister Jean Chrétien. In addition to considerable governmental experience, Caplan also brings a sharp intellect, a deep sense of justice, and unequalled compassion for the wellbeing of others to the federal cabinet table. May God grant her the wisdom to exercise true and just authority in her new, challenging responsibilities. We wish her well.



Dry Bones
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Media ignores equal school funding crisis

Saskatchewan is finally free of prayer in public schools. Thank God!

In the flurry of recent general media coverage on this issue, much has been written about the importance of being sensitive to the rights and sensibilities of non-Christian religious minorities. Sensitivity to the different needs of the various religious minorities that make up our multicultural society is admirable. And imposing Christian-only prayers in secular public schools raises serious concerns.

But is the media's professional concern for religious minorities genuine? For the most part, I doubt it.

In Ontario, explicit state-sponsored religious discrimination in education funding is almost completely ignored by the media. Ontario is the only jurisdiction in the western world that fully funds denominational education for one religious group (Catholics) while offering zero funding for denominational schools of other religious minorities like Muslims, Jews, Protestants, Hindu and Sikhs. The court has confirmed that there is no legal barrier for the government to extend funding to all denominational schools equally. The virtual silence of the general media on this issue is deafening.

Last May 4, 5,000 people representing a cross-section of religious minorities rallied at Queen's Park against this religious discrimination in school funding. Yet not one story was written in the *National Post* or any other general newspaper about this event! Letters to the editor of the general newspapers are studiously ignored.

Bad as it may be to impose a Christian prayer at the beginning of the public school day, it is not as bad as explicitly and completely excluding religious minority groups from funding for an essential public service that is provided to the largest religious group.

Why then the selective media coverage? Does the general media believe it is fair to treat some religious groups as "more equal" than others?

Rinat Kernerman
Toronto

Talmud message inspires respect for aged

Regarding Rabbi Gunther Plaut's article "Rising for the aged" (*CJN*, July 8): It's a pity. We spend thousands of dollars to educate our children in the day schools; however, we miss out on the very basics – *drech eretz kadma laTorah*.

If I ever go back to teaching, I would take the children on the bus and/or subway and let them begin by reading the signs that clearly state that the seats are reserved for the elderly and the disabled.

So parents and educators, why not begin with this simple lesson, which would make our Torah teaching more meaningful?

Ruth Malitzky
Toronto

Israel resident looking for friend in Toronto

Dov Scheffler of Israel is searching for Yitzchak Walin of Toronto. They inadvertently lost touch a few years ago, and it would mean a great deal to everyone concerned if contact could be re-established in the near future.

Tola Finkelstein
Toronto
416-633-3603

86-year old volunteers six days a week

Re William Rosenthal's article on volunteers (*CJN*, July 8): I am a young 86 years old and do volunteer work six days a week: at Baycrest Centre two days, at Sunnybrook Health Science Centre two days, and at the Tender Care Nursing home.

I run a bingo monthly, am a volunteer driver for the Hebrew Club for the Blind, and visit members of my synagogue in retirement homes.

It is never too late to be a volunteer. This work keeps my mind active and gives me a great sense of satisfaction.

I therefore suggest to those persons who can give of their time and effort that they do so, and keep young and help our less fortunate.

Monty Goldstone
Toronto

Editor's Note: *It was a missed editorial deadline that resulted in Herb Landis needing to write us an additional letter about Kosovo.* (CJN, *Aug. 5)*

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures. Letters sent by e-mail must also include the sender's municipal address.

Perspectives

Cowardly murders marked end of Soviet Jewish life

By ADAM FUERSTENBERG
Special to The CJN

During the night, exactly 47 years ago on Aug. 12, 1952, 24 of the Soviet Union's leading Yiddish poets, writers, and intellectual leaders were led down into the basement of Moscow's notorious and dreaded Lubianka Prison. Even as they protested their innocence, they were each shot.

For these tragic victims, this cowardly murder was the merciful end to almost four years of deprivation and physical and psychological torture. For Jews in the Soviet Union it also marked an end, the end of organized Jewish life under communism, an ideology which many had embraced with enthusiasm and hope after the Russian Revolution of 1917. They had envisaged the Bolshevik Revolution as the harbinger of Jewish emancipation from Czarist anti-Semitism.

Instead, Stalin's dictatorship turned out to be more oppressive than the Czar's. The executions in Lubianka Prison were the culmination of Stalin's systematic attempts (since the 1930s) to destroy forever the Jewish community in Russia. In 1952 his paranoia, and the political machinations of those around him who saw an advantage in having Jews as scapegoats in the Cold War with the West, convinced him that the Jews of Russia were "rootless cosmopolitans" devoid of loyaltly to the Russian homeland.

He was convinced that they were a threat to the regime and even to him personally. Fortunately, his brutal attempt to destroy Jewish culture failed, and, ironically, his failure eventually led to dissent and the phenomenon of the Refuseniks — most of them Jewish — which contributed to the dissolution of the Soviet Union. But he came very close to succeeding; only his death in 1953 prevented a catastrophe for the Jews of Russia.

The revival of anti-Semitism had its roots in Stalin's prewar policy towards the Jews in Russia, but it was accelerated by the new international rivalries after the defeat of Hitler. The Cold War, which followed the World War II almost immediately, resulted in competition for dominance with the West, especially the U.S.

Russian propaganda became relentless in picturing capitalist countries as corrupt and evil, and it led to a concurrent rise in Russian nationalism. Russians came to fear anything western. Spurred on by this nationalism, with its ancient tradition of anti-Semitism, the favorite target soon became the Jews, conveniently identified by the euphemism – "international cosmopolitans."

Yet that same "cosmopolitanism" had been activated and encouraged by Stalin himself during the War when he needed the Allies' support in his military struggle with Hitler. In 1942, soon after the Nazi invasion of Russia, Stalin organized the Jewish Anti-Fascist Committee to enlist wartime support for Russia among Jews in the West, especially the U.S.A.

Under the leadership of the great actor Solomon Mikhoels, the director of the Moscow Yiddish State Theatre, hundreds of Jewish writers, artists, and intellectuals joined wholeheartedly to fight the common enemy, and Soviet Jews came to regard the Anti-Fascist Committee as the symbol of a revived organized Jewish leadership.

The Committee even published a Journal, *Eynikayt* (Unity), which provided a popular forum for expressions of Jewish national sentiment and emphasized the unity of Soviet Jews with world Jewry, something unthinkable earlier. Jewish writers began once again to use Jewish historical and religious themes. The Committee even published manifestos in which Mikhoels spoke to "Brother Jews," while the great Yiddish writer Peretz Markish wrote that "we are one people, and now we are becoming one army."

In 1944, at the height of this revived Jewish national consciousness, Mikhoels and Colonel Itzik Feffer, a decorated war hero and renowned Yiddish poet, were allowed to tour the United States to speak at public gatherings before more than half a million Jews. They collected what in today's currency would be almost $100 million for the Soviet war effort.

Tragically and ironically that same rekindling of Jewish national consciousness in Russia, on behalf of the Soviet war effort, became the basis for the cynical accusation of disloyalty which Stalin used to murder the Jewish writers who had been the leaders of the Anti-Fascist Committee.

In fact, the anti-Jewish campaign began almost immediately after the end of the World War II, when what little of Yiddish and organized Jewish activity that had survived the anti-Jewish 1930s began to be severely curtailed. Now that Russia had emerged triumphant and the enemy was once again the capitalist West, Jewish international solidarity was no longer desirable and therefore perceived as a threat by Russian nationalists. The way to eliminate the threat was to destroy the revived Yiddish consciousness by murdering or imprisoning its wartime leadership.

Anti-Jewish campaign began after World War II

On Sept. 21, 1948, Illya Ehrenburg, a leading Russian writer of Jewish parentage, and a confidante of Stalin and inner circles of the Party, wrote the opening shot of the official campaign in the newspaper, *Pravda*. He warned Russia's Jews that identifying with Jews in the rest of the world, and especially Israel, would demonstrate their disloyalty to Russia.

In short order thereafter, authorities closed the Yiddish publishing house Emes, the twice-weekly Yiddish newspaper *Heymland* in Kiev, the last two Yiddish schools, the Yiddish theatres, and all amateur Jewish artistic groups. The Anti-Fascist Committee was disbanded and its Journal, *Eynikayt*, closed in November of 1948, just one month after Ehrenburg's warning. Suddenly, Jewish books also disappeared into restricted collections at libraries.

But the final act began, brutally and spectacularly, on a dreary January 13 in 1948, in Minsk. Mikhoels, who had been sent there on a false official mission as a member of the Stalin Prize Committee, was summoned from his hotel room late that night to meet a Communist party official.

From left: Sholem Ash, Itzik Feffer and Solomon Mikhoels.

The next morning, his battered, bloody body was found near the railway station. The secret police had murdered him and an accompanying Jewish theatre critic, Golubov-Potapov, by running over them with a heavy truck to make it look like an accident.

Although Mikhoels was given an official state funeral — his body lay in state at the Yiddish State Theatre with tens of thousands paying their last respects — no one in the Soviet Union was fooled. In fact, Stalin wanted the truth about the murder publicized so as to terrorize the Jewish population in preparation for the "official" campaign against them.

Soon after Mikchoel's death came Ehrenburg's *Pravda* article, as well as other articles by lesser figures in different state-sanctioned publications. During the winter of 1948-49 the secret police arrested thousands of Jewish writers, poets, artists, musicians, and scientists, as well as senior Jewish government and party officials.

Feffer (left) and Mikhoels entertain a young Russian Jewish partisan.

The first of the famous 24 to be arrested was Colonel Itzik Feffer, the most loyal and enthusiastic Communist among all the writers. To demoralize the Jewish population, and to spread fear and uncertainty, the secret police deliberately spaced subsequent arrests.

The best known writers knew what was coming but had no way to escape. Der Nister, pen name of the great Yiddish writer Pinkhas Kahanovitch, reportedly greeted the secret policemen who came to arrest him with the almost relieved exclamation – "Ah, at last!"

The exact numbers were never determined, but one accepted authority lists 431 outstanding Soviet Jewish artists arrested during this winter alone – 217 writers and poets, 108 actors, 87 painters and sculptors, and 19 leading musicians and composers. There were many hundreds more, who were not as well known or only beginning to get attention in their field, and then there were also the scientists, academics and intellectuals, as well as party and government figures. Even Molotov's (the U.S.S.R.'s foreign minister during the war) Jewish wife was arrested.

The families of prisoners were also victims — wives, children, fathers, brothers, sisters, aged parents, even in-laws — all vanished into the Gulag or became social outcasts. Most of the prisoners died in labor camps – Der Nister who died from deprivation on June 4, 1950, was only 65 years old.

From July 11 to July 18, the 24 who had survived the camps and imprisonment, were tried on trumped up charges of being "enemies of the U.S.S.R., agents of American imperialism, bourgeois nationalist Zionists and rebels who sought by armed rebellion to separate the Crimea from the Soviet Union and to establish their own bourgeois nationalist Zionist republic there."

The charges were patently absurd when one considers that among the 24 who were murdered was Solomon Lozovsky, 74, a member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party and former deputy foreign minister. The charges related to the setting up of a separate state in the Crimea were especially ridiculous when one considers that Israel had already been established with U.N. approval – including Russia's vote.

The 24 defendants refused to plead guilty in spite of the torture and deprivation. Peretz Markish and the elderly Lozovsky defended themselves forcefully and accused the accusers of being the real criminals and traitors. Markish, the leading figure among the 24 and the only Yiddish writer to have been awarded the Order of Lenin, must have suffered immense torture after the trial because he was reportedly insane at the time of his execution.

In November 1955, well after then premier Nikita Khrushchev's denunciation of Stalin's crimes, the widows of the murdered writers were given documents of "rehabilitation" for their dead husbands, but the terms of the "rehabilitation" were never made public. The terror against the Jewish community in the Soviet Union, or the murder of the 24, was never acknowledged by subsequent Soviet regimes.

However, in spite of the fact that the terror campaign left Soviet Jewry without artistic, intellectual, or communal leadership or institutions for almost a generation, Stalin's campaign ultimately failed. Jewish national and religious sentiment went underground and eventually led successfully to the movement of Refuseniks, which contributed directly to the end of communism in the Soviet Union and to a massive wave of Jewish immigration to Israel.

Today Jewish schools, summer camps, synagogues, newspapers, drama groups, even institutes of Jewish study, have been established. A new generation of Jewish cultural and communal leadership is emerging.

In Israel, Russian Jewish creativity once more expresses itself in three languages: Hebrew, Russian, and Yiddish. Among the most prominent of the new Russian writers in Israel is David Markish, the son of the great poet. He, and his mother Esther Markish, were among the first wave of Russian Refuseniks to arrive in Israel in 1972.

Adam Fuerstenberg is an English professor at Ryerson Polytechnic University and the director, committee for Yiddish, UJA Federation of Greater Toronto.

Opinions

The new Germany

I read recently that the city of Weimar was named by the European Union as the cultural capital of the continent. Until 10 years ago, it was a part of the German Democratic Republic and was a prime locus for repressive communism. Today, however, Weimar can relish its earlier and truly distinguished past.

Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

The city had hosted a bevy of world-renowned residents, the likes of Goethe, Schiller, Nietzsche, Herder and others, and then became the city where the short-lived "Weimar Republic" was established in 1919.

It is also worth noting how the city dealt with "the other Weimar." The Nazi government had decided to build Buchenwald, its infamous concentration camp, at the outskirts of the lovely city. To Weimar's credit, it did not try to hide its proximity to the camp, but made a serious effort to acknowledge this connection and its shamefulness. In this regard, it adopted the best that the new Germany has brought to its history.

This relates cogently to my own reaction to the country in which I and many generations before me were born.

I was 22 years old when I was forced out of my legal career and migrated to the United States. Later, during the war years, when I became a chaplain in the 104th Infantry, we were fated to open the first concentration camp that the western Allies reached and saw the horrors that the Nazis had wrought.

When the war was over I was sure that I would never again set foot on the soil of the country of my birth. However, in 1956, when I enjoyed a sabbatical and made a trip through Europe with my wife and children, we came close to the Dutch/German border. I persuaded myself and my family to visit the place of my own birth, because the city of Muenster was only an hour away.

It turned out to be a terrible mistake. For the fewer than 24 hours we spent in Muenster, I did nothing but look at the hands of people to see whether they had any blood on them. We left post-haste.

But a few years later, when the German government gave me an opportunity to study its new educational approach to the teaching of the Holocaust, I accepted, although with serious reservations. I found an enormous change. The land in which the idea of the Holocaust was spawned had confronted it fully in all its terror. It paid restitution to individuals, it provided the physical infrastructure for Israel – and its education squarely dealt with what had taken place. A new Germany had come into being, a new land that tried to shed its past without denying it.

A hundred thousand Jews are now living in the country, and I have no doubt that in the years to come there will be a vibrant community that will make a great contribution to Jewish as well as German culture.

In that sense, the city of Weimar represents the new Germany at its best, with all its positive and negative memories.

Israelis at the mall

Anybody who has spent at least one weekend in Jerusalem knows that Saturday night here is different from other major cities. If for no other reason than that during the 25 hours before nightfall Saturday, Jerusalem is in its Shabbat mode of suspended animation. And with the end of the Sabbath, Jerusalem reawakens with a passion.

Robert Sarner in Jerusalem

This Saturday evening, it's not hard to predict where you'll be able to feel it most. True to what is now a weekly tradition, the city's biggest mob scene will be at the Jerusalem Mall. Like the past 300 motza'ei Shabbat since it opened in 1994, thousands of Israelis will converge on this giant shopping centre in the southwest part of the capital. It may be modest next to Edmonton's megamall but Jerusalem residents like to boast that theirs – also known as the Malcha Mall for its location in the city's Malcha neighborhood – is the biggest in the entire Middle East.

Not for the faint of heart or the claustrophobic, the Saturday night scene at the Jerusalem Mall is an assault on the senses. However, along with one of the most offensive public address systems on the planet, this obviously doesn't seem to bother the crowds who are part of the assault.

Every Saturday evening, barring the unforeseen, some 10,000 people pack into the three-level shopping emporium, home to 175 stores, restaurants, cinemas and other assorted businesses. It's noisy, odorous and worst of all, terribly crowded.

Like most public places in the country, the mall was built without enough space for people or their cars. The worst illustration of this repeats itself every evening – especially on Saturday when hordes of shoppers head to the mall for their post-Shabbat retail fix and to make the scene.

A scene in which people seem to savor the privilege of being packed like lemmings, cheek by jowl, snaking their way through this monument to conspicuous consumption. For many, and not just teenagers, it's a weekly pastime.

It's an increasingly common sight in Israel. Over the past decade, Israel has been malled like most of the world. Shopping centres have sprouted all over the country in a binge of commercial development that is part of a larger Americanization of Israeli society.

The international fast-food outlets, European designer stores and overflowing car parks are billed as a testament to the Israeli economic miracle of the 1990s. They also point to one of the economy's greatest riddles – How do Israelis afford it? But let's leave that enigma for another column.

The malling of Israel has been led by Canadian developer David Azrieli, who introduced the first shopping centre to Israel in Ramat Aviv in the early 1980s. Since then, he's built several others in Tel Aviv, Beersheva and Jerusalem, where he constructed the Malcha Mall. He even coined the Hebrew term, *canion*, now commonly used to refer to a shopping centre.

The attraction of these places to Israelis is obvious. For a people still playing catch-up with consumer culture and creature comforts, the mall represents the pinnacle of the American shopping experience and one of modernity's greatest inventions. It is seen as an intrinsic part of contemporary urban life, offering an air conditioned, sanitized refuge from Israel's otherwise sweaty, rough and tumble retail street experience.

To most people, these malls deserve the ultimate Israeli compliment – they almost make you feel like you're *hutz-la'aretz* – not in Israel.

Of course, malls are not for everyone. Their tightly controlled, highly synthetic environment may make the world safe and comfy for shopping but leaves some people fleeing to the nearest exit. Understandably. How long do you want to be in an enclosed place with no windows to open, no fresh air to breathe and no sense of nature? All this to the tune of insidious muzak and hype-filled announcements broadcast three times too loud over the P.A. system.

Sadly, the shopping centre seems to have largely supplanted the traditional public square. For some, especially young people, going to the mall has become their main cultural life.

This Saturday evening, like clockwork, the crowds will be back again at the Jerusalem Mall, fighting for a parking space before squeezing into the hard, artificial reality they seem to crave. Presumably they'll have a good time – or why else would they keep coming back, week after week, for more abuse? It can't be simply a need to get out of the house and be surrounded by thousands of other people doing the same thing. Or can it?

The right thing

In Canada, the United Nations is generally viewed as a sacred institution, and the decisions and reports issued in New York and Geneva are holy writ. Many Canadian politicians, journalists and academics ignore the political nature of the UN, in which power and national interests are far more important than any moral claims.

Gerald Steinberg in Jerusalem

This distorted view has often colored Canadian policies in the Middle East, and led to intense criticism of Israel. The Arab and Third World bloc uses its power in the UN to promote anti-Israeli resolutions and policies, and then Canadian officials and "intellectuals" criticize Israel for rejecting these resolutions. The United States generally opposes such anti-Israeli activities, and in the past, Canada has also avoided participating in efforts to abuse the UN in this way.

However, recently, this approach has changed, and Canada has often joined the anti-Israeli majority. By taking the opposite position, Canadian politicians also try to enhance their domestic political standing by showing independence from the Americans. Israel is often used as a scapegoat when other democracies, such as Canada, wish to assert their sovereignty.

Last February, the Canadian government supported the initial decision in the UN to convene an "extraordinary meeting" of the UN under the Fourth Geneva Convention governing treatment of civilians in occupied lands during wartime. The United States and Israel opposed this resolution, and 36 nations abstained, but Canada cast its vote and turned its moral influence against Israel.

Since the Fourth Geneva Convention was signed in 1949, this was the first time that it was used as the basis for a special meeting. In contrast, between 1948 and 1967, when Jerusalem's ancient Jewish Quarter was desecrated while under Arab occupation and the areas under Jordanian control were "ethnically cleansed," the Convention was forgotten. Waging war and attacking one's neighbors, it appears, is acceptable, but taking action in the face of repeated aggression is wrong, in this warped moral universe.

With this background, the Canadian decision against participating in last month's meeting in Geneva represents an important exception to the pattern.

However, it is not enough for Canada to simply stay home. If international law is to have any meaning, countries such as Canada, for whom morality is important, must actively work to end the abuse. Enough damage resulted from the short meeting of the Geneva conference, which adopted a resolution that "reaffirmed the applicability of the Fourth Geneva Convention to the occupied Palestinian territory, including east Jerusalem." This absurd resolution gave official UN recognition to east Jerusalem as "occupied Palestinian territory." The UN is a major part of the continuing Palestinian and Arab political warfare against Israel, and the next step will be an effort to impose sanctions on Israel.

In the face of the efforts to hijack the UN, Canada has a responsibility to take a strong position. By taking a firm and consistent stand against the hypocrisy that invokes warped definitions of international law, Canada can help to put an end to the diplomatic war against Israel.

At the same time, the Canadian government has also promised to do the right thing with respect to a proposed sale of nuclear technology to Iran.

The radical Islamic regime in Iran continues to abuse human rights (as seen in the recent arrest of 13 Jews), and to threaten Israel. Iran continues to make progress in efforts to acquire nuclear weapons and long-range missiles. In this context, the eagerness of some Canadian officials to sell experimental nuclear technology to Iran came as a shock. This is the approach that we have come to expect, unfortunately, from Russia, China and North Korea.

Canada does not fit into this list of problem states for whom democracy and human rights are of no importance.

The Canadian Centre for Fusion Magnetics (CCFM) was ready to make a quick buck from Iran, regardless of the consequences to Israel and the rest of the world. The director of the CCFM spoke about "an open friendly policy toward Iran," and invoked the anti-American card to support the planned sale. From this perspective, democracy and human rights are of little importance compared to defying America, and threatening neighbors with annihilation is permissible when commerce is involved. However, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Trade in Ottawa appears to have had enough common sense to veto the proposed sale.

In a world dominated by power and cynicism, Canada can still play an important role by emphasizing moral and humanitarian issues. This means taking principled positions in cooperation with the United States, and not seeking to score points or curry favor by being anti-American and anti-Israeli.

The Kirshner File

Emulating Israel, Egypt develops the Sinai

"Camel, mister?" The insistent question was posed in the inky blackness of a cool pre-dawn morning by a scruffy bedouin Arab squatting beside his snorting, smelly camel.

Sheldon Kirshner in Toronto

Visitors ascending Mt. Sinai, revered by Jews, Muslims and Christians, no longer have to trudge up the storied mountain for an unforgettable view of the sunrise. For a price, the lazy and the unfit can mount a camel and ride most of the way up. I politely declined, preferring to walk.

Readily available camels are not the only convenience on the trail leading to Mt. Sinai. Should you be thirsty or hungry, five tea houses offer hot and cold drinks, chocolate bars and light snacks before you reach the daunting 3000 Steps of Repentance, the gateway to the stony summit.

On my first ascent of Mt. Sinai 20 years ago, when Israel occupied the Sinai Peninsula, there were few such conveniences. You either walked up, carrying your own water and food, or you were left behind.

Israel captured the Sinai Peninsula, that great and terrible void of the Bible, during the 1967 Six Day War. It immediately became a mecca for vacationing Israelis awed by its splendid desert vistas, its intoxicating coastlines, its luxuriant oases, its vast open spaces and its profound solitude.

Prior to the Israeli era, the Sinai was an Egyptian fortress, bristling with menacing military bases and air fields. Egypt, seemingly oblivious to its natural wonders, did little to nurture its immeasurable tourist potential.

Israel also used the Sinai for military purposes. The Israeli army made use of Egyptian military facilities and constructed a string of fortifications along the length of the Suez Canal known as the Bar-Lev Line. But under Israel, Sinai positively blossomed. Resorts in sun-kissed places like Dahab and Sharm el Sheikh were built. Roads were upgraded, and beaches improved. Tourists, local and foreign alike, flocked to the Sinai in droves, and I was one of them.

I discovered Sinai shortly after the Six Day War, on my first trip to Israel. I did not get any further than a rudimentary camping ground in Taba, but I was duly impressed. The jagged granite peaks, the turquoise waters of the Gulf of Aqaba and the starry, starry skies insinuated themselves deeply into my soul.

In the intervening years, I usually returned to the Sinai on visits to Israel. In 1983, a year after Israel withdrew from all of Sinai but the Taba enclave, I went back yet again. But for the freshly painted road signs in Arabic, Sinai was as immutably pristine as ever. Yet, I wondered what Egypt had in store for it. Would the Egyptians, inspired by Israel's vision, further develop Sinai into an eco-tourist destination?

Several months ago, when the weather in the Middle East was temperate, I decided to find out for myself. I joined Trek Holiday's three-week organized tour of Egypt. Trek, based in Edmonton, has a branch office in Toronto, the Adventure Centre (922-7584), which caters to hardy travellers who do not demand five-star hotel accommodation.

I spent almost a week in the Sinai before heading off for a jaunt of the awesome Western Desert and a Nile River cruise which included tours of ancient temples, monuments and crypts in Luxor, Edfu, Kom Ombo and Aswan.

Sinai bound, we crossed into the triangular-shaped peninsula from the ragged city of Suez, which was bombarded by Israeli gunners during the 1967-1970 War of Attrition. The landscape was flat and monotonous as we headed for Nakhl, a forlorn, flyblown outpost in the dead centre of Sinai.

From Nakhl, the serpentine asphalt road wound to Nuweiba, an oasis that was the site of a thriving Israeli moshav.

I was stunned by the transformation. The moshav was gone, having been replaced by a gated housing estate graced by palm trees, and the old tourist village was considerably larger. Amid the souvenir shops of the honky tonk bazaar, I saw footloose Israeli tourists checking out the wares.

Israelis still gravitate to Sinai in force,which accounts for the fact that the friendly shopkeepers here speak near-idiomatic Hebrew. But nowadays, Italian holidaymakers on package tours outnumber Israelis.

Nuweiba, having experienced a building boom, has grown into a full-fledged town with its own port. The residential neighborhoods, composed of nondescript flats with courtyards bereft of lawns and little shrubbery, are almost uniformly drab. Nuweiba's finest asset, its beach, faces a brooding Saudi Arabian escarpment whose pastel colors change by the hour. Unfortunately, the beach was littered with discarded bottles, jerry cans and plastic bags. An environmental consciousness is sorely lacking here.

Egypt is eager to develop the sparsely populated Sinai to relieve pressure on the crowded Nile Valley. Within about a decade, Sinai's population is expected to climb to three million from the present 300,000.

Since Israel relinquished Sinai as part of its historic peace treaty with Egypt, Egyptian and European investors have poured hundreds of millions of dollars into it. More than 100 resorts are planned, and some are already under construction. The Hilton chain, for example, intends to double its hotels along the coast to eight, by 2000, to accommodate the crush of nature lovers, hikers, divers, snorkelers and wind surfers.

From Nuweiba, the Colored Canyon, one of the Sinai's chief attractions, is easily accessible. I enjoyed a bumpy jeep tour of this picturesque region, which is largely untouched by modern civilization.

Further south, St. Catherine's monastery beckons, a walled tan compound more than a thousand years old. Tended to by 22 Greek Orthodox monks, it lies in the shadow of Mt. Sinai.

In Israeli times, tourists staying overnight for the early morning ascent to Mt. Sinai were permitted to sleep in a simple dormitory attached to the monastery. But of late, they must spend the night at a hotel in St. Catherine's village, a jumble of concrete buildings and bedouin dwellings which, until a few years ago, did not even exist.

In line with its policy, Egypt is also developing the rather bleak, somewhat industrialized Gulf of Suez coastline. From Abu Rodeis to Ras al-Sudr, vacation resorts and hotels are sprouting up like dandelions in spring.

The Egyptians, in short, have belatedly but enthusiastically embraced the idea that there is money to be made in the harsh wilderness of the Sinai Peninsula.

Selective history

The National Military Museum in central Cairo, which I visited in March, glorifies Egypt's armed forces at Israel's expense. No surprise here.

Outside, in a spacious courtyard, two Israeli tanks, their turrets askew, are mounted on platforms, an M-60 and an M-48 disabled in the 1973 Yom Kippur War. The war in the Sinai, more or less, ended in a draw, but Egypt regards it as a victory.

In the foyer of the main building, a visitor is greeted by a striking mural. It shows heroic, heavily armed Egyptian naval commandos, scrunched together in a pontoon, heading toward the supposedly impregnable Israeli-held Bar-Lev Line. Around the corner is a crude painting of an Israeli jet crashing in flames. On display in a glass case, is an authentic Torah scroll, captured from an Israeli fortification in the Sinai. On a recent trip to Cairo, President Ezer Weizman asked for its return.

I searched high and low for an exhibit about the Six Day War, which Egypt lost decisively, but none was to be found. Call it a selective and myopic reading of history!

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JEWISH EDUCATION
The Next Generation

The importance of teachers

By ELLIOTT MALAMET

Canadian writer Margaret Atwood once recounted a conversation that she had a dinner party. She was asked her vocation by another guest, who offered that he was a neurosurgeon. When Atwood revealed her identity, the man smiled broadly and said, "I think I'll try writing novels after I retire," as though nothing could be simpler.

"Oh really," Atwood replied coyly. "Because I was thinking that after I finish with producing fiction, I'd try my hand at neurosurgery."

We live in a culture that often belittles teachers, sometimes with gentle chiding and sometimes with out and out contempt. The implication of much of the rhetoric surrounding the profession of education is that it is a domain for those who could not succeed elsewhere. Besides, how difficult could it be to tell kids how to do fractions and read *Catcher in the Rye*? Anyone could do it – right?

This mindset applies even more to Jewish education. It is a profession that is respected in theory and trashed in practice. Whether it is rabbis in ultra-Orthodox schools whose paycheques are often long overdue, or afternoon school teachers who are seen as babysitters in the lion's den, the discordance between an ostensible respect for Jewish education and the true facts of the matter are ever widening.

In the range of professions that Jewish parents desire for their kids, does becoming a Jewish educator ever make the top 10? Does it rank at all? Would not a secret shudder roll down Dad's spine if, say, his son opted out of medical school to become a teacher of Rashi and Rambam? The reader will object with the oft-used canard that "we encourage our children to be whatever they desire, and accept their choices."

But this paragon of liberal tolerance avoids the fact that children absorb quickly the values of their parents in all areas, including what kind of jobs would be acceptable.

In those parts of the Jewish world – and this generally works in direct proportion to Torah observance – where learning Torah is seen not just as a means to an end, but rather as an end in itself, the children will associate the teaching of Torah with honor and ultimate importance. It is the dissemination of God's word and the backbone of the Jewish people's survival.

But in our often assimilated Jewish reality of today, Jewish education is not viewed as a fit profession for our children, whose destiny lies in jobs where money is the axis around which all other considerations revolve.

And as we all know, money is not the great enticement in Jewish education. Hence, one could rehearse the circularity of the dilemma which spins inside of a parent's brain: "I'd be sanguine with my child becoming a Jewish educator if there was some money in it, but of course I don't really think Jewish educators should be as well paid as other professionals."

The inexorable and bitterly ironic conclusion to all this is that we often bemoan the quality of the Jewish education that our children receive. If only they had better teachers! If only it weren't so dull! And no connection is made between these thoughts and the other parts of the pedagogical puzzle.

"I saw the best minds of my generation destroyed by madness," raged Alan Ginsberg in *Howl*, words which many years later tragically resonate for anyone interested in the future of Jewish education. Where are the best minds of our generation? Jewish children everywhere await you with open souls. Serious applicants only.

The Jewish Highway

Finding your bashert

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

It's impossible to talk about Jewish dating without eventually stumbling upon the word "bashert." Translated as "fated," it is often used to mean the predestined soulmate **[http://marketing.cbs.com/primetime/nanny/yiddish/yiddish_beshert.html]**.

According to tradition, 40 days before the creation of the embryo, God has already decided one's bashert **[http://www.countryyossi.com/nov98/torah.htm]**.

But Rabbi Shlomo Riskin says that just because your soulmate is predestined *doesn't* mean you don't have to get moving **[http://www.ohrtorah.org.il/parsha/5758/besh.htm]**. He quotes the Gemarah's incredible statement that "bringing two people together in marriage is as difficult as the splitting of the Red Sea." (Sanhedrin 22a)

God was prepared to split the Red Sea to save the Israelites, but the Israelites had to make the first move. "Comparing marriage to the splitting of the Red Sea is how the sages address the doubts and fears all couples face. The comparison tells the questioning and even fearful loving friends at the brink of a critical decision that they have to take the plunge, make the first move, be willing to work hard and to constantly move forward. Neither he nor she may sit back and wait for 'bashert.'"

You can also listen to Rebbitzen Rookie Billet who analyzes some very basic questions such as, "What is a bashert?" "Why do I meet people who are unworthy of my love, yet fall in love with them?" and "Is it better to be married and miserable or single and miserable?" **[http://www.613.org/subject.html#love]**. To find the answers, Billet looks to the relationships of Adam and Eve and of the matriarchs and patriarchs. And for more on bashert, see **[http://www.jewishinterest.com/May%20%2097%20Articles/Meaningbasherte.html]**.

In Judaism, much importance is given to the halachot of lashon hara – the laws governing gossip and slander. But what are you to do if you are trying to seek or give information about a potential mate that may be quite negative? Shmiras Haloshon and Shidduchim: A Delicate Balance **[http://shemayisrael.co.il/shidduchim/balance.htm]** examines this issue in detail and gives some guidelines about saying what must be said. Here are a few of the suggestions you'll find at this site:

- Think through your response carefully.
- Don't exaggerate.
- Ensure that the information is transmitted in the least harmful way possible.
- And weigh the amount of harm your information is liable to cause against its benefit.

The site emphasizes that even when negative information is given for the constructive purpose of a shidduch, it is not considered lashon hara.

Sometimes all the work to find a bashert does pay off. Larry and Sherrie Klein of Walnut Creek, Calif. are proof **[http://www.jcn18.com/scripts/jcn18/paper/article.asp?ArticleID=575]**. It all began with a poem Larry posted at a Jewish singles computer bulletin board: "Witty *and* smart may be his best traits/ Women have a good time when he takes them on dates." That caught Sherrie's eye and after a lot of correspondence (and even some online investigation by Sherrie), the two finally met and eventually married.

Of course, at the ceremony, their rabbi couldn't help but make reference to the couple's high-tech beginnings when he wished them "May all your software be shareware."

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a Toronto-based television producer who writes, lectures and teaches about the Jewish Internet. He can be contacted at [highway@home.com].

Jewish Life

Why we act the way we do

***Time, Love, Memory – A Great Biologist and His Quest for the Origins of Behaviour*, by Jonathan Weiner (Random House, $36.95).**

Books
Bernard Baskin

Dr. Seymour Benzer, the scientist-hero of this engaging book, once visited his grandson's high school during lunch break. Some students stayed inside and some went outside, some leaned on their cars, some sat around their bikes, and some gathered to talk near the school's flag pole. His grandson informed him that every day the same students behaved in the same way.

Benzer is sure that despite cultural influences, there is a genetic pattern to these seemingly haphazard choices. "Genes are real and ever present. It is not random. None of it is random."

Do we inherit traits of character and forms of behavior? Are our attitudes and choices in many areas of life determined by genetic codes that developed through a long evolutionary process? How can we account for the chain of reactions, the author wonders, "that leads from a single gene to a bark, or a laugh, or a song, or a thought, or a memory, or a glimpse of red, or a turn toward a light, or a raised hand, or a raised wing?"

On a higher level, there are questions such as these: Do inherited forms of behavior include such human traits as bonding between parents and children, incest avoidance, suspicion of strangers, dominance order within groups and a division of labor between the sexes?

In *Time, Love, Memory*, Jonathan Weiner, Pulitzer Prize winner in the field of popular science, reports on the five years he spent with Benzer and his team at the California Institute of Technology – especially on their groundbreaking work in breeding mutant fruit flies. These minute, winged insects ("they look like nothing without a microscope") are born, reproduce and die all in the space of a month.

Through a series of creative experiments, Benzer and his team were able to breed mutant fruit flies and observe their behavior. Some of these flies deviated from normal patterns of sleep – they overslept, didn't take naps and didn't go to sleep with the other flies.

Other mutants didn't engage in the usual elaborate mating procedures but shunned female flies and danced with males instead.

It was also discovered that some flies were able to learn simple things, recognize odors and avoid a variety of dangers.

All of this is related to specific genes. What is significant, is that these genes have counterparts in mammals, including humans.

Some molecular biologists are exuberant – even cocky – about their findings. Leon Silver, for example believes that science is racing toward a climax. "Barriers to knowledge keep disappearing, one by one. I think in the end we're going to know it all, I really do. It's a question of how long, just a question of when." He is certain that inevitably, molecular biologists are going to move into psychology and take over the field.

But many other scientists are not so sure. They remain skeptical and even antagonistic. Human personality, they contend, is complex, mercurial, hard to crib or confine. Moreover, men and women are designed to react sensitively to their social environment.

Helen Epstein, professor of biology has warned, "Before blundering around in the lab with a test tube of DNA, scientists might be wise to at least try to discover more about human development and behavior first. If there are important genes to work, at least scientists will know what to look for."

Weiner gives a fair hearing to both sides of the complex nature-nurture controversy.

Benzer grew up in Brooklyn, N.Y., the son of poor immigrant parents. He received his first microscope for his bar mitzvah. Afterwards, he had nothing more to do with Hebrew school, During the High Holy Day Services, while the rest of the congregation prayed, and his father looked the other way, Seymour read the book, *The Principles of Atomic Physics*. As a teenager, he was influenced by Sinclair Lewis's novel *Arrowsmith*, the story of an idealistic scientist, who despite many obstacles, remains undeviatingly loyal to his chosen career. Benzer is eccentric, unconventional, tireless in his work, intellectually playful and boundless in his curiosity.

Time, Love, Money, is accessible to readers with little scientific background. It is well researched, enthusiastic and anecdotal. It opens a window on new and exciting findings in biology that may very well alter our entire way of life.

Comparative Law

Is sham surgery ethical?

By RABBI CHAIM STEINMETZ

One of the mainstays of medical research is the double blind control group. Patients involved in drug studies are routinely divided into two groups, one which takes the experimental drug, and another which takes a placebo.

The results of the two groups are compared, allowing researchers to exclude external factors that may be affecting the patient, such as the psychosomatic effects of taking medicine.

In recent years, the Food and Drug Administration and National Institutes of Health have been encouraging researchers testing new surgical techniques to use control groups.

One group receives the experimental surgery, while the control group receives "sham surgeries," where they undergo a similar but useless surgical procedure.

In a recent study using fetal tissue to treat Parkinson's disease, all forty patients were operated on, and had four tiny holes drilled into their foreheads; however, only twenty of the patients received the transplant of fetal tissue, while the control group got the surgery without the transplant (*NY Times*, April 22, '99).

These studies raise a difficult ethical question: Is it acceptable to perform a surgery that will have no benefit for the patient?

It must be noted that as a general rule, Halachah prohibits injuring any person, including self-injury (Shulchan Aruch CM420:31). The reason for this is that the human body is a gift from God, and man has no right to injure or destroy it (Rabbi S. Z. Zevin, L'Or HaHalachah 318-338).

This prohibition does not necessarily rule out all forms of self injury. Rabbi Moshe Feinstein (Iggrot Moshe CM2:65-66) allows any sort of purposeful wounding such as plastic surgery, while others are more restrictive (Tzitz Eliezer 11:41).

Clearly, participation in a surgical study, even for the control group, could be considered a "purposeful" form of injury, and acceptable according to Halachah. However, two halachic concerns remain.

The first concern relates to the possible exaggeration of medical benefit. Dr. Arthur Caplan, director of the University of Pennsylvania Centre for Bioethics, has opposed sham surgery on the grounds that "this is going to extremes to worship at the altar of placebo controls" (*Wall Street Journal*, Dec. 11, '98).

Similar concerns exist in Halachah. In many cases, Jewish law prohibits autopsies. However, one may violate the Torah in order to possibly save a life. But how do you define this possibility?

Is the possibility that the doctors performing the autopsy may gain medical knowledge that could save a life in the future sufficient reason for an autopsy?

According to Rabbi Ezekiel Landau (NBYDII:201), a possible future benefit is insufficient reason to violate Halachah.

He gives the following example

Continued on page 14

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ISRAEL SCOUT FRIENDSHIP CARAVAN

The Israel Scout Friendship Caravan is coming to Hamilton and Toronto to celebrate its 25th anniversary. The Friendship Caravan is composed of 10 Israeli teens who bring their message of friendship, culture and peace from Israel through song and dance. They will perform in Hamilton on Aug 18 at 7:30 p.m. at Shalom Village, and in Toronto on Aug. 19 at 7:30 p.m. at Mel Lastman Square. Their visit is sponsored by the Jewish advisory committee on scouting and guiding, UIA Federations Canada, and UJA Federation of Hamilton-Wentworth.

Is sham surgery ethical?

Continued from page 13

to illustrate his view. A doctor is allowed to boil water, even on Shabbat, in order to sterilize his instruments for a life-saving surgery. However, this would not allow any person to boil water on Shabbat on the off chance that it may be necessary for a life-threatening surgery.

Similarly, he says that one only suspends Halachah in the face of a clear danger, not for a possible future medical benefit.

While others adopt a more liberal view of medical benefit (Mishpetei Uziel YD28), the point made by Rabbi Landau is extremely significant. Not every type of medical benefit is sufficient reason for us to override ethical concerns.

If sham surgeries become a routine method of research, researchers will no longer review each surgical study to see if it is absolutely necessary to use a control group.

A second concern has to do with proper consent. While all patients in the study sign that they consent to the sham surgery if they are picked for the control group, is a patient, desperate to try an experimental cure, giving wholehearted consent?

There is a similar concern in Halachah regarding gambling. The Talmud (Sanhedrin 24b) mentions an opinion that gambling can be considered a form of theft. According to Rashi, this is because gamblers play with the expectation that they will be winners; therefore, their consent is never a true, wholehearted consent.

While others permit gambling (Rama CM 370:63), and the interpretation of Rashi is in the minority, the concerns raised by Rashi are very real.

It is quite possible that patients will consent to sham surgery only because they are desperate for a cure. This type of consent is ethically suspect.

There is no question that there is sufficient warrant in Halachah to allow sham surgery when required. However, there are major halachic concerns about using sham surgery, and it should not be used unless absolutely necessary.

Rabbi Chaim Steinmetz is the spiritual leader of Congregation Tifereth Beth David Jerusalem in Montreal.

MINYANIM IN THE GTA
WEEK OF AUG. 13-19/'99

Synagogue	Address & Tel.	Fri. Night	Shabbat	Sun. A.M.	Daily A.M.	Daily P.M.
Adath Sholom (C)	864 Sheppard Ave. W. (416) 635-0131	7:00 PM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	8:00 AM	----------
Aish HaTorah (O)	949 Clark Ave. W. (905) 764-1818	7:00 PM	8:45 AM	8:00 AM	6:30 AM	8:05 PM
Beth HaMinyan (C)	70 Ridge Hill Dr. (416) 785-3655	----------	9:30 AM	----------	----------	----------
Beth Sholom (C)	1445 Eglinton Ave. W. (416) 783-6103	7:00 PM	8:45 AM	8:30 AM	7:30 & 9:00 AM	7:00 PM
Beth Torah (C)	47 Glenbrook Ave. (416) 782-4495	----------	9:00 AM	----------	----------	----------
Chabad of Markham (O)	83 Green Lane (905) 886-0420	7:00 PM	9:30 AM	8:30 AM	6:45 AM	----------
Emunah Shleima (O)	4120 Bathurst St. (416) 638-6115	7:00 PM	8:45 AM	8:00 AM	7:00 AM	8:05 PM
Shaarei Tefillah (O)	3600 Bathurst St. (416) 787-1631	7:00 PM	8:45 AM	8:30 AM	6:30 & 7:30 AM	8:05 PM
Temple Har Zion (R)	7360 Bayview Ave. (905) 889-2252	6:15 PM	10:30 AM	9:00 AM	7:15 AM	----------
Tifereth Yisrael (O)	756 Sheppard Ave. W. (416) 487-4161	7:00 PM	8:30 AM	8:00 AM	Mon. Thurs. 6:30 Tues. Wed. Fri. 6:45	8:05 PM

This is not a comprehensive listing of the synagogues in the Greater Toronto area. The information is provided by the Vaad Harabonim of Toronto and the Toronto Board of Rabbis. The Vaad and the Board will periodically revise the listings. For statutory holidays, please call the Synagogue for any changes in times.

Just Between Us

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גידי קורן וחברים

טורונטו קיץ 99:

טורונטו של קיץ היא עיר מדליקה,שמחה, תוססת. כאילו שכל הקור של החורף גרם להמון אנרגיה לצאת עכשיו החוצה בהתפרצות גדולה. אינני יכול לכסות את מאות האירועים שקורים פה זה אחרי זה או במקביל. רק שני טיפים קטנים של דברים שכדאי לראות.

"תה עם מוסוליני,":

הפקה איטלקית אמריקנית של סיפור אמיתי שקרה באיטליה במלחמת העולם השניה. קבוצה של נשים אנגליות לא צעירות החליטה להישאר באיטליה גם לאחר שפרצה המלחמה ולאחר שבריטניה הוכרזה כאויבת. בראשן עומדת אשתו של השגריר לשעבר שנפטר זה מכבר. הן מעריצות את איטליה ומאמינות שמוסוליני הוא מנהיג ענק. עובדה שהוא הזמין את אשת השגריר לתה בשנת 36'. למרות התלאות הקשות ותנאי מחנה מעצר - הן ממשיכות לדבוק באיטליה כדי להגן על שכיות התרבות הקלאסית שבה. מי שמצילה אותן היא מיליונרית אמריקנית שהן מתעבות, שמגולמת על ידי שר האחת והיחידה. סרט מרענן, אם כי קצת שטחי, כיאה להפקה שיש בה גם חלקים אמריקניים בהחלט מתאים לקיץ. שמונה בסולם קורן.

חשמלית ושמה תשוקה:

בתיאטרון דה מוריאר שב- Harbour Front, מועלית ההצגה הקלאסית של טנסי וויליאמס "חשמלית ושמה תשוקה". כבר יותר מארבעים שנה על הבמה - ועדיין מעוררת צמרמורת. סיפורה של אשה שחצנית, מגונדרת, שנאחזת בשארית יופיה, שמגיעה לביקור אצל אחותה הצעירה והענייה. לאורך ההצגה מתגלית האמת על חייה, שהיא רחוקה מרחק רב מן האמת. בראשו של צוות מעולה עומדת פיאונה ריד, שחקנית קנדית קלאסית שראויה לכל התשבוחות. ואופייני לטורונטו - אפשר להשיג ברגע האחרון כמעט כרטיסים במחיר הצנע קולנוע.

ההמנון:

יש לישראל המנון יפה, שמילותיו נכתבו הרבה לפני קום המדינה ע"י נפתלי הרץ -אימבר למנגינת עם צ'כית.

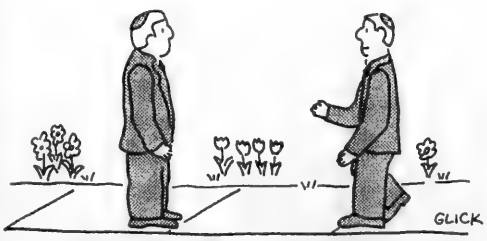
"כל עוד בלבב פנימה
נפש יהודי הומיה".

והנה, עברו כמעט מאה שנה, ובישראל יש כחמישה מליון יהודים, מדינה מודרנית, גאה שהוקמת ומתעצמת. אבל מה לעשות - יש במדינה גם כמליון לא יהודים, בעיקרם ערבים. מצפים מהם שיהיו נאמנים למדינה ואזרחים טובים. אבל איך אפשר לצפות מהם לשיר המנון שמילותיו מיועדות ליהודים בלבד. והינה לפני מספר שבועות הציע חבר כנסת ערבי להחליף את ההמנון הישראלי בשיר שאיננו מיועד רק ליהודים. המעניין הוא, שהח"כ הערבי הציע שיר נפלא שכתב שאול טשרניחובסקיי, ושעוסק באחוות האדם והעמים:

"שחקי שחקי על חלומות
זה אני החולם שח,....
שחקי כי באדם אאמין
גם ברוחו, רוח עז."

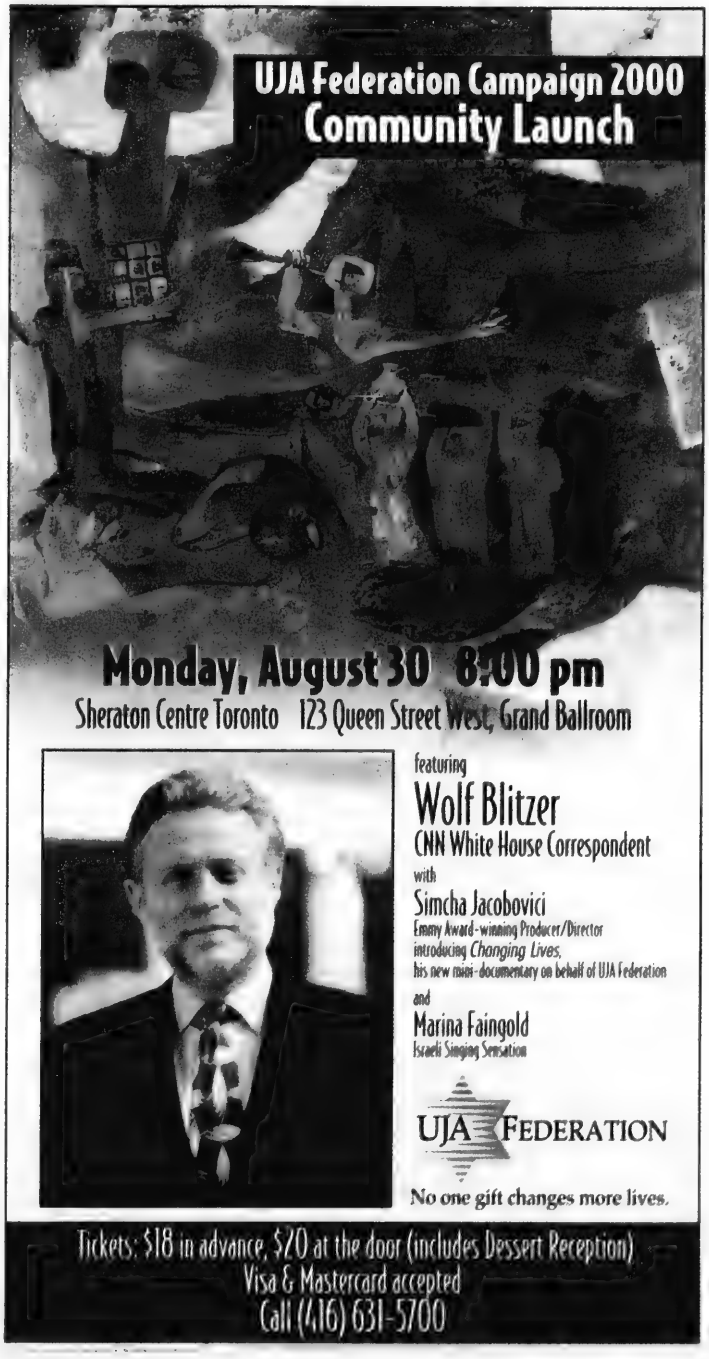
המנון לא צריך לשנות בקלות, ואולי בכלל לא. אבל זה בהחלט רעיון מעניין.. ובעיקר בגלל שח"כ ערבי בחר שיר ישראלי של משורר יהודי ישראלי. אבל שישאר בינינו.

SHMOOZIN



As the yarmulke-clad stranger approaches, Jonathan is in a quandary -- should he say "Good Shabbos" or should he say "Shabbat Shalom"?

Dry Bones



On Campus

MADA service reveals diversity in Israeli life

By ORLI GOLDBERG
Special to The CJN

Life in Israel is as erratic as an irregular pulse. Like one's blood pressure, which constantly fluctuates in response to different stimuli, so too does Israeli society. The diversity I encountered as one of 36 Canadian Jewish volunteer medics for the Magen David Adom (MADA) ambulance service reflects the variance and unpredictability of Israeli life.

Diaspora Jews often experience a craving to taste the true flavor of Israel. I can personally attest to the fact that there is no better way to experience the heartbeat and circulation of Israeli society than in the back of a speeding ambulance.

I cannot describe to you a typical day in the life of a MADA volunteer, because there is no such thing as typical. So, I will simply relate a day's experience.

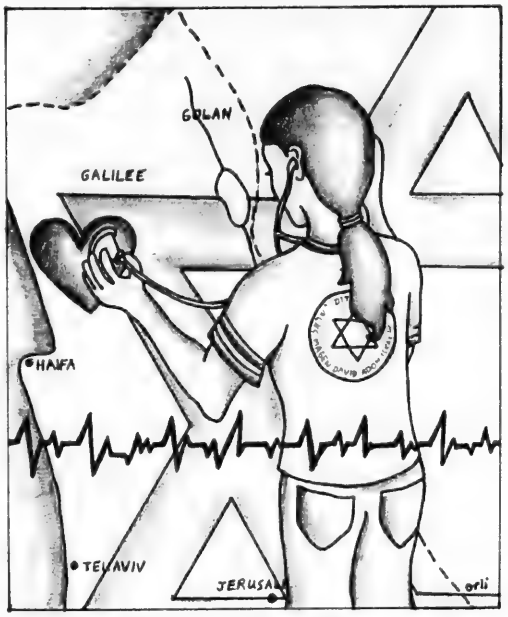
It began with a call to the Tel Aviv diamond industry district. After running up the five flights of factory stairs, we were greeted by the stern instructions of the police not to touch anything – we had arrived at the scene of a murder.

There was nothing for us to do for the victim, who was hunched over a toilet bowl with two bullet wounds in his back. So we moved on to treat the victim's employer, who, having either committed or witnessed the act, was suffering from severe shock.

Blinded by the flash of a newspaper photographer as we escorted the hysterical suspect to the ambulance, we sped away to the crowded corridors of Ichilov Hospital.

We had barely left the hospital grounds when we received our second call – an unconscious taxi driver in the haredi community of Bnei Brak. The exact address was not difficult to find, thanks to the horde of haredi children who were swarming around the patient.

By the time we arrived, the unconscious man was not breathing and had no pulse. The ambulance driver instructed our team to begin CPR.



There are no words to describe the exhilarating feeling one experiences when performing compressions and giving breaths in order to resuscitate a life. By the time the Mobile Intensive Care Unit arrived on the scene and took over, we had restored the patient's pulse, and he was even beginning to breathe independently.

Administering CPR is hard work – especially in 40-degree weather – so after that call we were in need of a break. No sooner had we finished our break than we received our next call – the all too common motorcycle accident.

It was a challenge getting through the stop-and-go traffic on the Ayalon expressway. In Israel, motorists are not eager to move over for anyone or anything – including a speeding ambulance with emergency siren blaring and flashing red lights glaring. However, we finally made it to the chaotic site of the accident.

Despite the distraction of voices cursing, arms waving and telephones ringing, we were able to ascertain the problem and treat the motorcyclist who had been hit by a car. But a scraped knee and stiff neck did not seem to be sufficient justification for the macho motorcyclist to abandon his precious motorcycle. He refused to come with us to the hospital, so we were on our way once again.

Life in an ambulance is not always life in the fast lane. We spent the next few hours improving our *shesh besh* (backgammon) game in the station, followed by two routine transfers of elderly people to their respective hospitals. The tedium of getting through these hours was worth it, however, because we then had a soccer game to look forward to.

Being a medic has several perks. One of them includes free field level seats at the Maccabiah stadium in Tel Aviv to be on call to treat soccer players and fans in case of an emergency.

At this HaPoel Tel Aviv vs. Betar Jerusalem game we had to be especially alert. The prime ministerial elections had just taken place, and the game had political overtones. (Everything in Israel has political overtones.)

The ultimate victory of the leftist Tel Aviv team, after an intense shoot-out, was a coup de grace in light of the recent victory of Ehud Barak (Labor party) for prime minister. Thus, although there were no injuries for us to treat during the game, our expertise as medics was necessary at the game's conclusion. The furious rightist Jerusalem fans lit the seats of the stadium on fire as a manifestation of their frustration with both crushing defeats.

Labor vs. Likud on the soccer field – a true example of politics at play.

Like the peaks and valleys on a heart-rate monitor, such are the highs and lows of a day as a volunteer ambulance medic, and such are the ups and downs of Israeli life. From my experience at MADA, I learned that even after examining the obvious signs and symptoms, life – more specifically life in Israel – remains unpredictable.

I feel fortunate to have been granted the unique opportunity of being able to feel the pulse of Israel. Irregular as it may be in rate, rhythm, and volume, the pulse of Israel will always beat intensely in my own heart.

Orli Goldberg of Toronto is a student at McGill University.

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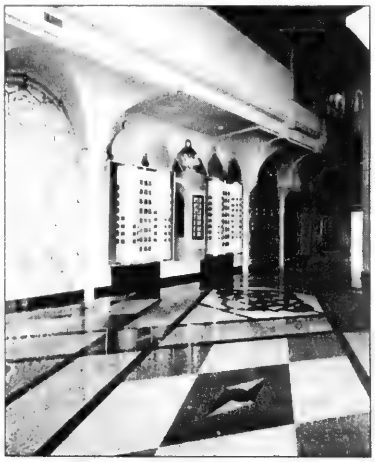

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

CANADIAN SOCIETY FOR YAD VASHEM
News Flash
ISRAEL MISSION
October 7 - 21
Watch for details
Please call (416) 785-1333

DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Monday, Aug. 16, is deadline for Aug. 26. issue and Monday, Aug. 23, is deadline for Sept. 2. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Monday, Aug. 16

VANCOUVER HIGHLIGHT

British **Lord Greville Janner Braunstone** delivers an address to the greater Vancouver community at Beth Israel Synagogue at 8 p.m. on the topic Recovery and Restitution: Nazi Looted Assets Today and Tomorrow. Lord Greville Janner, a Labor party member of Parliament, recently produced a report on funds of Nazi victims appropriated by the government-appointed custodian of enemy property and the British banks. He is also a vice-president of the World Jewish Congress and chair of the Holocaust Educational Trust.

Event is co-sponsored by the Jewish Community Foundation of Greater Vancouver, Canadian Jewish Congress, Pacific region; Congregation Beth Israel; and the Jewish Federation of Greater Vancouver.

SUPPORT GROUP

Jewish Parents and Families of Gays and Lesbians meets 7:30 p.m. Jewish Family & Child Service, 6th floor, Lipa Green Building. Phone in confidence, **Ruth** 763-9111.

Wednesday, Aug. 18

ZE'EV JABOTINSKY

A service in remembrance of the yahrzeit of **Ze'ev Jabotinsky,** Rosh Betar, 8 p.m., Zionist Centre, 788 Marlee Ave. Guest speaker is **Prof. Libby Garshowitz** of the University of Toronto with **Cantor Yehuda Rottner** of Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Synagogue. Sponsored by Herut Likud and Betar Tagar.

COFFEE, TEA AND TORAH

Come to Beth Tzedec to meet, have your choice of coffees and some Torah talk with **Rebbitzen Tanenbaum,** 7:30 p.m. $5 at door. In conjunction with Toronto Dynamic Singles and Toronto Intersynagogue Singles. For further details, **Marlene** 781-3514, ext. 34.

WELLNESS LECTURE

Wellness Education Group of Baycrest Centre session, Lipreading and Other Ways to Improve Communication, presented by **Mary Beth Jennings,** audiologist, The Canadian Hearing Society, 1:30-2:30 p.m. at the Wagman Centre, 55 Ameer Ave. $2 at door. **Judy Chu** 785-2500, ext. 2340.

Thursday, Aug. 19

THURSDAY NIGHT OUT

For singles 25-45 years, 9 p.m. at Summit House Grill, 40 Eglinton Ave. E. (phone 440-0030), complimentary appetizers, cash bar. $5 donation at door. All proceeds go to Jewish Family & Child Service to Send a Kid to Camp. **Jordana** 927-9818 leave message.

COOKING WITH SUNLIGHT

Children 9-11 build a solar cooker and then use sunlight to cook a delicious hotdog. Bring a large glass jar with lid (approximately 750 ml). 2-3 p.m., North York Central Library. Pre-register before Aug. 17. 395-5630.

And What Else Is New

HEBREW LANGUAGE

Looking forward to learning the Hebrew language this fall? Canadian Zionist Federation presents **Chana Sargon** leading its fall session, Hebrew Language Studies beginning the week of Sept. 6. Registration is now open for day and evening classes, Beginner, Intermediate, Advanced (Chug Ivrit) levels. Explore current events, newspaper articles, literature, all in Hebrew. Classes held at 3995 Bathurst St., Suite 300. For information/registration 633-3988.

TALENT NIGHT

The Shaarei Shomayim Entertainment and Cultural Connection is planning a talent night. If you are interested in taking part, send a note to **Jerry Genesove** at 625 Roselawn Ave., Apt. 304, Toronto, M5N 1K7 or fax it to 789-1728.

SIMCOE COUNTY NEWS

Simcoe County Jewish Association upcoming events. For information/registration leave a message on voice mail 705-721-6126.

Registration for fall Hebrew School classes starts Sept. 1. Classes will be on Sundays 2-4 p.m. Children ages 5-12 (and their parents) are welcome.

Erev Rosh Hashanah services will be held in Barrie Friday, Sept. 10, followed by Rosh Hashanah services Saturday, Sept.11, conducted by **Rabbi Bernard Baskin.**

Continued on page 19

Sam says it's time to live a little!

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Sam Ruth
Former CEO, Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care

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Sam Ruth - Member, Two Neptune Drive Development Committee

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What's New

Continued from page 18

Kol Nidre services will held in Barrie Sunday, Sept. 19, and Yom Kippur services on Monday, Sept. 20, led by Rabbi Baskin.

SOCIAL SKILLS PROGRAM

The Learning Disabilities Association of North York is currently holding interviews for its 1999-2000 Social Skills Program in which children and adolescents with learning disabilities develop skills to improve their school interactions. 229-1680.

JEWISH SINGLES EVENT

Jewish singles "hot" summer event, live entertainment, sing-along, dance to rock 'n' roll classics or relax and shoot pool at Pearl's Duelling Pianos, 180 Pearl St., Thursday, Aug. 26 (note change of date), 7 p.m. for best seating, 8 p.m. entertainment begins. Portion of proceeds go to Zareinu. **Ferne** 493-8338 or **Patsi** 905-886-3301.

BOARD MEMBERS NEEDED

Bayview Support Network, a peer support network of cancer survivors and caregivers at Toronto-Sunnybrook Regional Cancer Centre, is looking for cancer survivors, caregivers and interested community members to share their expertise and help develop programming to enhance support services that are available to those facing a cancer diagnosis. **Stan Ash,** chair, 225-3238.

JF&CS GROUPS

Jewish Family & Child Service groups. Information/registration **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

Parenting: 1, 2, 3 Magic!, three-session groups for parents to learn behavior management techniques based on **Thomas Phelan's** book. *1, 2, 3 Magic*. Groups are age specific and begin Oct. 5 at the Promenade.

Younger Persons Bereavement Group: Discuss living alone, parenting alone and other changing relationships, begins Aug. 18.

Today's Woman: Making It Happen: self-esteem, interpersonal skills, techniques for stress management, time management, begins Aug. 24.

Parenting the Young Child is Hard Work: discipline techniques which include new 1, 2, 3 Magic strategy, **Barbara Coloroso's** techniques and others, begins Oct. 6.

The Single Parent Challenge: feelings, concerns and skills necessary for a single parent, coping strategies, how to balance personal needs with parental responsibilities, begins Sept. 21.

FOR SENIORS

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: Aug. 25, morning cruise then matinee performance of *Move Over Mrs. Markham* at the Gryphon Theatre; Oct. 12, *West Side Story* at Stratford. **Lena** 785-5773. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Aug. 12, video; Aug. 19, guest speaker **Pearl Gladstone**, national director, Field Services, B'nai Brith; Aug. 26, bingo. **Jerry Bengall**, president, 905-707-7334 or **Malka Colla**, chair of social committee, 630-5771.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: barbecue party Sunday, Aug. 15, 2-4 p.m.; community garage sale and flea market, Aug. 22; Casino Rama, Aug. 25; ballroom dancing Thursdays 10 a.m. 395-7881.

New Image 50 Plus seniors dance, ballroom music tapes by **Murray Jacobs**, Saturday, Aug. 14, at Earl Bales Community Centre. Members $3, non-members $5. **Helen** 633-0397.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Annual Open House, Wednesday, Aug. 18, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Entertainment, food, displays, programs in action, hear about fall events and classes, sidewalk sale, door prizes, free admission.

Nobel Prize Winners in Literature with **Batya Hazenbalk** Wednesdays, 1:15-2:45, through Sept. 1. **Bookie** ext. 116.

Humor in the Courts, with lawyer **Barry Seltzer** Tuesday, Aug. 17, 10 a.m. Members $1.50, non-members $3.

Healthy Cooking with dietician/nutritionist **Andrea Sturk,** Tuesday, Aug. 17, 1:15 p.m.

An Introduction to Stress Management with **Steven Hughes,** Education Services for the Centre for Addiction & Mental Health, Thursday, Aug. 19, 1:15 p.m.

Ballroom dancing with **Irving Naftolin,** lecture and demonstration, Thursday, Aug. 12, 10-11 a.m.

High Holy Day tickets on sale Monday through Thursday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Conservative service with mixed seating. Members $65, non-members $75, youth 6-19 $35. Everyone in the community welcome. Ext. 113.

Working Together for Change, a group for women over 55 who have been or are in relationships that hurt, 10 sessions. Date to be announced. Sponsored by Bernard Betel Centre, Circle of Care, Jewish Family & Child Service. For information (confidentiality respected) **Sheila Zane** ext. 133 or **Ruth Cohen** ext. 105.

Israeli Club Etrog: Do you speak Hebrew? Join club members every Tuesday at 7 p.m. for movies, lectures, dances, sing-alongs, bingo, picnics. Aug. 17, picnic in the park. **Anna** ext. 110.

Movie, *Mighty Aphrodite*, Sunday, Aug. 15, 2:30 p.m.

SINGLES EVENTS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE **23**

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.

Summer on the Roof programs: Yiddish music and dance with Hu-Tsa-Tsa Klezmer Band, Thursday, Aug. 12, 8 p.m. members $5, non-members $8.

Volunteer recognition featuring Take 3 Plus 1, Thursday, Aug. 19, 7-9 p.m. $8 includes barbecue. Admission only (no barbecue) $4.

BATHURST JC

Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. 636-1880.

Judy & David concert Sunday, Aug. 22, 11:30 a.m., Leah Posluns Theatre. $10. Call ext. 0 for more information.

Limited September spaces in Tic Tac Two for Tuesday/Thursday mornings. A fun-filled two-hour program focusing on a Judaic curriculum, age-appropriate activities with music and gym time. Ext. 351

Limited September spaces also in morning junior kindergarten, focusing on cognitive and social skills plus Hebrew instruction, music and gym. Ext. 351.

ABOUT PEOPLE

CONGRESS APPOINTMENTS

Norman Roth of Toronto has been appointed to the full-time position of director of communications and public affairs of the Ontario region, Canadian Jewish Congress.

Faun Mandel of Guelph is the new family outreach program director replacing **Leanne Rosen** who is returning to university for an MSW degree.

REENA ANNIVERSARY DINNER

Enjoying themselves at Reena's 25th Anniversary Gala Dinner are longtime Reena supporters: standing from left, Marci and Brian Bender, Toby and Saul Feldberg, Helen and Hank Rosenbaum; seated from left, Hannah and Leo Drukmaler, Marcia Bielak and Ben Kerzner, and Sheila Guttmann. [Barry Shainbaum photo]

SUCCESSFUL YIZKOR APPEAL

Beth Jacob V'Anshe Drildz Synagogue recently held a successful Yizkor appeal for the benefit of the Association for the Soldiers of Israel. Pictured above from left are Sam Faivish, appeal chair; Jack Muskat, ASI president; Joesph Joseph, synagogue immediate past president; Zev Kaufman, treasurer

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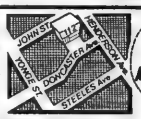

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jewish toronto

Fears Fuel Russian Aliyah

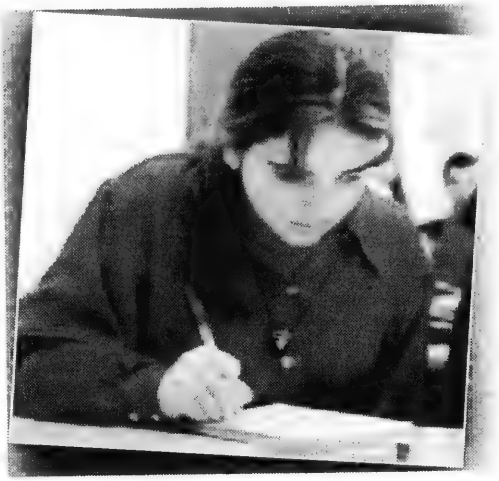
by Adi Neuberger

Anti-Semitism in Russia has reached alarming heights, causing a wave of Jewish emigration to Israel not seen since the fall of the iron curtain.

"Jews in Moscow are very scared," says Rabbi Pinchus Goldsmith, head of the city's largest synagogue in a recent interview with *jewish toronto*. Goldsmith, who helped revive the Choral congregation when he arrived in Moscow in 1989, says the fight against anti-Semitism is a pre-occupation of the entire Jewish community.

Since January, amidst growing fears of anti-Semitism, more than 12,000 Russian Jews (at least 60,000 Jews from the former Soviet Union are expected to arrive in Israel by the end of 1999) have been brought to Israel by the UJA Federation funded Jewish Agency – a dramatic increase of 128% over the same time last year. Jewish Agency emissaries report that Russian immigration to Israel hasn't reached such proportions since the mass exodus of the late 1980s and early 1990s.

"If the trend continues, the number of Jews from Russia alone making aliyah might reach 30,000 this year, which would be the highest total since 1992," Jewish Agency Chairman Sallai Meridor recently noted.



Some 1,500 young candidates for Jewish Agency Programs such as Selah, Chalom and Naaleh study programs in Israel are taking preparatory courses in Russia, Belarus and the Baltic States.

"Worsening economic conditions, especially in major cities such as Moscow and St. Petersburg, are fueling anti-Semitic and racist sentiments throughout the country," reports Alla Levy, Director of Jewish Agency operations in the former Soviet Union (FSU) and Eastern Europe.

Russia has seen a wave of attacks against Jewish targets recently, including bomb blasts in May near the Choral Synagogue in Moscow, where Leopold Kaminovsky was brutally stabbed last month by a 20 year-old Neo-Nazi.

"The government does nothing to condemn or deter these vicious acts so it's up to us to do whatever we can to stop them," adds Goldsmith.

A survey conducted by the Jewish Agency between March and May this year revealed that 31% of immigrants arriving in Israel via Moscow identified anit-Semitism as one of the two main reasons for having chosen to immigrate.

"You can see more and more vulnerable Jews coming out of the woodwork turning to the Jewish Agency as their only hope," notes UJA Federation Campaign 2000 Co-Chair David Engel, who recently visited the FSU. "This is most definitely an issue our local community should be concerned with and their plight places the rescue of Jews at the centre of our ongoing fundraising efforts."

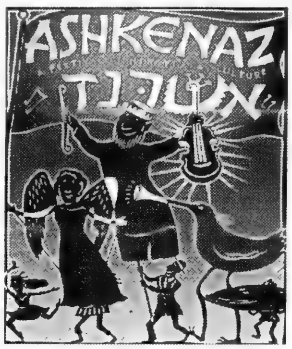
Long lines at the Jewish Agency in Moscow are a daily occurrence. During the first quarter of 1999, over 10,000 Jews in Russia requested information about making aliyah.

Around jewish toronto

campaign 2000

Wolfe Blitzer

Help celebrate the launch of **UJA Federation Campaign 2000, Monday, August 30, 8:00pm, Sheraton Centre Toronto, 123 Queen Street West,** Grand Ballroom. The community launch will feature **Wolfe Blitzer,** CNN White House Correspondent, Israeli Singing Sensation **Marina Faingold** and the premier of the *Changing Lives* mini-documentary produced and directed by **Simcha Jacobovici.** Tickets in advance - $18 per person – can be ordered by calling **(416) 631-5700.**



ashkenaz

Don't miss the 3rd **Biennial Ashkenaz Festival of Yiddish Culture** – cosponsored by **UJA Federation, August 30 – September 6,** Harbourfront Centre. For information call **(416) 703-5489.**

fun day

The entire community is invited to **Reena/BJC Fun Day, August 22, 10:00am, Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St.** The event will feature a concert performance by Judy and David – Tickets $10 per person. **Call (905) 763-8254 ext. 3034.**

Creating Space For Minds To Grow

A New CHAT In The Making

jewish toronto

School may be out for the summer but the (CHAT) Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto is busier than ever during the first phase of a $9 million expansion and renovation project.

An initial $3 million contribution by the Anne and Max Tanenbaum Charitable Foundation launched the long-awaited project last spring - a joint effort between CHAT and UJA Federation to accommodate its tremendous growth. A student population that has doubled in the last decade gave birth to unsightly portables which will be replaced with 21 new classrooms.

The new Wilmington Avenue Campus, to be named the Anne and Max Tanenbaum Education Centre, will also include an expanded library, a new cafeteria, a Jewish Studies Resource Centre and an athletic centre to support 30 teams competing in 12 areas of sports. The Second Phase of the project will include the incorporation of state-of-the-art computers and other modern appointments.

The new CHAT will feature a new facade, landscaping, better access and improved parking. *Artist's rendering*

"We're looking forward to building a facility that will properly house CHAT's growing student body," notes Howard Meyer, who is co-chairing the building committee with Norman Godfrey and has been monitoring the project daily.

"Our goal is to have the doors open in September for the beginning of the school year," adds Norman Godfrey, long-time supporter of CHAT and the Jewish community.

"Anne Tanenbaum's gift was instrumental in getting this project off the ground," explains Baila Lubek, President of CHAT's Board of Directors. "Now we need the support of other leading philanthropists who share her commitment to strengthening Jewish education."

Students cheered at the groundbreaking ceremony when they were told they would no longer be relegated to dreary portables.

UJA Federation and CHAT are focusing on raising an additional $6 million in order to complete the project by fall 2000. The partnership between the two organizations is one of many ongoing cooperative fundraising efforts being spearheaded by UJA Federation as part of the *Jewish Toronto Tomorrow* initiative for community development.

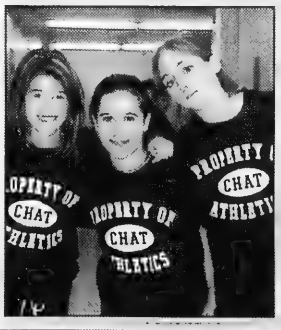
For more information about the CHAT/UJA Federation Building Together Campaign or to arrange an on-site tour of the project, call Gloria Snow at UJA Federation (416) 631-5671.

In A Class By Itself

A record number of students will be taking advantage of the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto's (CHAT) world renowned reputation next year.

Over 1120 students are expected to enroll this fall – representing a growth of 20% over last year – as the largest Jewish high school in North America marks its 40th anniversary.

"More and more teenagers are choosing to continue their Jewish education at CHAT," says Shirley Worth, Chair of UJA Federation's Board of Jewish Education. According to Worth, up to 80% of students in some of Toronto's Jewish elementary schools make their way to CHAT.

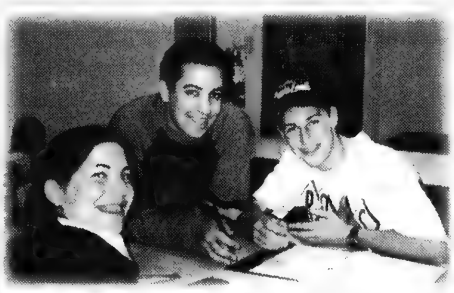


Despite outgrowing its modest two story Wilmington Avenue facility several years ago due to an expanding student body, CHAT has never compromised its educational objectives," says CHAT Headmaster Paul Shaviv.

"A highly qualified and dedicated faculty and a strong commitment and concern for each individual student have consistently been the main factors in the school's success," adds Shaviv. "The new building will only further enhance an already extremely positive atmosphere of learning."

Emphasis on academic excellence in both Judaic and general studies and a pluralistic outlook have distinguished CHAT among Jewish secondary institutions. The school has established a reputation for community service and for students with special needs as well as advanced courses. "In no other school can you find such a wide range of young men and women studying advanced Talmud – Jewish law – together in the same class," notes Shaviv. CHAT also runs a special new stream program to integrate students arriving from the public school system.

In recent years several alumni have received academic awards, including silver and gold medals from the University of Toronto's prestigious medical school. Others have become members of faculties at teaching institutions around the world.



According to Shaviv, the school, which boasts an average student retention rate of over 90% from year to year, also engenders a deep sense of camaraderie and loyalty among students – some of whom, like Josh Sable, return as staff members and educators. "Walking down the halls of CHAT is like visiting Ben Yehuda Street in Jerusalem," says Sable, who returned to CHAT to teach eight years after graduating. "The common bond that exists between each individual creates a natural sense of warmth and comfort."

"I think I have one of the most exciting jobs in Jewish education," says Shaviv. "It's very rewarding to be a part of a school that serves as a model of excellence both in terms of academic achievement and community-building."

Features

Higher income families 'squeezed' out of system

Continued from page 3

ucation exists, he maintained. "Anytime a Jewish child is starved for a Jewish education, it's a crisis the Jewish community must deal with."

Kaye acknowledges that the Toronto Jewish community, through UJA Federation, provides approximately $7 million a year in subsidies to families who can't afford the full tuition. But in addition to schooling, he said, there are camp fees, youth groups, and synagogue and community centre memberships. All are user-pay. "It all adds up and you begin to question whether you can afford these things."

Even individuals and families in higher income brackets are being affected, he said. "Despite making good salaries, they're being squeezed out of the system."

A quick look at various costs associated with Jewish lifestyle illustrates the problem. As mentioned, day school tuition ranges from $6,000 to $12,000 per student per year.

Membership at one of North Toronto's larger Conservative shuls is more than $1,000 a couple, at a Reform Temple, it costs $2,000 for a family of four. A second Reform temple bases its dues on members' incomes, with amounts ranging from $216 to $2,976 per family. The average membership is about $1,000.

Camp Shalom charges about $2,900 per child for a four-week session, with slight discounts for siblings. Fees for Camp Ramah are $2,730 for four weeks or $4,450 for eight weeks. By comparison, Camp Couchiching, a non-profit facility with ties to the Anglican diocese, charges $835 for a two-week session.

Purchasing kosher food can also increase a family's budget beyond that of their gentile neighbors. One large supermarket with a substantial kosher food section charged $8.80 a kilo for kosher lean ground beef, $5.49 for non-kosher; $18.77 a kilo for a kosher rib steak, $15.64 for non-kosher; and $5.24 a kilo for kosher chicken drumsticks, $3.70 to $3.95 for non-kosher.

Add to that membership dues for Jewish organizations, contributions to the annual UJA campaign or for other charities, the costs of putting up a sukkah, preparing or attending seders, a brit milah ($300 on average, compared to a $150 to $200 for a medical circumcision), and the old Yiddish aphorism takes on a new meaning: *S'is shver tzu zein a Yid* – It's hard to be a Jew.

Zac Kaye

* * *

J. Alan Winter is professor of sociology at Connecticut College who has researched contemporary American Jewry, including the affordability of living Jewishly. Author of *Not By Bread Alone* and *Income, Identity and Involvement in the Jewish Community*, Winter believes "it's more a question of value than of cost."

Income and identity are two crucial factors in determining whether families live a Jewish lifestyle, he continued. Once the decision to "be involved" is made, then the question of funds arises.

At that point, the family must prioritize its values to determine how it will spend its discretionary, after expenses, income.

"For example, if one is more interested in VCRs, CD players and all the other wonders of the alphabet that define 'success' in America than in teaching one's children the aleph-bet, a higher income will be needed to meet the cost of living Jewishly than if the reverse is true," Winter writes.

"Therefore, it is suggested that the relationship between income and the cost of living Jewishly is dependent not only on the level of family income or discretionary funds and the cost of the specific forms of Jewish involvement in question, but also on the degree of Jewish identity."

* * *

For many in the community, Toronto's Jewish day school system is a source of tremendous pride and satisfaction. Approximately 11,000 youngsters attended Jewish day schools last year, according to Bernard Shoub, director of school finances for the Board of Jewish Education (BJE) of UJA Federation.

Of those 11,000 students, 7,000 are enrolled in schools funded to some extent by UJA Federation (several schools are independent of the UJA Federation and receive private support). Of the 7,000 youngsters, 2,700 or 40 percent receive some sort of community financial assistance, ranging from 10 to 100 percent of the tuition, Shoub said.

The subsidy determination process is an intrusive one, Shoub conceded. Families seeking tuition subsidies must fill out an extensive application form that requires full disclosure of income and assets.

It's common practice among the schools, for example, to require parents to provide the previous year's income tax return, financial statements of businesses owned by the applicants, unemployment insurance payment slips, severance letters, mortgage statements, separation or divorce agreements; they must also list all holdings, 'including real estate, stocks, bonds, cars, trucks and intangible assets; they are required to itemize loans owing; and they must provide a rundown of a family's monthly expenses, including insurance, utilities, medical expenses and vacation costs.

That sort of intensive investigation can't be avoided, Shoub said. "Unfortunately, there is only a limited amount of funds available. They want to be fair with the family and they want to be fair to the schools. It's not easy. It's a challenge."

Several people interviewed by *The CJN* called the subsidies interview process "humiliating." One woman was reduced to tears by it.

Shoub said interviewers are trained to be sensitive and to treat parents with dignity. The intrusive nature of the questions are necessary to ensure that only those who qualify receive funds.

"It's a thankless task," he said. "There are probably people who are paying full fee who won't expose themselves financially even though they'd be entitled to assistance."

The BJE doesn't have any hard data on the numbers who have been dissuaded from sending their children to day schools because of the process, he added.

During its inquiries, *The CJN* heard of people who chose not to send their children to day schools because of the high costs involved. However, only one couple agreed to go on the record to discuss their decision.

"There is anecdotal evidence that there are significant numbers of middle class families choosing not to send their children to day schools because they see the cost as prohibitive," said Arthur Landa, executive director of Associated Hebrew Schools. "If we knew who these families were, we'd at least have a starting point to begin talking to them.

"There are few people who won't agree there are a significant number of people who would avail themselves of a Jewish education if the fees are lower."

Landa, who also serves as president of the Association of Jewish Day School Administrators, said "many families don't want to go through the process of applying for a subsidy."

Every year, approximately 40 students – about two percent of Associated's 1,720 students – are withdrawn due to "changes in the family situation." School administrators are told by some that "'It's hard to sustain the family burden over [several] years," Landa said.

But, he said, "We don't know the scope of this. I don't know how many more children would be attracted to Jewish schools if tuition was not a factor."

Most of those people who make an initial inquiry about subsidies go through the interview process, despite some early hesitation, he continued. About a dozen a year express discomfort, "but at the end of the day, most will come through one way or another.

"No matter how you do this, the fact that you're going to share private and confidential information makes people uncomfortable. Some families don't want to go through it. They don't want to feel they're getting a handout from anyone," Landa said.

Low income families are less likely to show reticence, he continued. "They've come to grips with it," but families who earn larger amounts, even $90,000 a year, are more hesitant.

"There is a segment of our population, on the periphery of Jewish education, who don't identify with Jewish education as others do. They will send their children to Associated as long as they can hack it and as long as something else in their lifestyle doesn't get harmed," he said. "It has to be convenient. If it's not, they won't go the extra mile."

* * *

Continued on page 23

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Features

Camp, school, shul take chunk of famlies' funds

Continued from page 22

Six families interviewed by *The CJN* said they have decided to bear the costs that come with sending their children to day schools. One family, which dearly wanted to enroll their three boys in day school, decided the expenses were too great.

Gary Stoller and his wife Helaine send their two children, Bryan, 12, and Cara, 9, to Associated. Stoller, a partner in a pension and benefits consulting firm, pays the full tuition, about $15,000 per year for both children. Despite earning what he considers a good income, the family must live a modest lifestyle to make ends meet.

"I make a lot of money," he said, "but I don't have a lot of money."

"My after-tax income barely covers my expenses. I pay a lot of tax. If you add up the mortgage, house costs, food, Hebrew day school, music lessons, swimming lessons, other lessons, Jewish summer camp...

"When I add up all my expenses, I need $90,000 to $100,000 after tax to pay for everything. That's a lot of money."

Stoller said he does top up his RRSP each year, but that's the extent of the family's annual investments.

In addition to tuition costs, the Stollers spend between $7,000 and $8,000 to send both kids to camp. That amount covers camp fees and other associated costs, like extra clothing, sleeping bags and other items, he said. "The list goes on and on."

Wayne Levin

The family's annual membership dues at the Adath Israel come to more than $1,700 a year, which includes a contribution to the shul's building fund.

The Stollers are also planning a bar mitzvah next year, which will cost thousands. Stoller acknowledges that much of the cost will go for a party that is not required by Jewish tradition. But he and Helaine don't think they can scrimp on the celebration.

"Our feeling is that Bryan would feel left out if all his friends have bar mitzvah parties and he doesn't...I'll have to go into my line of credit and pay it off next year," Stoller said.

Additional costs this year are gifts for Bryan's friends who are also celebrating their bar mitzvahs.

With all those expenses, the Stollers get by by cutting back in other areas.

"We don't take nice vacations. Our house has never been painted."

Stoller drives a nine-year-old car, his wife, a six-year-old vehicle. The living room is unfurnished. "We would like to fix up the house, but there isn't the money to pay for it," he said.

Stoller knows of couples who have taken their children out of day schools because they couldn't afford it. With the first child, he said, "they can handle it, but with the second child, it sometimes gets to be too much."

"I'm not complaining," he said. "It's a choice we've made."

Stoller directs his frustration at the government of Ontario. Like other Jewish parents, he's angry he must bear a financial burden that his Roman Catholic neighbors who send their children to religious schools do not.

"I think the current situation is morally repugnant and racist," he said.

That's a view strongly shared by Wayne Levin. Levin is a spokesperson for Parents for Educational Choice (PEC), a grass-roots organization that lobbies for day school funding.

"It's a burden we shouldn't have to face," Levin said. The father of three children aged seven, four and six months, Levin is anticipating tuition fees of $24,000 a year by the time his youngest enters school.

"When you couple that with the recognition that many of my neighbors get the equivalent [religious] education without a red cent coming out of their pockets, that hurts," he said.

Levin owns his own management consulting business, and his wife Debbie works as a manager in a Canadian Tire store. They're budgeting for tuition fees of $11,000 next year – $7,500 for full day at Netivot HaTorah and $3,500 for a half day of junior kindergarten.

Like the Stollers, the Levins are cutting back in other areas. "We don't take big vacations...and we've delayed for some years the purchase of a new car....Every time we think of a major purchase, we are constantly reminded of this inequity."

Debbie Levin is qualified as a teacher and two years ago was offered a job in that profession. It's something she'd love to do, but taking a teaching position would lower the couple's income – something they can't afford to do at this point, Levin said.

Miles Bocknek is a self-employed businessman who runs a small company. All three of his children, aged nine, seven and four, attend Jewish day schools. One is at She'Arim with tuition of $12,000. The others are at Eitz Chaim. He pays $7,500 for full-time attendance for one and $3,500 for 2½ days a week. Tuition this past year totalled $23,000.

Bocknek suggested that people who earn $60,000 a year, who would be considered middle class, would face serious problems coming up with $23,000 for school tuition.

Bocknek pays $15,000 out of that sum out of his own pocket; the rest of his children's tuition is subsidized by the community.

Like Levin and Stoller, Bocknek is angry at the government of Ontario for his plight.

"It's upsetting that other Ontarians receive full funding for the right religious environment for their children and that the government is taking our tax money and not spending it on my children. I'm not happy with that."

Bocknek said the family copes by cutting back in other areas. "We have no living-room or dining-room furniture. The couch and love seat in the family room are the ones we received as wedding gifts 12 years ago."

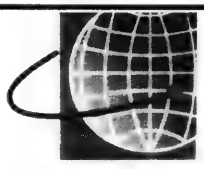
Their lifestyle is modest. "It's food, visa bill, property taxes, school, car expenses and that's it. There's no room for anything...We don't take fancy vacations."

"We're not poor, impoverished people, but it hurts."

Although they are a two-income family – his wife, Jackie Blaff, is a lawyer – "the schools just zap away" any extra money, he said.

Public school is not an option for the family, he continued. "We're living an Orthodox lifestyle" and sending their children to Jewish day school is an important part of that, he said.

"It's a humongous sacrifice, but even if it wasn't, it's not right," he said, noting that the provincial government subsidizes both poor and affluent Roman Catholic families who send their children to religious schools.



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Coast to Coast

Brian celebrates a special bar mitzvah at age 21

By ELIANA SCHNEIDER
Special to The CJN

UTTERSON, Ont. — The night before his bar mitzvah at Camp Ramah in Canada, Brian David couldn't sleep. He tossed and turned for hours and when early morning came, he woke up his counsellor.

"He hugged me and told me to get ready," says counsellor Michael Kotzer. "He didn't want me to be late for his bar mitzvah."

Brian had been waiting 21 years for this occasion.

As a camper in Tikvah – Ramah's summer program for young people with special needs – Brian's big day came in early July when he was called to the Torah in front of some 500 campers, staff and family members. It was the first Tikvah bar mitzvah ever celebrated at Camp Ramah, situated in the Muskoka region of Ontario.

Brian's family wanted him to have a bar mitzvah when he was 13, but several members of their Toronto Jewish community advised his parents against it.

"We were told that no one would want to come to his bar mitzvah," says Paula David, Brian's mother. "Or, people would only come to see if Brian could actually do it."

But as a camper at Ramah since 1993 – when the Tikvah program began – Brian, 21, feels welcome here.

"This is where Brian got his Jewish identity," says his mother. "What better place to have his bar mitzvah than where we have so many people who care so much about him?"

During a weekday Shacharit service, campers and staff were teary-eyed when Brian, who has Down syndrome, lifted the Torah from the Ark. Several staff had grown up with him at camp and knew how hard he had worked for this moment.

Brian practised for months for the aliyah, both with his family and counsellors. After completing it, he pumped his fists into the air triumphantly.

Clad in a new tallit, kippah, a colorful polo shirt and white pants, he beamed. "I was happy and excited," says Brian.

His friends and family gathered around him after the ceremony to offer hugs and congratulations.

From left: Paula, Brian and Lee David and Rabbi Mitch Cohen. [Robert Sarner photo]

"Brian was smiling so big I thought his head would explode," says Yoni Skupsky, his counsellor.

Several campers in the Tikvah program participated in the ceremony. Some led prayers, while one young woman read from the Torah.

"I was so proud of him," says Ryan Saunders, a fellow camper in the Tikvah program. "When he lifted the Torah, he was so great."

While other campers have celebrated bar and bat mitzvahs at Ramah, none had taken place in a camp-wide ceremony.

"We felt it was a special opportunity for everyone to participate in," says camp director, Rabbi Mitch Cohen.

The bar mitzvah was a "levelling experience," says Tikvah director, Dr. Mitch Parker. "It helped people focus on similarities and not differences."

For Brian, like several Tikvah members, camp was the first place he was able to develop his own identity outside of his family. Unfortunately, a lack of funding and housing limits the Tikvah program to only four weeks each summer.

"Brian never wants to leave camp," his mother adds. "He really did become a man at Ramah."

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Coast to Coast

91-year-old celebrates his bar mitzvah

Albert State

By MOURA WOLPERT
CJN Correspondent

HAMILTON — At 91, Albert State may well be Canada's oldest bar mitzvah. Perhaps even the oldest one this century, or even, he adds with a chuckle, "the oldest one of this millenium."

Born in Poland, he came to Canada with his family in 1911. Growing up in St. Thomas, Ont., where there were not enough Jews for a minyan, no meeting hall, not even a Torah, he was unable to have a bar mitzvah, State told *The CJN* in a recent interview at his home.

Nevertheless, he grew up in an Orthodox home. When his grandfather came over from Poland, he taught the boy to lay tfillin. His Jewish education continued while his grandfather was with them, he said. And then, "I got caught up with life,with my career."

He attended the University of Western Ontario in London, became a high school English teacher, first in Simcoe, then in South Porcupine, near Timmins, and from 1945, at Westdale Collegiate in Hamilton. He married Millie, a Torontonian, and together they raised three children.

Judaism was always important to him, said State. In Hamilton, he joined and became actively involved in the community and Temple Anshe Sholom, where he served as president. Millie became equally active in Jewish organizations.

But as his 91st birthday approached, he realized that there had always been something missing in his life.

"Seven times 13 equals 91," he explained, and since a bar mitzvah must be reckoned in "multiples of 13"– the time was right at last to have his bar mitzvah.

It was a very important ceremony, he said, although, he admitted, "not completely free of tensions."

All his life he had not only taught others, but had also been an accomplished actor and director with, and ultimately president of, the Hamilton Player's Guild, one of Canada's oldest amateur theatre companies.

And now he had to learn a new portion and learn to chant it, which was not easy, he confessed, and perform it before congregation, friends and family.

"Everybody knows me as a professional," and besides, he added, "I had to live up to my standards."

He was coached by Anshe Sholom Religious School principal, Laura Wolfson, who also called him up to the Torah.

Thanks to a story in the *Hamilton Spectator*, about 200 guests showed up instead of the 75 or so maximum, the States thought would come. As well, he received cards and letters from former students, friends and colleagues dating back to Simcoe High School (1936-1942) and Westdale.

"What I thought would be a modest and unassuming – almost private – celebration," wrote State in his thank-you note, "turned out to be an event of general interest … It "was a humbling and yet at the same time an inspiring experience."

Still remarkably active, State teaches a continuing education course for retired professionals at the University of West Palm Beach in Florida, where the couple spend the winter months.

Round-dancing enthusiasts since his retirement in 1973, Al and Millie continue to enjoy their hobby. They are also keen theatregoers who attend "everything that's on," both in Florida and at the Shakespeare and Shaw festivals, he said.

Scene in Ottawa

By G.K. SIMCOE

By now, you will have heard ad nauseum about the significance of the moves within the recent cabinet shuffle. But with that old saw as my guide ("Ya know, the one about the elephant and the Jewish problem?"), it is worth taking a look at what this shuffle means for the Jewish community.

One of the major spins generated by the pundits suggests a "kinder and gentler Chrétien government." With the addition of Maria Minna and Elinor Caplan, the left-leaning element of the Cabinet has received an important boost. This, the argument continues, is especially the case regarding Minna, who will be responsible for CIDA – the international development arm of Foreign Affairs.

However, the argument concludes, this is almost beside the point because it is around the cabinet table in discussions on social issues that their voices will be heard – even if the discussions concern social policy issues not directly related to their portfolios.

The Jewish community stands to benefit from increased social and health-care spending. Due to previous budget cuts, federations across the country are absorbing huge new costs for the care of the Jewish poor, the elderly and the invalid. Unfortunately, increased social and health-care spending is most unlikely.

First, all the economic ministries have remained in conservative hands. It is extremely unlikely that Paul Martin, Jim Peterson, Jane Stewart and John Manley will consider any substantial boost in social spending.

Second, the provinces direct most social and health-care spending. Alberta, Ontario, Nova Scotia, Quebec, Manitoba and New Brunswick have all indicated a determination to maintain and even further reduce public expenditures in these areas.

In fact, there is a tax-cut rebellion brewing, led by the provincial premiers. For the government to now allocate new monies to social spending instead of offering a substantial tax reduction would be about the only thing the Liberals could do to jeopardize their lock on 24 Sussex Dr. As much as Jean Chrétien would like to leave a legacy (like universal child care) whenever he exits public life, he is too much the partisan to embark on that path at the expense of the Liberal's future electoral fortunes.

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Health

Life expectancy reported to be on the rise

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — People of 65 in average health can look forward to living another 20 years, said Andrea Sturk, Bernard Betel Centre director of programs.

Life expectancy has increased to such an extent that by 2014, one in four Canadians will be 65 or older – double the present rate, she told the Association of Jewish Seniors (AJS).

At the same time, the federal government now defines seniors, for some purposes, as those over age 50, and is studying dropping it to 45, Sandra Kerr, Ryerson Polytechnic University director of programs, told those attending the program entitled To Our Good Health, at Earl Bales Park Community Centre.

In September, Ryerson will begin the first online seniors lifelong learning education program in Canada, Kerr said.

Unemployment is now a problem for people age 45 to 55 who are out of work because of downsizing, she said, adding that the federal government is funding a program to help people over 45 to find jobs.

A highlight at Earl Bales was a demonstration of tai chi by a group of volunteers led by Allaister Cooper, who invited the seniors to do some of the simpler exercises when the demonstration concluded, which they did with gusto.

People who do tai chi regularly develop bigger feet and may even grow taller, Cooper said.

One woman volunteer said tai chi had helped her to recover from a mastectomy, while another said that after five years of tai chi she was free of Parkinson disease.

It is important for seniors to engage in some pleasurable activity even if they have to look back to remember what they liked to do, said Anne Balaban, a motivational psychologist.

As an example, she said two women now singing in a choir at Baycrest had not done any singing for 20 years.

It is also important, she said, to have a way to deal with stress.

"How do you handle a daughter-in-law you don't like? How do you treat grandchildren who rub you the wrong way? How do you handle relations with your mate? These are the answers that will show how you handle stress, which is unavoidable today."

Balaban suggested that each senior set aside a half-hour as worry time in the afternoon, so that the worries will not surface at night and prevent a good night's sleep. Instead, she suggested that seniors think of five things they are grateful for before going to bed.

The program was co-sponsored by the Ontario Coalition of Senior Citizens Organization.

Entertainment was provided by Don Wackley and Reta Duenisch-Turner.

Bea Levis, Anne Schlifer and Evelyn Shulman, co-chairs of AJS, took part.

CORRECTION

In the article, "Aboriginal skin remedy approved" (*CJN*, July 29), the Health Canada DIN was incorrect. The correct DIN number, 02240326, is for one product containing Mahonia Aquifolium. More information can be obtained about this product by calling 416-323-9839.

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Proper eating essential for diabetics

By EILEEN GOLTZ
Special to The CJN

A few weeks ago, I knew next to nothing about diabetes. Then out of the blue, one of my son's best friends was rushed to the hospital where, if not for the quick action of his parents and doctors, he could have died.

I asked Aaron's mom how and what I could safely feed him when he was at our house, and she gave me a crash course on diabetes and a huge list of "yes and no" foods.

I quickly realized that the things I learned would be beneficial for anyone who has children (or falls into a high-risk category) to know.

The most important fact is that diabetes is a chronic disease that has no cure. Having diabetes means that major changes in lifestyle and diet are mandatory if the disease is to be kept under control.

Diabetes can be devastating if not diagnosed and treated. Many people only become aware that they have diabetes when they develop one of its serious complications like blindness, kidney disease, nerve disease or heart disease, or they have a stroke.

Diabetes is a disease in which the body does not produce or properly use insulin, a hormone that is needed to convert sugar, starches and other food into energy. The cause of diabetes is unknown, although both genetics and environmental factors, such as obesity and lack of exercise, appear to play roles. There are two major types of diabetes:

Type 1 diabetes is an autoimmune disease in which the body does not produce any insulin. This type of diabetes most often occurs in children and young adults. People with Type 1 diabetes must take daily insulin injections. This type of diabetes accounts for about five to 10 percent of cases.

Type 2 diabetes is a metabolic disorder resulting from the body's inability to make enough, or to properly use, insulin. This is the most common form of the disease, and accounts for 90 to 95 percent of cases.

Siblings of people with Type 1 diabetes and children of parents with Type 1 diabetes are at greater risk for that type of diabetes. Those at a greater risk for Type 2 diabetes are people over age 45, people with a family history of diabetes, people who are overweight, people who do not exercise, women who had gestational diabetes (which occurs in two to five percent of all pregnancies), or women who have had a baby weighing nine pounds or more at birth.

Warning signs for Type 1 diabetes include frequent urination, unusual thirst, extreme hunger, unusual weight loss, extreme fatigue and irritability. These symptoms should send you running to the doctor for a test.

For Type 2 diabetes you should look for any of the Type 1 symptoms, as well as frequent infections, blurred vision, cuts or bruises that are slow to heal, tingling or numbness in the hands or feet, or recurring skin, gum or bladder infections. Sometimes, however, people with Type 2 diabetes have no symptoms.

Aaron is spending several days with us next week while his parents attend a conference. I sent out an SOS to several of my most knowledgeable cooking buddies to ask for diabetic recipes. I needed recipes that I could use while he stays with us, as well as recipes to help Aaron and his family adjust to the lifestyle changes that are needed when someone in the family is diagnosed with diabetes.

As usual, my friends came through with flying colors. Not only are the recipes tasty enough to serve to anyone anytime, they are all diabetic friendly. Some of the recipes came with exchanges (the scale of checks and balances by which a diabetic determines the right kinds and amounts of foods to eat), some didn't.

STRAWBERRY YOGURT COOLER

1 cup strawberries; sliced
½ cup plain nonfat yogurt;
1 cup sparkling mineral water or seltzer or club soda

Combine ingredients in a blender or food processor, process until smooth. Pour into chilled glasses and serve. Food Exchange per serving: half a nonfat milk exchange.

ZUCCHINI CARROT MUFFINS

1¼ cups oatmeal, rolled
1 cup flour
¼ cup sugar
1 tbsp. baking powder
¼ tsp. nutmeg
2 large carrots, grated
1 medium zucchini, grated
⅔ cup skim milk, at room temperature
3 tbsp. applesauce, at room temperature
2 egg whites, whipped

Preheat oven to 350. Prepare 12 muffin tins with cooking spray and flour. In a mixing bowl, combine oats, flour, sugar, baking powder, and nutmeg. In another mixing bowl, combine carrots, zucchini, milk, applesauce and egg whites. Mix dry ingredients with wet ingredients just until moistened. Use an ice cream scoop to fill muffin tins almost full. Bake 20 to 25 minutes or until golden brown. Yield: 12 servings. Check exchanges.

Adapted from *Quick and Easy Diabetic Menus*.

Golf tournament assists three Toronto hospitals

BOLTON, ONT. — More than 200 golfers recently participated in the fourth annual Dr. Jay Golf Classic.

All proceeds go to Toronto-Sunnybrook Regional Cancer Centre, North York General Hospital and Centenary Health Centre.

Funds raised from the first tournament, named after Toronto dentist Dr. Jay Bacher, who organized the event, went to Princess Margaret Hospital for its Magic Castle playroom, a supervised play area for children whose parents are at the hospital for appointments or treatment.

Another playroom, Dr. Jay Planet Playroom, was opened at Toronto-Sunnybrook Regional Cancer Centre, and Dr. Jay Planet Playrooms will soon open in North York General Hospital and Centenary Health Centre.

Dr. Jay Bacher

Part of the money raised this year will be donated to Wellspring, a support centre for people, and their families, living with cancer.

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Syrian minister slams Arafat over peace talks

By DOUGLAS DAVIS
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

LONDON — Syrian anger at the Palestinian leadership erupted into a full-frontal assault when Syrian Defence Minister Mustafa Tlas called Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat the "son of 60,000 whores."

The outburst by the veteran Syrian minister came during an address last week at Ras al-Ain, in the Bekaa Valley of eastern Lebanon, during a ceremony marking Syrian and Lebanese Army Day.

London-based Arabic newspapers deleted the expletives from their headlines this week as they reported the stream of abuse hurled by Tlas.

Referring to Arafat, Tlas exclaimed: "You son of 60,000 whores. You should not have been so cowardly and submissive at the White House.

"You should have said that Jerusalem is the unified capital of the future Palestinian state. But you just stood there like a black cat and didn't dare say a word, either about Palestine or about Jerusalem."

Tlas went on to compare Arafat to a stripper. "In his concessions to Israel, Yasser Arafat resembles a striptease dancer who removes more of her clothing whenever she ascends the stage," he said.

"Look at him when he is on stage. He moves from concession to concession like the stripper, except that she becomes more beautiful with every layer she removes, while Yasser Arafat becomes uglier."

Spokespersons for Arafat have not replied to the outburst, with one aide telling the London-based daily *al-Quds al-Arabi* that Arafat believes "the best response is not to respond."

However, one of Arafat's ministers, Hassan Asfour, said Tlas' behavior was disgraceful and that Syrian President Hafez al-Assad should "sack him immediately."

Tlas' remarks were also condemned by Israeli Arab legislator Azmi Beshara, who was visiting Damascus.

In a statement last Tuesday to the official Syrian news agency SANA, Tlas acknowledged that he had criticized the "policy of negligence" pursued by Arafat since the signing of the 1993 Oslo accord, but he denied uttering "any obscene or improper word against him personally."

Arabic papers, however, noted that his speech had been filmed by local and international media.

Analysts believe that two recent developments could have upset Damascus and triggered the caustic comments.

The first was the warm and politically loaded reception given by Arafat in the Gaza Strip last week to Sumer Assad, nephew of the Syrian leader and son of former Syrian vice-president Rifa'at Assad.

The second was Arafat's reconciliation in Cairo this week with the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, a senior member of the Damascus-based Palestinian rejectionist front, which is united in its opposition to Arafat's leadership and to the Oslo peace process.

Ever since he launched the Oslo process with Israel, Arafat has been persona non grata in Damascus, where Hafez Assad hosts several militant Palestinian groups.

Sumer Assad, who has extensive media interests in Britain and France, is perceived as a potential rival for succession to Hafez Assad's son Bashar.

Sumer Assad's visit to Gaza has been perceived as a challenge to the authority of his uncle.

It was also seen as a challenge to Bashar Assad, who is reportedly having difficulty mastering the leadership skills he will need to succeed his father, who is said to be in poor health.

No official explanation was given when Hafez Assad dismissed his brother Rifa'at in February 1998 as one of three Syrian vice-presidents, but the dismissal effectively ended Rifa'at's aspirations to succeed his brother.

There are suggestions that Hafez Assad sought to weaken his brother in the event of a struggle for succession between second-generation members of the family – particularly between Bashar and Sumer.

Relations between Hafez Assad and Arafat appear to have taken a turn for the worse since the election of Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak.

Assad reportedly rejected appeals by Arafat to meet and coordinate their approaches to Israel in advance of peace talks with Barak.

The Palestinian leader is reported to be concerned that renewed negotiations between Israel and Syria would leave him isolated and sideline the Israeli-Palestinian negotiating track.

Syria, however, insists that it was Arafat who first broke ranks with other Arab parties by signing the 1993 Oslo accord with Israel – a move, say Syrian officials, that severely weakened the negotiating position of Damascus.

Armed supporters of PA chairman Yasser Arafat marched through Ramallah last week, their guns blazing, to protest the harsh remarks by Syrian Defence Minister Mustafa Tlas against Arafat.
[RNS/Reuters photo]

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Israel & the Jewish World

European Jews: Is there a renaissance?

Continued from page 1

This has happened in Poland, in the Czech Republic and Slovakia, in Hungary, in Bulgaria – even in the countries of the former Yugoslavia.

Hundreds of thousands, meanwhile, have immigrated to Israel and elsewhere from the former Soviet Union. This includes at least 70,000 Jews who have immigrated to Germany, radically changing the face of the Jewish community there.

Hundreds of thousands have also stayed in Russia, Ukraine and other countries, and have reopened synagogues and schools and rebuilt communal structures.

"Jewish communities in the region are throwing off the mantle of 'remnant' like a garment that no longer fits," says Edward Serotta, an American photographer and writer who has documented Jewish communities in eastern and central Europe since the mid-1980s.

"We've been calling them last Jews, but they're not acting like last Jews – with kindergartens, summer camps, schools, youth programs and even Web sites on the Internet," he says.

The impact of these changes has extended beyond the former Communist states.

The emergence of newly active Jewish communities in the east, combined with the development of a new vision of a pluralistic Europe freed of artificial east-west frontiers, has created new opportunities, conditions and challenges for European Jewry in general.

The new freedoms have opened up a world of choices. And the outcome of these choices is still far from clear.

Jews in former Communist states may be throwing off the mantle of remnant, but it is still too early to predict whether the momentum of what many call a Jewish renaissance will carry through into the 21st century.

Indeed, much of the support and infrastructure for Jewish revival in former Communist states has been, and still is, funded by foreign institutions such as the Ronald S. Lauder Foundation, the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee and Chabad Lubavitch.

Not only that.

"Jews in Europe today are, first and foremost, voluntary Jews, their continued presence in European societies demonstrates a conscious personal commitment," says Paris-based historian Diana Pinto.

Pinto, in fact, espouses an optimistic vision of a Jewish future in Europe, one that links Jewish development with the development of post-Cold War civil society across the continent.

This vision was celebrated at the end of May, when nearly 600 Jews from 39 countries converged on Nice, France, for the first general assembly of the European Council of Jewish Communities.

Even in the "new" Europe, the neo-Nazis find their supporters such as these in Germany. [RNS photo]

"We are here to celebrate the pride and optimism of being Jews in Europe and being European Jews," Council chair Ruth Zilkha told the meeting.

"We are committed to building an exciting Jewish life as part of a new democratic and pluralistic Europe," she said. "We are at a very special moment of creation and vision."

Looming in the background, however, were dire predictions from pessimists like British Jewish scholar Bernard Wasserstein, who articulated his negative vision of the European Jewish future in *Vanishing Diaspora*, a controversial book published three years ago.

Citing drastically negative demographic statistics, thanks to a combination of assimilation, falling birth rates and mass emigration from the former Soviet Union, Wasserstein dismisses the idea of a European Jewish renaissance.

He disputes the European Council's claim that three million Jews live in Europe. He puts the total at two million and falling.

Within a generation or two, Wasserstein glumly predicts, "here and there pockets of ultra-Orthodox Jews, clinging to the tenets of the faith, will no doubt survive – a picturesque remnant like the Amish in the United States."

Jews in Europe, both east and west, have a bitter and frustrated awareness of the looming, unresolved challenges that may hamper Jewish development both within individual communities and in the world at large.

How to deal with the divisions among Orthodox, non-Orthodox and secular Jews? How to make Judaism a relevant choice in today's ideological marketplace? How to approach the high intermarriage rate and the resulting question of who is or can be considered a Jew? Is it possible to adopt a Jewish identity in mid-life? Should intermarriage be seen as a bridge or a barrier? How to confront the crisis in Jewish leadership, on local, national and Europe-wide levels?

How, too, to deal with the changing relationship between Israel and the Diaspora? And how to address the mounting claims by emerging Jewish communities in eastern Europe to play a full role on the Jewish world stage?

These are, in fact, many of the same questions that face Jews in already democratic, pluralistic, borderless America. But European Jews face them against a different historical and physical backdrop.

Two-thirds of Europe's Jews were killed in the Holocaust, destroying centuries-old communities and traumatizing those Jews who chose to remain – and their children.

The east-west post-war divide effectively and artificially cut off eastern European Jews from the rest of the Jewish world. Indeed, Jews from these countries – including those who have immigrated to Germany and Israel – often have to learn more than prayers, holidays, customs and Hebrew. They must also frequently learn the sense of collective memory and connection that even secular Jews in the west tend to grow up with.

Many Jews in former Communist Europe still maintain what Polish sociologist Pawel Spiewak describes as an "idle" Jewish identity: they are aware of their Jewish identity, but for whatever reason, they are not interested in deepening or admitting it.

This is strikingly evident in Hungary, whose Jewish population is estimated at anywhere between 54,000 and 130,000.

Like other countries in the region, Hungary has experienced a visible Jewish revival. Still, only about 6,000 Jews, most of them elderly, formally belong to the Jewish religious community. And only about 20,000 Jews are estimated to have even a tenuous contact with any sort of Jewish activity or institution.

Jews active in community work warn that the momentum of the current Jewish revival may be endangered unless new, younger leaders are prepared to take up the reins, and efforts are made to encourage continuing Jewish involvement.

Increasingly, international Jewish organizations are establishing training programs for teachers, lay leaders and fundraisers.

The European Council of Jewish Communities promotes cross-border contacts, keeps track of new e-mail links and Jewish community Web sites, and helps arrange seminars and other activities, including international singles weekends.

But will this be enough?

Experts say critical mass for Jewish continuity in former Communist Europe may not be achieved until the children of today's emerging Jewish generations come of age.

This is the first in an occasional series about post-Communist Europe 10 years after the fall of the Berlin Wall. The series will explore the changes and challenges gripping European Jewry at this critical time in history.

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The Week in Israel

Aug. 2

• Justice Minister Yossi Beilin, went to court to seek the extradition of Samuel Sheinbein, an American teenager with Israeli citizenship, who is wanted in Maryland on murder charges. The request is the first test of the new law that seeks to facilitate the extradition of Israelis with tenuous connections to the state if they are wanted in foreign criminal cases.

Aug. 3

• Beilin, one of the chief architects of the Oslo agreement called the Palestinian Authority's insistence on immediate implementation of the Wye accord a mistake. Fretting over the details of the Wye accord would only make it more difficult to achieve a final status agreement, Beilin said.

Aug. 4

• After two Jews were shot and wounded in Hebron, Prime Minister Ehud Barak said, "The war on terrorism takes precedence over everything else."

• The family of Adolph Eichmann is reportedly seeking the memoirs he wrote in prison before he was hanged in Israel in 1962. Since Eichmann's execution, the manuscript has been stored in Israel's national archives.

Aug. 5

• The Knesset approved five new cabinet ministers, bringing the number to 23. The newest ministers are: Amnon Lipkin-Shahak, Centre party, Tourism; Chaim Oron, Meretz, Agriculture; Matan Vilna'i, One Israel, Science; Rabbi Michael Melchior, One Israel, Diaspora Relations and Social Affairs; and Yuli Tamir, a professor who helped found the Peace Now movement, Absorption. Tamir becomes the second woman in the cabinet.

Aug. 6

• *Ha'aretz* reported that a personal envoy of Barak, Brig.-Gen. (Res.) Yitzhak Segev, met recently with Yasser Arafat to try to establish a private channel of contact and to resolve disputes over implementing the Wye accords.

Files from JTA and Ha'aretz

Barak gets warm welcome in Moscow

By LEV KRICHEVSKY
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

Top Russian officials gave Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak a warm welcome during his 24-hour trip to Moscow last week.

Along with Russian President Boris Yeltsin's first public condemnation of the recent wave of anti-Semitic attacks, Russia's desire to play a more prominent role in the Middle East and the transfer of Russian missile technology to Iran also dominated Barak's visit.

Opinion

Barak's meetings, which inincluded talks with former Prime Minister Sergei Stepashin and Foreign Minister Igor Ivanov, in addition to those with Yeltsin, also touched on Russia's interest in Israeli technology and goods.

But just as important as the subjects discussed was the tone of the Russian reception, which was more positive than it had been under the reign of Barak's predecessor, Benjamin Netanyahu.

Russian media have noted that the Kremlin views Barak more warmly than it did Netanyahu, and Russian leaders told Barak that his victory opened the door to a compromise in the Middle East peace process.

Along with the United States, Russia is a co-sponsor of the peace process started in Madrid in 1991, although internal economic problems and tensions with Israel have diminished its role.

But this year, Russia has dramatically increased its political activity in the region. Barak's visit, which also included a dinner with Russian Jewish leaders sponsored by the Russian Jewish Congress, was the fourth official trip to Moscow by a high-ranking Israeli delegation this year. Russia also hosted Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat in April and Syrian President Hafez al-Assad in July.

Russian media reports stressed the importance of Barak's visit, and Yeltsin officially received Barak, an honor never bestowed on Netanyahu.

And the talks between the two leaders lasted longer than protocol required, according to a Kremlin spokesman.

But despite the good feelings, differences remain between the two countries, including Russia's arms transfers to Iran, as well as Russian cooperation with Tehran and Baghdad in the areas of ballistic and nuclear weapons.

Russia has repeatedly denied that it violated any international nonproliferation treaties, but Stepashin vowed to co-operate with Israel on the nuclear weapons issue.

"It is not in Russian interests to let any country, including Iran, get possession of nuclear arms," Stepashin said.

He promised to investigate all possible leaks of technologies to Iran.

In his meetings, Barak appealed to the Russian leadership to combat the recent rise in anti-Semitic violence.

Barak also touched on an issue that had previously escaped media attention – the fate of several Israelis kidnapped recently in Russia's troubled northern Caucasus region.

Barak did not specify how many such cases are known to Israeli officials.

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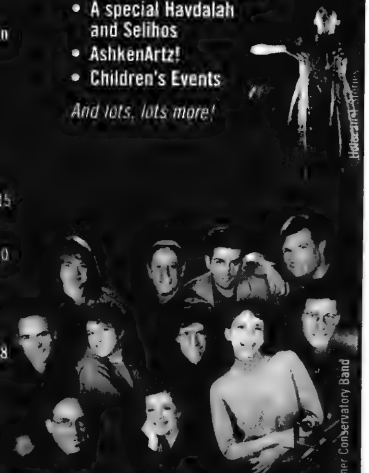

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Israel & the Jewish World

Torontonian helps monitor human rights in Israel

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

JERUSALEM – For Heather Lang, a Torontonian living in Israel, human rights is not merely an abstract notion.

Lang, a graduate of Carleton University and McGill specializing in international relations, is a staff member of B'Tselem, the Israeli Information Center for Human Rights in the Occupied Territories.

Financed in Israel by the New Israel Fund and individual donors, B'Tselem monitors, documents and advocates the advancement of human rights in the territories.

Founded a decade ago by a group of public figures, academics, lawyers, journalists and Knesset members, B'Tselem has published more than 60 reports on a vast array of human rights issues.

Mainly concerned with monitoring Israel's infringement of Palestinians' human rights, B'Tselem also audits similar violations by the Palestinian Authority.

Working out of B'Tselem's office in Israel's capital, Lang, 25, wears many hats. She is an administrator, researcher, press release writer, editor and web master.

And on occasion, she accompanies field workers to the West Bank and Gaza Strip and conducts interviews there.

"I arrived at B'Tselem through an overseas placement with the Youth International Internship Program, which is supported by Canada's Department of Foreign Affairs," explained Lang. "My placement was co-ordinated by an international NGO (non-governmental organization) based in Canada called Human Rights Internet."

Lang, the daughter of Eric and Sharon, could have accepted a job just about anywhere in the world, but chose Israel for personal reasons.

"My Jewish background and Zionist education taught me to love Israel unconditionally," she said. As a result, she visited Israel and enrolled in the Hebrew University's one-year program for overseas students.

As a child, Lang studied at the Bialik Hebrew Day School, spent summers at Camp Shalom and was a participant of the Canadian Zionist Federation's Israel Dimensions trip.

Joining B'Tselem about a year ago, Lang was exposed to Palestinian Arabs for really the first time.

"I had never visited a Palestinian home," she said. "I was sheltered from the unjust actions and policies that our Arab neighbors are subjected to by the Israeli military, border police and General Security Service (Shin Bet).

Heather Lang

"Though I was familiar with Israel's security concerns, I was sheltered from the means by which they translate into discriminatory laws and practices."

Israel, she said, uses a variety of methods to maintain control of the territories: torture and moderate physical pressure in interrogations; severe restrictions on freedom of movement; administrative detentions without charges or trial for up to six months; land confiscation; demolition of homes; and settlement expansion.

For its part, she said, the Palestinian Authority has imposed restrictions on the press, conducted grossly unfair trials, practised torture resulting in deaths under detention, and rounded up suspects for prolonged arbitrary arrest.

Having accompanied B'Tselem field workers to the West Bank and Gaza Strip to collect testimonies, Lang has been stripped of her illusions.

"These experiences have profoundly shaped my understanding of human rights issues in the region," she said. "My visits to West Bank villages and the Gaza Strip exposed me to a level of poverty that has no equivalent in Israel. Yet more disturbing is the blatant discrimination which inhibits Palestinians from enjoying the same resources and entitlements as Israeli Jews."

Citing water as an example, Lang said that western Jerusalem, inhabited almost exclusively by Jews, scarcely has been affected by the current drought.

Yet in the West Bank, public wells have reached unseasonably low levels. "Many Palestinians do not have enough water for their basic household needs, which presents serious health risks."

Lang, who speaks Hebrew and has a basic understanding of Arabic, said that her exposure to the human rights situation in the territories has been an eye-opener.

"It has definitely modified my view of Israel, making me more critical than the average North American Jew living here.

"It is not easy being an internal advocate in Israeli society, reminding people of what they often know but don't want to hear.

"Many people in Israel cannot comprehend how it is that a Jew would move to Israel with the objective of helping the Palestinians. Yet I believe that, as a people having experienced a history of persecution, we could benefit from monitoring our own behavior towards those less fortunate than ourselves."

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Caplan gets cabinet post

Continued from page 1

Her goals in her new position include ensuring "that we have policies in place that will help us value and be proud of our Canadian citizenship.

"We have to talk about how important our citizenship is to us. I think Canadians need to be reminded of the fact that this is a land of immigrants and that immigrants have built this country," she said.

"Immigrants bring great prosperity and we need to have people from around the world who want to come and build a better life for themselves and, in the process, a better life for all of us and our children and future generations.

"We want to make sure that our laws will achieve these goals," she said.

"I've seen what people with determination and intelligence and a desire to build a better life were able to achieve for my family," said Caplan, now a grandmother herself.

"I think that's the story of most Canadian families, whether the immigrants are recent or further down on the family tree."

"We believe she'll be a most capable minister," said Michael Briks, executive vice-president of Jewish Immigrant Aid Services (JIAS). "We're looking forward to working with her."

JIAS has worked with Caplan's predecessor, Lucienne Robillard, and others in the ministry.

"[They] were certainly attentive to the issues we thought were of concern, especially for the welfare of the Jewish people in the former Soviet Union and other areas that were oppressive for the Jewish people," Briks said.

JIAS is hopeful that Caplan will respond favorably to its recommendations and to the concerns of other non-governmental organizations to the best of her ability, he added.

As MP for Thornhill, Caplan has dealt with many immigration issues over the past two years.

What struck her, she said, was that she received more calls from people offering help for Kosovar refugees than she did negative comments. "That made me very proud."

Israel & the Jewish World

IDF to encourage Arab enlistment

By AMOS HAREL
Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

JERUSALEM — The IDF human resources branch is working on a plan to encourage Israeli Arab citizens to volunteer for military service.

According to the plan, recruiters will operate openly in Israeli Arab towns, conducting intensive campaigns in local schools.

Once the plan is completed, it will be presented to Deputy Chief of Staff Uzi Dayan and then to the chief of staff, the prime minister and the defence minister for approval.

"We are still debating what is the right way to do this, but we are clearly talking about volunteering for full military service, not for national service," a senior IDF officer said last weekend.

Currently, the army conducts limited, low-profile activity with respect to recruiting Arab volunteers for military service. In several Arab settlements, army officials approach local political leaders, and if these approaches are met with approval, preliminary contacts are made with school principals. But most of the Arabs currently enlisting in the army do so on their own initiative and contact the army themselves.

Under the new plan, recruiters would operate openly in Arab neighborhoods, in the hope of encouraging relatively widespread conscription.

"The defence establishment has a clear interest in encouraging Christian and Muslim volunteers to join the army, for two reasons," the senior IDF official said. "First, we believe that as high as possible a number of Israeli citizens must serve in the army. Secondly, faced with the choice of the Muslim and Christian youths joining an extremist organization or volunteering for the IDF, it is preferable that they come to us."

The officer added that in recruiting Arab volunteers, the army would have to watch out for "criminal elements" trying to infiltrate its ranks.

"The idea of conscription could appeal to Arab criminals as an easy way to lay their hands on weapons. We will have to prevent the conscription of anyone who might harm us," the officer said.

In the last two years, there has been a steady rise in the number of Arab youths enlisting, and currently several dozen Christians and Muslims volunteer each year. Several Muslim officers, and even one female Christian officer, are now serving in Israel's army.

At the initiative of former defence minister Moshe Arens, the army last month approved a plan to double the number of Bedouins volunteering for military service within three years. This year, some 350 Bedouins are expected to enlist.

Arens spoke out several times in favor of drafting Israel's Arab citizens, arguing that that was the only way they could achieve full equality. His statements drew criticism from Israeli Arab leaders.

British minister wrote anti-Israel articles

By DOUGLAS DAVIS
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

LONDON — Britain's new foreign minister with special responsibility for the Middle East, who once called for Israel to be dismantled, is now trying to woo the Jewish community.

Peter Hain, a leading British anti-racist campaigner who was appointed July 29, said his own history of outspoken support for the creation of a Palestinian state at the expense of Israel's existence had been modified by the change in relationship between Israel and the Palestinians.

"People must not be imprisoned by the past," he said. "If they were, nothing would ever move forward."

Hain, who arrived in Britain at the age of 16, when his anti-apartheid parents were forced to leave South Africa, said many of his parent's closest friends in their anti-apartheid struggle had been Jewish.

"As a result," he told the *London Jewish Chronicle*, "I come into this job as a friend of the Jewish community and I hope that is how the community will see me."

One of Hain's first acts after his appointment was to invite Dror Zeigerman, the Israeli ambassador to London, for a meeting in his office, an encounter described as cordial and fence mending.

Hain's attitude toward Israel was far less cordial in 1976, when he wrote in the *London Guardian*: "The present Zionist state is, by definition racist, and will have to be dismantled," he wrote.

"Territorially, the new Palestine will be equivalent to the pre-1948 Palestine defined during the British Mandate. It will not be shunted off into the occupied West Bank or the Gaza Strip."

The question for Hain was not whether, but how, the Jewish state would be "dismantled" and a secular, democratic Palestinian entity emerge.

"It can be brought about in an orderly way through negotiation as the PLO would prefer," he wrote. "Or it will be brought about by force.

"The choice lies with the Israelis. They can recognize now that the tide of history is against their brand of greedy oppression, or they can dig in and invite a bloodbath."

Earlier, in October 1973 – when the Jewish state was facing the Yom Kippur War – Hain wrote that "the world cannot allow its shame over the historic persecution of Jews to rationalize the present persecution of the Palestinians.

"Our quarrel is with the whole doctrine of Zionism and the arrogance with which its supporters dismiss the Palestinians and condemn them to a life of desperate misery," he wrote.

Hain, 49, is regarded as a politician with conviction in the ideology-free environment of Prime Minister Tony Blair's government.

He has not made any significant pronouncements on Israeli-Arab affairs in the past decade, and he is said to understand the political realities of the moment, which includes positive sentiments toward Israel in the prime minister's circles.

While he is unlikely to question Israel's right to exist – or seriously deviate from established government policy – he is expected to side with Israel's fiercest critics in international forums and to place emphasis on issues such as nuclear proliferation when dealing with Israel and Arab states that he regards as reactionary.

An Israeli diplomatic source said he hoped Hain would be a "balanced and engaged minister," adding that Israeli officials "look forward to co-operating with him."

Fund for French Jews launched

By DOUGLAS DAVIS
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

LONDON — One of Britain's largest financial institutions, Barclays Bank, is establishing a $3.6-million (US) fund to compensate the heirs of its Jewish customers in France whose accounts were seized during World War II.

In making the offer, the bank has broken with eight French financial institutions that were also named in a class action suit in New York.

Barclays says it had some 230 Jewish customers in France when the bank was taken over by the German occupying authorities, but more may come forward when advertisements appear inviting potential claimants to contact the fund.

Any money left in the fund after claims are settled will be donated to Jewish charities that are involved in Holocaust education.

Chris Duncan, director of international and private banking at Barclays, said the bank believes that customers and their heirs obtained their accounts at the end of the war.

"But given the length of time, we have not got files that demonstrate that every last claim was paid out," he said. "That is why we have reached this agreement."

The settlement, which is based on the bank's one-percent share of the French market in the war, is dwarfed by the $1.25-billion fund agreed to by Swiss banks last August in response to a similar class action suit.

The French banks have indicated they will continue to fight in the U.S. courts because they are participating in a settlement process overseen by the French government.

"We are a bit different from the Swiss and French banks," Duncan said. "We have sought not to have a drawn out legal battle."

The French branch of Barclays was the subject of a scandal in March, when it was revealed that its then-manager not only acted as the Nazis' banker during World War II, but also volunteered to hand over Jewish employees.

The revelations came from material found in the U.S. National Archives by researchers working on a BBC television documentary, *Banking with Hitler*, which examined the role of European central banks during the war.

According to the material, senior officials at the bank's Paris branch "volunteered" information about its Jewish employees to the Nazis and helped to arrange financing for projects that aided the Nazi war effort.

The records also show the bank received a substantial cash deposit from the Drancy transit camp in a Paris suburb, money that had been plundered from Jewish prisoners who were bound for Auschwitz.

According to information found in the archives, U.S. Treasury officials who conducted an investigation in France immediately after the war discovered an intimate collaboration between the British bank's French officials and the Nazis.

The officials also found that French banks themselves seized a total of 3.5 billion old francs – about $750 million in current values – from Jews on behalf of the Nazis.

Perhaps most surprising is not the denial by Barclays that it had any knowledge of the activities of its Paris branch during World War II, but that it continued to employ Cheradame as its Paris manager until he retired in the 1960s.

Levy slams Arafat

Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

JERUSALEM — Foreign Minister David Levy, Sunday, interrupted a weekly presentation to the cabinet by Shin Bet head Ami Ayalon, to launch a stinging attack at Yasser Arafat's comments made last week when Arafat stated Palestinians should "continue the struggle and the Jihad until our young children wave the flag above Jerusalem."

Levy said Arafat's comments bordered on incitement and Ayalon concurred, adding: "His comments are serious, but they see it differently."

Ayalon explained that Arafat was under pressure due to the opening of the Syrian peace track, and that he was personally hurt by the offensive remarks of Syrian Defence Minister Mustafa Tlas.

At the meeting, Prime Minister Ehud Barak explained that galvanizing the peace process was a "complex problem," and that "the public should know that there are no magical or instant solutions", he said.

David Levy

He said the implementation of the Wye agreement would start in September 1999, and the second date should be October 1, 1999, when a further five percent of land within Area C would be transferred to Area B. The third date, which Barak is considering postponing until mid-February 2000, may be November 15, 1999, when Israel would transfer three to five percent of the territory to the Palestinians.

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Many people want to make their event memorable with a unique, magical setting, not portraying a stock theme duplicated elsewhere. This also holds for family events. And in planning family celebrations, the sophistication encouraged by the entertainment industry has made kids' tastes a factor to reckon with.

Cadoret welcomes the challenges these trends pose. And, having earned plenty of corporate repeat and referral business, C&C is offering its artistry to family events. With the right blend of decor and audiovisual effects, the stars are the limit on what they — and you — can do.

C&C consults with you on an ongoing basis, always keeping in mind the occasion for the event, and the aesthetic impression you want to create.

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Cadoret pays close attention to matching decor and setting. A Roaring 'Twenties concept, for example, often won't match the severe elegance of a classical ballroom. While you can work with some halls almost as you find them, more decor and props are needed in others.

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Arts & Travel

Musician goes in Search of Broadway

By KATHRYN KATES
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — If composer Harry Lewis was 49 in '49 instead of '99, he might have found himself in the company of Broadway's masters of the musical — Gershwin, Hart or Hammerstein!

What Lewis does have in common with these musical greats is that he, too, sold out on The Great White Way (Broadway).

His original compositions, compiled on a self-financed CD called *15 Songs In Search Of Broadway*, was available in New York record stores until all copies were scooped up by fans in search of the next Sondheim.

Born in New Jersey, the oldest of three children, Lewis credits his father, Stanley for instilling in him a love of this American art form.

"Broadway is what I write naturally. I was exposed to the songs of musical theatre at a very young age by my father, who has excellent taste for a good lyric," Lewis said.

As a child, Lewis became so addicted to his piano that while other neighborhood moms were insisting their children should practise, Thyra Lewis was admonishing her child prodigy to take a break and go out and play.

His first performance in front of an audience was a surprise, even to him.

"While attending Syracuse University in 1970, I decided to check out a free movie, but the movie didn't arrive. Somebody asked if anyone wanted to perform to make the wait more enjoyable. After quite a bit of pleading and nudging from my friends, I ambled on stage and played a Mozart Sonata.

"I received an enthusiastic ovation, but on account of stage fright, that was the last time I played for an audience until recent performances at Toronto nightclubs."

After graduating, Lewis moved to Toronto to get married. He made his living writing advertising campaigns and the occasional jingle for such clients as Kraft/General Foods, Crossley-Karastan Carpets and the Canadian Broadcasting Company.

In 1978 while working on a jingle, Lewis met Pierre Nolès at a Montreal recording session. Soon the two partnered the production of almost two dozen songs in 2½ years.

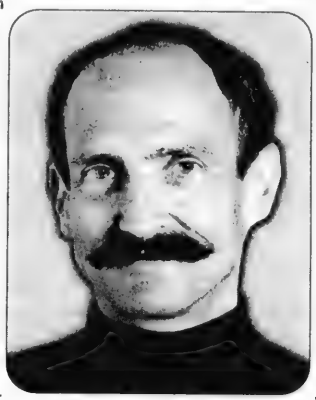
By 1982 Lewis and his wife had separated, and he was left with custody of the piano. To console himself Lewis, by then a dual citizen, stayed in Toronto and began composing on his own.

"I love Canada. It is the greatest country. As much as I love New York – Toronto is a wonderful town, so cosmopolitan, with an excellent artistic cultural community," he said.

Lewis first had his music heard outside the jingle world in 1990, when he was called upon to co-write lyrics and music for the inaugural season of TV Ontario's *Bookmice*.

A few years ago, the seeds for *15 Songs In Search Of Broadway* were planted when he wrote a number of the songs for a one-woman musical called *Ragtime Rosie* starring Mary McCandless, known from *Ragtime*.

Lewis wrote the lyrics and the musical skeleton, which was then passed on to orchestrator, Mark Rutherford.



Harry Lewis

"Afterwards, encouraged by the response of the people who saw the show, I approached Mark and Mary and asked if we could do a CD. They believed in the songs so much that they both donated their time and talent," Lewis said.

The CD includes the toe-tapping ditty *It's Never Too Late*, and *Sophie Tucker (The Red Hot Mama Rag)*, as well as the humorous *No One But Me*. Songs like *Almost, What Did I Know?* and *A Place Where I Belong* will tear at the heartstrings of any theatrical audience.

Lewis said, "I'm very lucky to be able to indulge in my deep and truest desire, my love of music, and attempt with integrity to get into an exciting business. I am very fortunate that I can find the time to focus my energies into writing this stuff, because it ain't easy!"

The CD is available at Song & Script, Theatrebooks, and Chapters on Bloor Street West or http://webhome.idirect.com/~lewisong.

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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

BOOK EXPLORES CARLEBACH LEGEND

Five years after the death of the singer-holy man **Rabbi Shlomo Carlebach**, his reputation for holiness continues to grow. A recent publication of the publishing house, Jason Aronson, adds considerably to the legend of the man whom many have pinpointed as the source of the modern Jewish outreach movement.

Holy Brother: Inspiring Stories and Enchanted Tales about Rabbi Shlomo Carlebach, compiled by **Yitta Halberstam Mandelbaum**, and with a foreward by **Elie Wiesel**, is a moving collection of first-person accounts of Carlebach's unfailing generosity and good deeds.

Tireless in his pursuit of wayward Jews who could be persuaded back to the fold, Carlebach had a seemingly endless capacity for charity and love and fulfilling his mission of "bringing light to all the dark places in the world."

Anyone who has read the collections of stories about the Baal Shem Tov, and other revered chassidic masters, will easily recognize the genre. Anyone who has ever encountered Carlebach in concert will know of his intense charisma and understand how he could have inspired such moving tributes.

Holy Brother is one of three books that Jason Aronson has published recently on Carlebach. *Shlomo's Stories: Selected Tales* presents a collection of Carlebach's favorite chassidic tales.

The Holy Beggars' Banquet: Traditional Jewish Tales and Teachings of the Late, Great Reb Shlomo Carlebach and Others in the Spirit of the 1960s presents a variety of items published in the newsletter that Carlebach published at his famous House of Love and Prayer in San Francisco in the 1970s.

* * *

Song, Dance & Meditation: Composer-educator **Ken Rabow**, formerly of Montreal, is seeking people to join a Jewish choir, percussion group and dance troupe for monthly freilech meditations. These classes will teach the basics in singing, percussion and folk dance, followed by a monthly performance designed to uplift the soul. Participants also wanted for classes in Jewish spiritual meditation. 992-1245.

* * *

Klezmer on the Roof: The klezmer band **Hu-Tsa-Tsa** is presenting an evening of Yiddish music and dance on the roof of the Bloor JCC, Thurs. Aug. 12, 8 p.m. Members $5, nonmembers $8. 750 Spadina Ave. at Bloor St. 924-6211.

* * *

Multicultural exhibition: The Association of Jewish Artists is presenting Dialogue, the multi-cultural exhibition featuring works by **Phil Herman, Gary Bercovitch, Fred Hershicovitch, Lenore Goldfarb**, and many more in a variety of media.

Until Aug. 28 at John B. Aird Gallery, Macdonald Block Main Floor, 900 Bay St., Toronto. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., daily except Sunday and Monday.

* * *

Preview of a Preview: As reported earlier in this column, **Jackie Mason**, the brilliant, crazed Jewish comic whose career has taken him from the Borscht belt to Broadway, is scheduled to perform at the north Toronto comedy club Comedywood from Oct. 16 to 30. Mason is giving audiences here a preview of a new show that he intends to open soon afterwards on Broadway.

Mason recently performed the new material in London, England, where a reviewer from the *Jewish Chronicle* greeted his act with enthusiasm and some caution. Jackie Mason, the *Chronicle* noted, is an equal-opportunity offender, casting insults to everyone with equanimity, regardless of race, religion, age, sex or body size.

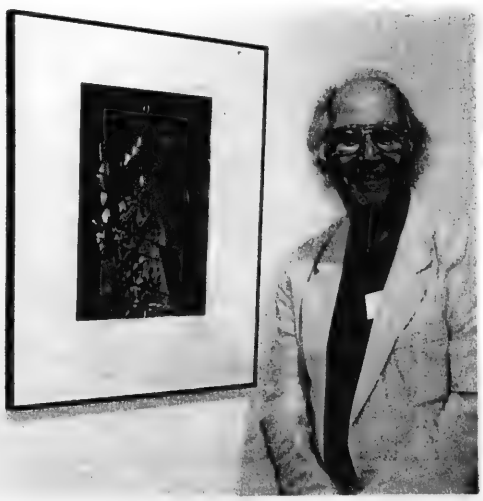
According to the *Chronicle*, there are only two possible reactions to Mason's show. The first is to laugh uproariously at Mason's comic shtick and find his politically incorrect barbs to be essentially harmless and all in good fun. The second is to laugh uproariously at Mason's comic shtick but also to be somewhat offended. The London critic admitted he was leaning towards the second category.

Judge for yourself. Call 905-761-0543 or 870-8000 for tickets.

* * *

Native Art: The First Nations community of Canada can boast a glossy new magazine covering the native arts scene. The premiere issue of *Genous* is an impressive full-color production of 64 pages, with features on acclaimed native artist **Bill Reid** and other subjects. The quarterly costs $7.50 per issue.

Fred Hershicovitch (top) and Phil Herman (bottom) are among the many artists exhibiting at Dialogue.



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Arts & Travel

Book offers pioneering look into ghetto writings

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to The CJN

An intriguing collection of essays throws a new light into the dark world of the Jewish ghettos of Eastern Europe as seen by a cavalcade of Jewish writers, including Heinrich Heine, Joseph Roth, and numerous others who have been all but forgotten.

Published by Camden House, *Ghetto Writing: Traditional and Eastern Jewry in German-Jewish Literature from Heine to Hilsenrath* offers a pioneering look into this rich subcategory of literature, which for the most part remains untranslated into English.

Remarkably, the book was prepared entirely outside of Germany by two scholars, Anne Fuchs and Florian Krobb, attached to universities in Dublin, Ireland. Its 14 essays were contributed by critics in Scandinavia, Germany, Great Britain and Ireland.

Commendably, Fuchs and Krobb rendered all cited literary quotations into English, thus providing English-speaking readers with an insightful glimpse into this important but obscure body of work.

In an introduction, Fuchs and Krobb identify and fix the date of the first true piece of ghetto writing. It is *Aus dem Ghetto* (From the Ghetto), Leopold Kompert's collection of stories about life behind ghetto walls, which appeared in 1848.

Publishing their anthology on the occasion of the 150th anniversary of Kompert's collection, the editors acknowledge many instances of "ghetto writing" occurring decades before Kompert, but assert that he was the first to put the ghetto setting into a universal literary context and use it as a metaphorical model to treat issues related to Jewish identity and emancipation.

In one Kompert story, *Outside the Ghetto*, he describes the exhilarating feeling of escaping, albeit momentarily, from the confined space into which all of Jewish society had been crammed.

It is a first-person reminiscence of how the narrator, as a boy, ran up the hill above the *Judengasse*, against the advice of family members, and experienced a dizzying sense of freedom:

"They had warned me, they had urged me not to go, not to take this dangerous path up the mountain; but I had laughed at them and said: Let me go! and now I stood up there. My grandmother is wringing her hands in anguish towards me, I can hear a cry depart from her lips, and my grandfather is wagging his finger and shaking his head thoughtfully."

Repeatedly, Kompert seems to be looking back on the ghetto from a sentimental position of exteriority. This nostalgic, romanticized stance is one of two main polarized views that contemporaneous writers had of the ghetto. The other view, steeped in modern realism, highlights the crowding, stench, dirt, lack of sunlight and other squalid conditions.

In his essay, *The Frankfurt Judengasse in Eyewitness Accounts from the Seventeenth to the Nineteenth Century*, Eoin Bourke offers an extraordinary set of views of the infamous Frankfurt ghetto, formerly one of Europe's most vertical and densely crowded pieces of real estate. According to some (non-Jewish) observers, the Jews deserved no better than the inhumane conditions under which they were forced to live.

"The more they feel locked in and sit on top of each other, the better they propagate: the place is creeping and crawling with Hebrew figures," writes one hostile observer. "To the question of how this ancient remainder of the twelve Israelite tribes nourishes itself, the answer is by fraud."

Other observers are more sympathetic, seeing the dejected condition of the ghetto Jews as an indictment of the anti-Semitic attitudes of the majority.

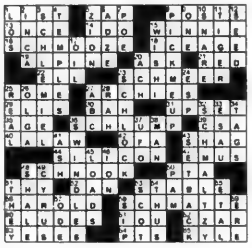
"That," notes one writer, "is our Christian way of treating a people who have the same human right to freedom as we have, from whom we are descended, so to speak, who have preserved more originality, uniqueness and purity of morals than we, and whom we now force to live from usury by thwarting every possibility of an alternative means of living in the most dishonorable way."

It is precisely this attitude that formed the earliest pro-emancipation writings of Dohm and other civil libertarians, who campaigned for full civil rights for the Jews.

Ghetto Writing offers a scintillating glimpse of a literary treasure trove. Works examined include Wilhelm Jensen's 1869 novel *The Jews of Cologne*, Joseph Roth's 1927 novel *Jews On Their Wanderings*, Herz Wolf Katz's 1937 novel *The Fishmanns*, Alexander Granach's 1945 autobiographical novel *There Goes An Actor*, and works by Hugo von Hofmannsthal and Edgar Hilsenrath. There is even a study of Zionist images from the journal *Die Welt*, which Theodor Herzl edited.

The final essay, which focuses on ghetto imagery in modern punk and rap culture, brings the collection right up into the 1990s. The ghettos and shtetls of yesterday are no more, but their memory and meaning evidently live on, transformed and renewed by Western pop culture.

ANSWERS TO THIS WEEK'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE.



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An Israeli kosher restaurant chain to savor

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

TEL AVIV — One good reason among many for visiting Tel Aviv – which marks its 90th anniversary this year – is Shipudy Hatikva.

Local gourmets and gourmands alike are already well-acquainted with this kosher Israeli restaurant chain, but most foreign tourists have never heard of it.

Shipudy Hatikva, under the supervision of the Tel Aviv-Jaffa rabbinate, specializes in lively Middle Eastern food: zingy salads, heart-warming soups, aromatic grilled meats and fragrant desserts.

Originally, there was only one Shipudy Hatikva, in Tel Aviv's downtrodden Hatikva neighborhood. But demand for its food was such that the Aslan family, the proprietors of the restaurant, had no alternative but to open another branch.

Since then, Shipudy Hatikva has expanded to Holon, Ramat Gan and Herzliya Pituach, all within easy driving distance of Tel Aviv.

My introduction to this excellent restaurant was through Israeli friends, Aryeh and Ida Heilweil. They live in central Tel Aviv, practically across the street from one of its branches on Ibn Gvirol.

One balmy evening, when Ida was in no mood to prepare a meal, which happens quite often, Aryeh suggested Shipudy Hatikva. Being open to new culinary experiences, I welcomed the opportunity.

The restaurant, about a block away from the Habimah cultural centre and just steps from the Beit Sokolov press building, is simple, unadorned and immaculately clean.

And, I might add, the waiters neither put on airs nor cloyingly identify themselves by name. In addition, the service is friendly and efficient.

No sooner had we sat down than a dozen small appetizers, ranging from hummus and tehina to eggplant and cabbage salads, were placed on the table for us to sample.

In Israeli fashion, we scooped up the tangy morsels with torn bits of warm Iraqi pita from a taboon oven.

Within minutes, the main courses arrived. We feasted on skewered chicken taken from the soft and juicy thigh and on kebabs made of ground beef and lamb, garnished with garlic and herbs.

Washed down by soft drinks and Goldstar black malt beer, it was a delicious and succulent repast.

True to the owners' Iraqi origin, the fare at Shipudy Hatikva is Middle Eastern to the core, with delicate Balkan influences.

The varied eggplant salads are particularly tasty, running the gamut from eggplant in tehina to eggplant in vinegar.

Barbecues are probably Shipudy Hatikva's greatest strength. From skewered chicken livers to barbecued lamb shishlik, this is food that schmecks.

Fish is also on the menu – typical Israeli varieties like Bouri, Mousht and Dennis.

Desserts are multi-national: German-influenced creme Bavaria to Turkish malabiah.

No matter what you order at the moderately-priced Shipudy Hatikva, you are bound to be pleased with the quality and the quantities.

This, truly, is inspirational food.

Jewish travel guides

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to The CJN

Oscar Israelowitz is an architectural consultant, professional photographer, publisher, author and a conductor.

In recent years, however, the Belgian-born Brooklyn resident has perhaps become best known for his specialty of producing Jewish travel guides on a variety of destinations. He writes, publishes and distributes most of them himself through his company Israelowitz Publishing, based in Brooklyn, N.Y.

Brooklyn is the focus of at least seven of the several dozen books that the company has produced so far. New York City guidebooks of various sorts account for five more titles, including the newly released Jewish Heritage Trail of New York, by Oscar Israelowitz.

Published in soft cover at 180 pages, *The Jewish Heritage Trail of New York* is a thorough compilation of Jewish sites in New York City, the locus of the second largest Jewish population in the world.

Israelowitz starts at the foot of Manhattan in the financial district, and works his way northward through Chinatown, the lower East Side, Greenwich Village, midtown Manhattan east and west, and the Upper West Side. The sites are presented chronologically and organized as stops in various walking tours.

The Jews played a role in the earliest history of Manhattan. Israelowitz describes a site called the Jewish Plymouth Rock, located in the financial district, marked by a copper marker erected "to honor the memory of the 23 men, women and children who landed in September 1654, and founded the first Jewish community in North America."

Even the historic Fraunces Tavern, where George Washington bid farewell to his officers in 1783, has a Jewish connection. It was built as a residence in 1719 by Stephan de Lancey, whose wife, Phila Franks, was a child of the first Jewish settlers.

Continued on page 37

Arts & Travel

Travel Talk

BY BILL GLADSTONE

EISENSTADT MUSEUM HIGHLIGHTS PAST

Less than one hour by car eastward from Vienna are a series of towns of special interest to Jewish travellers.

These are the once-famous Siebengemeinden – the seven noteworthy Jewish communities of Eisenstadt, Mattersdorf, Deutschkreutz, Lackenbach, Kobersdorf, Frauenkirchen and Kittsee.

The largest and most significant of these towns is Eisenstadt, capital of the Austrian province of Burgenland, in which a Jewish museum has been established in a house in the former ghetto.

The Austrian Jewish Museum in Eisenstadt is larger and more impressive than its counterpart in Vienna. Of national scope, it attempts to convey the history of Jewish life across all of Austria from the Dark Ages to the present, paying full attention to the darkest age of all, the Nazi era.

A series of adjoining rooms contain an impressive array of artifacts that include illuminated Jewish manuscripts, Chanukah lamps and wooden synagogue models. These items convey the richness of the former Jewish community, which had a population of only about 900 at its height.

An actual synagogue on the first floor contains many genuine antique artifacts and is dedicated to the memory of Rabbi Samson Wertheimer (1658-1724), the illustrious sage who headed the local rabbinical court.

Wertheimer, the original owner of the house in which the museum is situated, was regarded as a *gaon* or eminent scholar. Living in a province that was then under Esterhazy protection and officially part of Hungary, he was the Chief Rabbi of Hungary.

As such, he was one of numerous celebrated luminaries who made the town famous as a centre of Torah learning and helped inspire its nickname of Little Jerusalem. Others include Meir Eisenstadt (otherwise known as the Maharam Ash), and the German-born Rabbi Dr. Israel Hildesheimer.

Like the synagogue, which was damaged but not destroyed during Kristallnacht, the town's Jewish cemetery somehow survived the Nazi period, although it was damaged by vandals several years ago.

Rabbi Samson Wertheimer

A key to the fence is available in the adjacent hospital. Considering they may be three centuries old, many of the Hebrew tombstones are remarkably legible. An eerie calm pervades the fenced-in enclosure where the stones lean this way and that amidst the tall grass.

Besides its rich Jewish history, Eisenstadt has a strong musical association. The composer Joseph Haydn (1732-1809) lived here for 30 years as the official composer of the Esterhazy court.

Haydn's works are still regularly performed in Schloss Esterhazy, the palace that dominates the town. As castles go, however, the Burg Forchtenstein, situated on a dramatic hilltop a few kilometres away, is far more impressive; it is filled with tents, scabbards, armor and many other relics of the historic wars with the Turks in the 16th and 17th centuries.

A drive to Eisenstadt makes a worthwhile and picturesque day-trip from Vienna.

* * *

The Promise of Peace: Last month US President Bill Clinton and Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak released a joint statement that is expected to give a tangible boost to tourism in Israel in the coming year.

Clinton and Barak stated "that promoting tourism to Israel and the entire region presents a unique opportunity to promote co-operation and spread economic benefits to the peoples of the Middle East.

"Both sides agree to explore specific steps to develop this unique potential together, and with other interested regional partners and their private sectors, beginning the fall of 1999."

* * *

Anecdotes Sought: **Helen Kariv**, an Israeli writer, is interested in hearing unusual and interesting stories about travel in Israel. "Should your readers have a story to tell – especially of the type 'a funny thing happened to me on my way through Israel,' I'd appreciate hearing from them." Kfar Rimonim #30, Doar Na Mizrah Binyamin 90636 Israel. Phone/fax 972-2-9941-918.

* * *

Canadians to Israel: Arie Shevy-Shibi, director of the Israel Government Tourist Office in Toronto, recently told a press gathering that he expects the number of Canadians visiting Israel in 1999 to be 20 percent more than in 1998, and 30 percent more in 2000 than in 1999. Specifically, he estimates that 65,000 Canadians will set foot in Israel during the millennium year, as compared to 40,000 in 1998.

Jewish travel guides

Continued from page 36

The book points out the sites of many historic shuls and shtiebls, including North America's first synagogue, the innovatively shaped Floating Synagogue in Tribeca, and the Eldridge Street Synagogue in the Lower East Side.

It also describes the oldest Jewish cemetery, the headquarters of the first Jewish *Forward*, the homes of Eddie Cantor and Ira Gershwin, the birthplace of B'nai Brith in 1843, the Streit's matzah factory, several Yiddish theatres and even a Yiddish Theatre Star Walk to rival the star-studded sidewalks of Hollywood.

Additionally, the book offers lists (not comprehensive) of kosher restaurants, places to pray, and other city attractions.

Israelowitz Publishing has also produced Jewish travel guides to Europe, Italy, Israel, and Canada, most written by Oscar Israelowitz himself. Recently published, the fifth edition of *The United State's Jewish Travel Guide* is a 668-page state-by-state compilation of Jewish sites, with a capsule history of Jewish settlement in each area.

The book offers listings of synagogues, singles organizations, kosher establishments and mikvahs.

Also recently updated is the fifth edition of Israelowitz's *Eat Your Way Through America: A Kosher Dining Guide* that lists more than 1,000 eateries, as well as Chabad and Hillel houses.

As an architect, Israelowitz has worked on the Synagogue and Holocaust Center of the Bobover chassidim in Brooklyn and other buildings. As a photographer, his works have been on exhibit at the Whitney Museum.

As noted, he's also a conductor, but not the musical kind. He conducts group tours of the Lower East Side, Ellis Island, chassidic Brooklyn, Jewish Newark, and the Jewish Catskills.

Israelowitz's books can be found in most Jewish bookstores.

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Clanton Park Shul – 3,200 square feet $699,000.00

Bathurst/Lawrence – 2,000 square feet $575,000.00 - Ledbury Public School

For information on these and others Contact: Richard Fine 633-1166

INVESTIGATE OUR GENEROUS GUARANTEED TRADE-IN-PLAN

DENISE ABRAHAM
Coldwell Banker Pinnacle Real Estate
Experienced with proven track record
(416) 485-2299

Bathurst/Center - $277,900. 3 bdrm., 2 storey with a prof. fin. bsmnt., walk-out to deep yard.

Bathurst/Glencairn - $199,000. 2 bdrms. + den, 24 hour security, 2 parking spaces, locker.

Glencairn W/Subway - $128,900 - $159,000. Choice of 1-3 bdrms., fabulous view, pool, sauna, parking.

Glencairn W/Subway - $159,000. 3 bedroom SOLD

COLDWELL BANKER PINNACLE REAL ESTATE

IT PAY$ TO ADVERTISE IN THE CJN CLASSIFIEDS
CALL TANYA AT (416) 391-1836
FOR ADVERTISING RATES CJN Classifieds

BATHURST MANOR
House fit for a prince. Reduced to $399,900 - Custom built by owner, 4 bedrooms, den, family room + basement apt. Great location fits professional people.

BATHURST/REJANE
$229,000. First time buyer, 3 bedrooms, detached, 2 baths, walkout to garden, garage, long possession. Buy now and save.

HOME OF DISTINCTION
Drewry/Gardenia. 3,600 sq. ft. plus bsmnt., 4+2 bedrooms, 5 baths - 3 ensuites, jacuzzi + sauna. Incredible home.

BATHURST/TORRESDALE
Asking $219,000., Must be sold. Elegant 2 b.r. condo, mint condition, sol., 1500 sq. ft., 2 full baths. Agent can arrange satisfactory financing.

SALLY ROSEN, Sales Rep.
(905) 884-4425
CENTURY 21 SMITH LTD. BROKER

GREEN
REALTY LIMITED

BATHURST/WILSON
3 Bdrm. Gem on Dunblaine
41 x 130 lot, double garage, ceramic floor in foyer and kitchen, dark stain hardwood in LR and all bedrooms. Walk-out to 30' deck in back yard. 1 bdrm. apt. in basement w/sep. side entrance. $331,000. Call...
Sheryl Erenberg
Associate Broker
482-7700 Ext. 2705

10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

Steeles/Hilda - 4 bdrm. semi, 2100 sq.ft. Call Lily 733-2095.

Upper Village - Ridge Hill Drive Best block, stone front, centre hall, 3+ bdr., lib., A/C. 491-4589

15 HOUSES FOR RENT

York Hill Blvd., beautiful 4 bdrm. Close to shuls. Avail. Sept.No Sat calls 905-731-9223

537 Lawrence Ave W.
2 bedroom + 2 bath home, available immediately, Bathurst & Lawrence area. Close to shopping and transit. $1,800/month + utilities. Please call **Eva** at 416-256-4434.

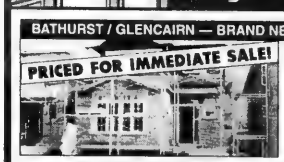
"WE OPEN DOORS FOR YOU"

DAVID EICHORN
REALTY LIMITED
787-1712

BATHURST / YORK DOWNS

Spacious ranch bungalow on 50 x 117 ft. lot, hardwood floors, eat-in kitchen, 2 in-law suites, steps to Earl Bales Park. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.
SOLD

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN — BRAND NEW CUSTOM-BUILT!



4 + 1 bedrooms, family room, dream kitchen, ceramics, hardwood floors, Jacuzzi, separate entry to basement, $469,000. **ACT NOW!** Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN — NEW LISTING!
3 + 1 bedroom detached bungalow, sep. entry to in-law suite, close to all amenitiies, only $339,000! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

THORNHILL — SPACIOUS HOME RENTAL
7 bedroom home, dream maple kitchen, oversized breakfast room, w/o to deck, gorgeous finished basement. Close to BAYT, shops, TTC. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST GLENCAIRN — RENTAL
4 bedroom, 2 storey, finished basement, steps to Bathurst St., only $1,600 / month. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / LAWRENCE / WILSON — SPACIOUS BUNGALOW!
3 + 2 bedrooms, hardwood floors, eat-in kitchen, sep. entry to two in-law suites, fabulous location close to all amenities. Only $269,000 — **ACT NOW!** Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / LAWRENCE — EXCLUSIVE LISTING!
3 bdrm. bungalow on 50 ft. lot, ideal for renovators or builders! Plans & permits ready to go for 4,000 sq. ft. home (approx.). Fabulous location East of Bathurst St. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / YORK DOWNS — BACKS ONTO EARL BALES PARK!
Spacious side-split on 70 x 200 ft. lot (irreg.), serene private setting. Reduced to $569,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

CLANTON PARK —3 + 1 BEDROOM BUNGALOW!
Eat-in kitchen, sun room, spacious finished basement, steps to Clanton Park. Only $349,000! Call Esther Rubenstein (416) 787-1712.

30 CONDOMINIUMS FOR SALE

SANTEE REALTY INC. (416) 441-2003

SKYMARK
DON MILLS & FINCH (TORONTO)
ELEGANCE: spacious 2 bedroom & family room, S. exposure, 2 parking
RENTAL: unique penthouse. For our updated inventory, contact Santee Leung, F.R.I., Skymark Specialist
THE MULTI-LINGUAL CONNECTION

SKYMARK "THE ELEGANCE"
Spacious • Sunny • Views
Luxurious 2 bedroom with ensuites. 2200 sq. ft., elegant living/dining with hrdwd., lge eat-in kitchen, den & sunroom, balcony, 2 car prkg. **$364,000.**
Marilyn Fields
Chestnut Park Real Estate Ltd
(416) 925-9191

POWER OF SALE
Bathurst & Lawrence. Low rise building, Sabbath elevator, very bright and spacious, 1 bedroom and solarium, 2 bathrooms, roof top patio.
HELEN CORNEA,
Royal LePage R.E. Svcs. Ltd.
(416) 487-4311

3000 Bathurst-2 bdr, 2 bth, upgrades, pkg., excellent cond., 3 appl. 1250 sq. ft. Call 364-1063

Bath./Steeles - 2 bdrm. 2 bth + sol., 1 pkg. Leave message at 416-480-9719. Private sale

35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

Bath./Steeles - 1 bdrm., 2 bth., 1250 s.f., sec., pool, tennis, etc. Avail. Nov. 1. 416-736-7718.

40 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE/ RENT

100 Antibes - 3 bdrm., 2 bth., for rent or sale. 416-638-0647.

60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

Forest Hill terrific home to share w/2 others, near subway, highway, pkg., lau., A/C, $667+. Avail. Sept. 1. 416-783-3694.

70 UNIVERSITY ACCOMMODATION

York University Student. Jewish home seeks n/smkg female to rent room. Avail. Aug. 23. Pkg., cable., lau. incl. Furn or non. Board avail. $650+. Leave message Karen 416-420-5335.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

Bath./Centre, lux 1 bdrm. bsmt. apt., fully furn. & equipped, approx. 2,000 sq. ft., sep. entr. $1200/mo. 416-791-8554.

Super lux. apt., approx. 2400 sq. ft., 3 bdrm., 3 bth., 4 directional view, all amen., Bath./Eglinton, furn or unfurn., $2950/mo. Avail Sept 1. 416-783-3282

75 APARTMENTS FOR RENT

BATHURST-SHEPPARD
Very lg. 1, 2, 3 Bedrooms., ample closets, some 1½ baths & 2 balc., roof, laundry, ravine setting, pool, ind. pkg., 6 apts. per flr. From $900.
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377 or 631-0388 - Super

Bath./Steeles, lge. bsmnt. apt., $650 or less in exchange for cleaning. Ruth, 905-731-2338.

Bayview/John - Cozy 1 bdrm., bsmnt. apt. in townhouse. Avail. Sept. 1. $500+. 905-707-0147.

Bath./Sheppard, lge bsmt. apt. shared lau., ideal for couple, avail immed.$700/mo.630-5808

Montreal Harrow Road Hampstead, beautifully furn/unfurn., fully equipped, custom built, upper duplex, 4 bdrm.+ den w/fireplace, A/C. 514-483-5846.

105 COTTAGE FOR SALE

Belle Ewart - Lakefront, shared lot, 3 bdrm., equipped, no agents. 905-881-3317.

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

Hemispheres - 2 bdrm., 2 bth., oceanfront, high flr., furn., tennis, etc. Yearly rental only. Call 416-963-8469.

West Palm Beach, Century Village, 1 bdrm., 1 bth., 2nd flr., immaculate, fully furn., 4 mos. minimum. 1-860-232-5076.

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

ANBER MOVERS
(LOCAL MOVING)
SPECIALIST IN:
TORONTO ↔ VANCOUVER
NEW YORK ↔ FLORIDA
(514) 735-8148
1-800-561-MOVE

Palm Aire - Cypress Bend
Buying, Selling or Renting. Call us for all your Real Estate needs.
Wieder Realty Inc.
(954) 978-8300

75 APARTMENTS FOR RENT

BATHURST WILSON
CONVENIENT NORTH YORK LOCATION

NEWLY DECORATED SPACIOUS 1, 2 & 3 BDRMS.
- Large balconies
- Central air conditionong and heating
- Hardwood Floors
- Sunken living rooms
- Surveillance cameras and card access system
- Outdoor swimming pool
- Close to conveniences and TTC
- Underground parking available

125 Neptune Dr.
(416) 787-7171

140 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION WANTED

North Miami Beach or Keybiscayne. Min. 2 1/2 bdrm. Ocean front. Jan-Mar. 416-398-4497.

Palm Aire - Boynton Beach. Clean, attractively furn apt., 2 bdr, 2 bth. Jan - Mar. 633-5361.

145 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMMODATION

Senior lady to share your apt. in Century Village. 633-4553.

155 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE

RAANANA LOTUS HEIGHTS
Dramatic new stunning apartments, great location, for sale by developer. For this and other projects throughout Israel, please call our New York sales office:
Phone 212-213-2866
www.thagammagroup.com

198 SPACE FOR LEASE

Bath./Lawrence - Bsmnt., semi private entrance, suitable for office. 416-784-9684.

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Are you passionate about Judaism? Creative and enthusiastic? Interested in teaching Religious and/or Hebrew School? Fax resume to Holy Blossom Temple 416-789-9697.

Executive Secretary is being sought by home based consulting firm (Dufferin/Steeles area). The successful candidate must demonstrate the following capabilities: Excellent customer friendly phone skills, ability to work under tight deadlines, loyalty, impeccable ability to edit rough drafts, heightened sense of organizational capacity, enjoys a good laugh and is excellent on Word and PowerPoint. Salary is commensurate with experience. If you feel you have the above attributes, fax your resume to 416-650-0389, email to sag@netcom.ca or send to P.O. Box 81530 Steeles Ave. W., North York, Ontario, M2R 3X1. (No agencies please)

Jewish Day School is looking for a secular studies teacher Mon. - Thurs., 2:30pm-5:30pm. Please fax resume to 789-7730 or call Adam at 661-5236.

Kosher establishment needs experienced counter help. Read & write English fluently. Yiddish speaking an asset. Call Israel at 416-787-1234.

SECRETARY for Toronto Day School, immediately. Computer literacy, Hebrew typing, experience in school setting preferable. Send letter/resume to CJN Box # 7201.

247 DAY CARE

Day Care in safe, warm, home, exper. ECE teacher + assistant, F/T, kosher nutritional meals, Bath/Centre area.905-771-0500

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

Cleaning lady available with references. Call 416-782-7592.

EC Access Employ. Agency
Filipino owned.
Nannies/ Hskprs/Companions.
905-475-2518 416-759-4333

Excellent housekeepers, companions, nannies & nursing aides. Please call **Flor De 'Liz International Employment Agency.** Tel/Fax 416-533-5905

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

GOLDEN CARE LTD.
There's *no place* like HOME!
No Fee to Employer
*Exper. Senior Caregivers, HCA's, PSW's & nurses. Live-in & Live-out
*Reference & Police Checks
*In-hospital hourly care
THE BEST PERSONAL SERVICE
Honey Hecker
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Sponsor Qualified Filipino Nannies, Nurses, Caregivers Amazing Selection Screened + references
ShineX Caregivers Inc.
416-218-9537
No fee for Employers • We supply temps & do your paper work

TLC
PLACEMENT SERVICES
Looking for a reliable nanny-housekeeper? Live in & live out nannies available. Reasonable rates. Specializing in Toronto
416-567-3933
905-882-9149

DIAMOND PERSONNEL
Professionally Screened
Nannies
Housekeepers and Health Care Companions
Since 1988
416 730-8866

Nannies, live-in/out, cleaning. F/T & P/T. **In-home elderly care** by RN's, HCA's. Bonded, refs.**416-224-9907**
Servicing Toronto since1985.
NUMBER 1 DOMESTICS.

Cleaning lady avail. Friday afternoons & weekends.791-8227

Frustrated by trying to find a suitable nanny? Let us help you. We have dependable, caring nannies who are thoroughly qualified, personally interviewed & pre-screened. All refs. are checked. Some are CPR trained. Low finders fee.
Wee Care Placement Agency
416-789-3070 or 398-6110.

Harvscott Domestic Services
"Five stars above the rest"
Housekeepers, elderly care, nannies, cleaning ladies, party helpers. 905-771-6543.

High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

House & Condo Cleaning. No job is too big or too small. Reas. rates. Packages avail. Mention this ad & get 10% discount on 1st months fee. Kelly, 894-1356

I will clean your house/apt, any day of the week. Call 636-5839.

Live-in nannies/housekpr avail. **No fee to employer.** Amah International. Call 416-487-5157.

MILLENIUM CAREGIVERS
Professionally trained Filipino caregivers seeking sponsorship. Call 905-727-3884.

255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

Insured, reliable driver needed for after school pick up, 3p.m. Mon-Fri, Sept. - June. 638-7808

Nanny req'd. immed. Bathurst & Lawrence. 2 kids. Energy & experience a must. Refs. req'd. Driving an asset. 416-787-7378.

255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

Are you looking for exp. cleaning ladies, housekeepers, babysitters? Look no more! Lynn's Cleaning Services. 686-1230.

Bath/Steeles, exper. F/T babysitter req'd for 6 mos. old boy & 4 year old girl, live-in/out, light housekeeping, drivers licence preferred. Call 416-918-1197, leave a message.

Nanny, part-time, to start September. Mon - Fri., 5 hours daily. Drivers licence & exp. req'd. Must love kids. 416-787-5468.

257 HEALTHCARE AVAILABLE

HCA avail to care for elderly. Exper. w/refs. 416-747-0998.

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

Q-Pid dedicates itself in joining couples who are looking for true love. 416-653-1843, 825-8949.

270 PERSONALS

OCKRANT/LAWRY
I wish to inform all my friends in the Newmarket/Thornhill/ Richmond Hill area that I have notarized documentation disproving any allegations of child abuse and court documentation approving grandparent's visitation rights. For further information please call: Reva Lawry, 416-445-8718. Calls will be strictly confidential.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

If you are a vibrant 25-35, slim woman with spark that likes a challenge in life, we would love to introduce you to this serious, handsome Gemini who speaks Spanish & English who has reservations about placing an ad. We would love to see him with the right soulmate. Give us a call on our pager 416-376-5374.

*** CJN Boxes for Personal Companions Wanted ads are valid for 30 (thirty) days only (from 1st publication date). Replies must be received within this time frame in order to be forwarded to the correct CJN Box #.**

CLASSIFIED ADS/ SERVICE DIRECTORY ADS
· CUSTOMER SERVICE ·

The CJN requires that advertisers check their advertisement upon publication, as *The CJN* will not be responsible for more than one incorrect insertion, and there shall be no liability for non-insertion of any advertisement. Liability for errors in advertisements is limited to the amount paid for the space occupying the error. All copy is subject to the approval of the management of *The CJN*. *The CJN* reserves the right to classify all advertisements.

Service Directory & Classified Ad Deadlines are Wednesday, 8 days previous to the issue, by 4 pm.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Partners for life in business, love and friendship. 40 year old Zuftik female seeks gent 50-75, caring, kind and adventurous. Lets travel the high seas. Call Sonja at 416-409-2235.

Replying to a Companion ad with a CJN Box Number?

Address your mail to:

The Canadian Jewish News
1500 Don Mills Rd.
Suite 205
North York, Ontario
M3B 3K4
Box # _____

280 ANNOUNCMENTS

Pencer/Bellman
We are delighted to announce the engagement of Holly Pencer and Michael Bellman. Holly is the daughter of Nancy Pencer and the late Gerry Pencer. She is granddaughter of Claire & Jack Pashlin and the late Irving Halperin and the late Clara & Harry Pencer of Montreal. Michael is the son of Edith & Maurice Bellman, and the grandson of the late Esther & Irving Bellman, and the late Bessie Polisuk. An October wedding is planned.

295 PETS

Free 2 female cats (2 & 3 yrs). Spayed, microchipped, vac. Free new carrying case, collars, litter box, scratching post, food & litter for 3 mos. 416-481-0344

330 OBITUARIES

SPEIGEL, Ann - on July 16, 1999, late of 52 Baycrest Ave.

KESTENBERG, Sam - on July 17, 1999, late of 645 Castlefield Ave.

RAFELMAN, Gerald - on July 18, 1999, late of 450 Walmer Rd., #309

STEINBERGH, Ann - on July 18, 1999, late of 10 Shallmar Blvd., #805.

KIRSH, Dave - on July 19, 1999, late of 2 Covington Rd., #303.

SIEGEL, Harry - on July 19, 1999, late of 675 Roselawn Ave., #602.

LUBEK, Katie - on July 20, 1999, late of 3560 Bathurst St.

STEIN, Louis - on July 20, 1999, late of 19 Lower Village Gate, #710.

EISEN, Robert - on July 21, 1999, late of 44 Shallmar Blvd.

PILCH, Sol - on July 21, 1999, late of 65 Spring Garden Ave., #1109.

STEINFELD, Israel - on July 21, 1999, late of 42 Sunnycrest Rd.

PEARL, Jerry - on July 23, 1999, late of 3000 Bathurst St., #701.

ENGLANDER, Ruth - on July 24, 1999, late of 60 Ruddington Ave., #704.

KINGSTON, Max - on July 24, 1999, late of 5444 Yonge St., #807.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

330 OBITUARIES

IZENBERG GOLDBERG *Monuments*

Serving generations of families for over 80 years

•Finest quality memorials crafted in our own factory - under our supervision
•Very reasonable prices

LIFETIME GUARANTEE ON ALL MONUMENTS

EXPERIENCE - QUALITY - SERVICE

3173 BATHURST ST. *(just north of Lawrence)* (416) 787-0319

DIBKIN, Rose - on July 11, 1999, late of 6020 Bathurst St.
BINSTOCK, Leo - on July 29, 1999, late of 5935 Bathurst St.
GELB, Jean - on July 29, 1999, late of 306 Finch Ave. W.
LUBINSKY, Isidore - on July 30, 1999, late of 15 Rockford Rd.
ADLER, Joseph - on Aug. 1, 1999.
BENEZRA, Rebecca - on Aug. 2, 1999, late of 4001 Leslie St.
KAMPELMACHER, Sala - on Aug. 2, 1999.
LIDSKY, Fanny - on Aug. 3, 1999, late of 3560 Bathurst St
STEIN, Judy - on Aug. 5, 1999, late of 77 Kings Cross Ave.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

NATHANSON, Bernard - on July 24, 1999, late of 333 Clark Ave. W., #215.
GORDON, Faigie - on July 25, 1999, late of 4335 Palmerston Blvd
MANDELL, Jack - on July 25, 1999, late of 3636 Bathurst St., #708
POLLOCK, Rose - on July 25, 1999, late of 5200 N.E. 2nd Ave.
ELIAS, Morris - on July 26, 1999, late of 237 Torresdale Ave.
GELBARD, Isaac - on July 26, 1999, late of 45 Wychwood Ave.
FREEDMAN, Benny - on July 27, 1999, late of 1 Northwestern Dr.
GREENSTEIN, Lillian - on July 27, 1999, late of 10 William Morgan Dr.
HOFFMAN, Izzy - on July 27, 1999, late of 677 Briar Hill Ave
CLAVIR, Pearl - on July 28, 1999, late of 355 St. Clair Ave. W., #2803.

GERSHATER, David - on July 16, 1999, late of 9 Montclair Ave.
SCHLESINGER, Ivan - on July 16, 1999, late of 7 Arleta Ave., #144.
WAXBERG, Betty - on July 17, 1999, late of 205 Cummer Ave
BUCKHALTER, Reuben - on July 16, 1999, late of 3311 Bathurst St., #902.
SLOTNICK, Louis - on July 24, 1999, late of 1131 Steeles Ave. W., #605.
SPIEGEL, John - on July 26, 1999, late of 30 Greenfield Ave., #1516.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

HEBREW BASIC BURIAL

BENJAMIN'S LANDMARK MONUMENTS

ALL MONUMENTS ARE NOT CREATED EQUAL

BENJAMIN'S LANDMARK MONUMENTS
(416) 780-0635

Yad Vashem at Landmark Monuments

Memorializing Life for over 20 Years
(416) 782-8995

3429 Bathurst St. (corner of Melrose)

TO PLACE AN UNVEILING NOTICE PLEASE CALL AT LEAST **14 DAYS** PRIOR TO THE DATE OF THE UNVEILING

335 UNVEILINGS

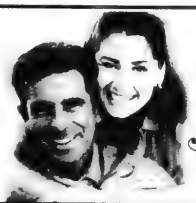
The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
EVA GORD/BROWNSTONE ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, August 22nd at 10:30 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Bathurst St., 2 Blocks South of Steeles
U.J.P.O. Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
MINA BLAUFELD ז"ל
loving mother of Luci Zoltak
will take place
Sunday, August 22nd, 11:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Chevra Shas Section #10
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
CHAIM (HERBERT) LIGHT ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, August 15th, 10:30 a.m.
Roselawn Cemetery
Anshei Minsk Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
MORRIS AND ROSE GULA ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, August 15th, 11:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Stashover Young Men's Society Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
OLGA MAIBAUM ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, August 15th, 11:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Eastern Children Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend



The *Meeting Place*

Brought to you by the Canadian Jewish News

To listen and respond to these ads, call 1-900-451-4552 Ext. 65

It's only $2.49 per minute. You must be 18 years of age, and have a touchtone phone to use this service.

To place a FREE personal ad, call 905-276-6167 Ext. 65

Women seeking Men

To respond to an ad, call 1-900-451-4552 Ext. 65

SUMMER ROMANCE
Single female, 34, enjoy long walks, cycling, dining, dancing, the theater, ice cream. Seeking a Jewish male, 33-40, non smoker, no children, warm, caring, sensitive, intelligent, fun loving. AD#1407

LET'S SHARE LIFE
Single female, elegant, attractive, professional, 50+, enjoy cultural activities, sports. Seeking a male, educated, honest, good sense of humour, professional. AD#1296

SERIOUS RELATIONSHIP
Single Jewish female, 36, 5'5", active, slim, nice figure, enjoy dining in or out, socializing. Seeking a male, professional, intelligent, good conversationalist, enjoy working out and is ready for a relationship and starting a family. AD#1107

SMILES AND CHUCKLES
Single Jewish female, slim, attractive, professional, good sense of humour, enjoy good conversation and having fun. Seeking a male, non smoker, 40-50, Jewish, Reform or Conservative. AD#1034

NIFTY 50'S
Divorced Jewish female, 51, 5'5", attractive, affectionate, fun loving, independent, outgoing, good sense of humour and family values, enjoy opera, theater, long walks. Seeking a professional male, 45-55, financially secure, intelligent, with similar interests. AD#1077

PAMPER ME
Single female, 40, full figured, attractive, friendly, happy, affectionate. Seeking a male, financially secure, who will spoil and pamper me, and I will be loving companion for life. AD#1136

LONG TERM
Single female, 40, Jewish, green eyes. Seeking a male who is established, kind hearted and a business man. AD#1215

CITY AND COUNTRY GIRL
Single Jewish female, non smoker. Seeking an attractive male, 63+, with a great sense of humour, who enjoys the arts and travelling. AD#2059

LET'S HAVE COFFEE
Divorced Jewish female, 46, petite, attractive, blond, easy going, compassionate, enjoy dining & dancing, theater, exploring new places, family life, proud of my Jewish heritage. Seeking a single Jewish male, 46-58, non smoker, with similar interests. AD#1305

SEEKING COMPANION
Single female, attractive, honest, easy going, warm, petite. Seeking a Jewish male, 38-45, kind, reliable, educated, similar interests. AD#1456

MARRIAGE MINDED
Single female, never married, late 30's, professional, pretty, traditional values, observant, spiritually attuned. Seeking a male, well educated, honest, established, 40-50, strong, giving, sensitive, with a passion for life and growth for himself and others. AD#1213

COMPANIONSHIP
Separated female, 46, seeking a Jewish male,warm kind hearted, gentle, great sense of humour. AD#1360

SPECIAL MAN
Single female, on the outside is fun loving, spontaneous, attractive, on the inside is sensitive, secure. Seeking a male who likes what is on the outside but more deeply likes what is on the inside. AD#1451

FAMILY VALUES
Single Jewish female, attractive, 42, university educated, employed, honest, intelligent, affectionate, loyal, caring, sensitive. Seeking a Jewish male, 40+, financially & emotionally secure, honest, generous, family values. AD#1637

THOUGHTFUL
Single female, beautiful, petite, warm, caring, intelligent, thoughtful, enjoy long walks, nature, cooking, music, Jewish traditions. Seeking a quality Jewish male, caring,sharing. AD#2057

LET'S ENJOY GOOD MUSIC
Divorced Jewish female, slim, pretty, petite, warm, caring, giving, enjoy nature, walks, cozy fires, family and friends. Seeking a male, 58-68, for caring and sharing. AD#1452

EQUAL
Single Jewish female, 5'4", 120lbs, long dark brown hair, green eyes, athletic build, employed, two university degrees, enjoy outdoors, camping, jogging, dancing, fine dining. Seeking a handsome male, late 20's to early 40's, who is outgoing. AD#1047

SERIOUS RELATIONSHIP
Very attractive Jewish female, 39, 5'3", very slim, golden hair, enjoy travelling, hiking, dancing, swimming, cooking, reading. Seeking a professional male, 39-45, sincere, honest, non smoker, with similar interests. AD#1321

LET'S HAVE COFFEE
Single Jewish female, attractive, dark hair, clear complexion, 5'6", medical professional, enjoy sailing, tennis, cycling, hiking, outdoor activities. Seeking a Jewish male, professional, 38-45, no baggage, successful, kind, for long term relationship. AD#2051

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Single Jewish male, an original, good looking, young looking, healthy, traditional values, sports oriented, enjoy long walks, dining and dancing, reading. Seeking a female, for a long term relationship, possibly marriage. AD#1106

LONG TERM RELATIONSHIP
Single Jewish male, 40, 5'8", medium to husky build, kind, caring, sincere, compassionate, traditional values, non professional, enjoy theater, music, dining and dancing, outdoor activities. Seeking a Jewish female, 28-39, divorced, with children OK! AD#2060

NO HEAD GAMES
Single white male, Jewish, 5'5", blue eyes, brown hair, spontaneous, easy going, fun loving, enjoy sports, travelling, outdoor activities. Seeking a Jewish female, 21-28, down to earth, spontaneous, no worries, no head games please. AD#1219

FAMILY LIFE
Single Jewish male, 5'8", 160lbs, blue-green eyes, fit, a writer. Seeking a Jewish female, who is ready for commitment and starting a family. AD#1061

LONG TERM RELATIONSHIP
Single Jewish male, 37, 5'7", slim, full of life, fun to be with, enjoy long walks, dining and dancing, hiking, movies. Seeking a Jewish female, 28-37, for long term serious relationship AD#1613

HOPELESS ROMANTIC
Divorced male, professional, Eastern European background, 5'10", slim, fit, handsome, down to earth, non smoker, enjoy movies, sunsets, and a healthy life style. Seeking a female, 30ish, affectionate, slim, attractive, for a long term relationship. AD#1323

MARRIAGE MINDED
Single male, easy going, sincere, enjoy movies, art, books, long walks, a wide variety of interests. Seeking a female, 25-35, for a serious relationship. AD#1603

FUN TO BE WITH
Single male, 34, 6', brown hair, blue green eyes, slim, enjoy movies, dining out, trade shows, culture, adventures. Seeking a Jewish female, 30-36, 5'5"+, easy going, outgoing, with similar interests. AD#1596

ACTIVE
Single male, professional, active, enjoy fun and games, travelling, dining out, sports activities. Seeking a female, who is attractive, intelligent, athletic, with similar interests. AD#1312

HEALTHY LIFESTYLE
Divorced male, 5'10", handsome, professional, slim, fit, down to earth, non smoker, a hopeless romantic, enjoy sunsets on the beach. Seeking a slim, attractive female, in her 30's, who is kind and affectionate. AD#2058

PROFESSIONAL
Single Jewish male, 50, professional, enjoy sports, fishing, walking, movies, dining out. Seeking a Jewish female, 38-45, attractive, with similar interests. AD#1416

HOPELESS ROMANTIC
Divorced male, Eastern European background, professional, 5'10", slim, fit, non smoker, down to earth, romantic, enjoy sunsets and a healthy life style. Seeking a slim, attractive female, 30ish, for a long term relationship. AD#2052

ROMANTIC AT HEART
Single Jewish male, late 40's, 5'10", grey blue eyes, sincere, warm, gentle, compassionate, good sense of humour, enjoy the theater, bowling, tennis, long walks. Seeking a female, single or widowed, Orthodox preferred, but not required, with similar interests and personality. AD#1150

FRIENDS FIRST
Single Jewish male, 53, fit, employed, live in Thornhill. Seeking a Jewish female for friendship, with no expectations. AD#2053

LIKES TO SHARE
Single Jewish male, 37, honest, caring, fun to be with. Seeking a female, who is attractive to enjoy life to the fullest together. AD#1088

DEVOTED TO YOU
Single male, 5'8", 160lbs, athletic build, greenish-blue eyes, handsome, honest, generous, kind, smart, enjoy exercising, reading, swimming, tennis. Seeking a Jewish female, no children, wonderful, devoted, ready to start a family. AD#1528

SERIOUS RELATIONSHIP
Single Jewish male, 45, 5'10", slim, active, widower, affectionate. Seeking a female, who is kind and fun loving. AD#2049

THE PHOENIX RISES
Divorced male, 50's, young looking, attorney, entrepreneur, slim, trim, 5'8", dark, athletic, marshall arts master, Palmid, Chacham, Kamballist, wish to return to Orthodoxy and study. Seeking a female, 30-50, slender, attractive, wise, supportive, for long term relationship. AD#1104

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Single male, 46, conservative looking, have a Business Degree, love the stock market, enjoy dancing, antique, country, art auctions. Seeking a female, who is nice, with similar interests, children are welcome, and non-slim female are OK! AD#1477

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Single Jewish male, 37, good looking, compassionate, fun to be with, with a great sense of humour. Seeking a female, 29-37, who is a Jewish lively and bubbly. AD#1562

THE RIGHT STUFF
Single male, 45, 5'8", Jewish, professional, sincere, intelligent, affectionate, down to earth, family oriented. Seeking a Jewish female, 38-46, with similar qualities, for a meaningful relationship. AD#1378

335 UNVEILINGS

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The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
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will take place
Sunday, August 15th, 12:00 noon
Dawes Road Cemetery
Drildzer Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
RUBIN SMALL ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, August 15th, 11:00 a.m.
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Sports

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Phil Levi (left) and Victor Salem, win bronze medal in golf.

The men's master's basktball team won silver. Standing (from left) Daniel Katzman, Ron Polsky, Ellie Morris (manager), Sheldon Nadal, Melvin Stern, Sean Loucks, Irv Sternberg, Bill Birnbaum, Darryl Mann (ass't coach), Kevin Dogen, Ian Mucher, Allon Bross (head coach). Kneeling (from left) Irvin Mintz, Stephen Bitton, Gerald Sternberg. Missing is Yuri Tsimberg. Canada lost to Venezuela 57-52 in the final.

Canada finishes 7th in Pan Am Maccabi Games

By PAUL LUNGEN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Canadian athletes suffered a "black Monday" on the sporting fields of Mexico City en route to a disappointing seventh place finish overall at the recently concluded 9th Pan American Maccabi Games.

Three Canadian teams – in junior baseball, softball and master's basketball – started the day with chances of gold medals, while a fourth team, the indoor soccer squad, played for bronze.

Unfortunately, none of the teams won their big games and Canada had to settle for three silvers and a fourth place finish in indoor soccer.

Overall, Canada was led by swimmer Sharon Werner of Toronto, who won four of Canada's 13 medals. Werner's two gold medals came in the 50-metre freestyle and 100-metre breaststroke. She rounded out her team-leading performance with silver in the 100-metre freestyle and bronze in the 200-metre freestyle.

The female bowling team was Canada's most productive, winning two silver medals and three bronzes.

The team's medal breakdown was two bronze: Penny Lyons; bronze: Lyons and Lisa Abush; silver: Abush, Francine Pomerantz and Lyons; silver: Abush, Francine Pomerantz, Lyons, Joy Gray and Marilyn Noss.

For the umpteenth time in Maccabi softball, Canada lined up against its arch nemesis, the United States, in the championship game. Incredibly, the Americans were still led by ace pitcher David Blackburn, who has been throwing for the U.S.A. since the 1985 Maccabiah Games in Israel.

Mark Bendahan, who coached the junior baseball team, was also a participant in the '85 games and he pitched again in Mexico City when his junior baseball coaching duties allowed. He led the Canadians in the semi-final versus Mexico, winning 6-5 in extra innings. Bendahan's coaching duties made him unavailable for the gold medal game, won by the United States, 9-0.

In master's basketball, Canada went through the five-game preliminary round undefeated but lost in the championship game to a younger Venezuelan team, 57-52.

"It was tight right up to the end," said Allen Gerskup, chair of Maccabi Canada's national athletic committee. "It was a great game."

Canada's indoor soccer team won two of its preliminary games easily, defeating Panama 13-4 and Guatemala, 20-0, but then ran up against the Latin American soccer powerhouses.

Mexico beat them 5-0 while Argentina tamed them11-2. Brazil handed them their last loss, 6-0, leaving them in fourth place. Eliazer Amir won the "Golden Toe Award" for most goals (14) scored in the tournament.

In master's golf, Philip Levy earned a bronze medal while Gabriel Davis won silver in tennis.

Altogether, 1,600 athletes from 14 countries, including Israel and Australia, participated in the games. Canada was represented by a 90-strong contingent, 69 of them athletes.

Mexico, with 400 members, had the largest team followed by the United States with 200.

The colorful opening ceremonies were a highlight of the games, with 20,000 spectators crowding into the Palacio de los Deportes to hear the president of Mexico, Ernesto Zedillo Ponce de Leon, open the games.

For more information, check out Maccabi Canada's web site at: www.total.net/~maccabi.

Sharon Werner, winner of four medals, with Allen Gerskup, head of Team Canada's delegation.

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Cabinet expansion significant move

As I wrote in this space last month, the issue of constitutional rights is likely to be a cause of dissent among the coalition partners of newly elected Prime Minister Ehud Barak.

Having run on a platform of respect for the rule of law, Barak could have been expected to pursue the legislation of laws protecting civil rights or limiting the ability of the government and the Knesset to ride roughshod over the country's evolving constitution.

It was therefore surprising to some that one of the Barak government's first acts was to amend the Basic Law of the Government — not to limit the power of the government or to protect the rights of the citizens, but to enable the prime minister to enlarge the cabinet and thereby make more political appointments.

In order to understand the significance of this move, it is important to remember that Israel does not have a written constitution, but that civil rights in this country grew out of decisions handed down by the Supreme Court over the decades.

In the past few years, the Knesset has expanded the number of Basic Laws which are meant, in the future, to comprise a constitution. In the meantime, some judges have shown more readiness to anchor rights in the Basic Laws by seeing them as above regular Knesset legislation, and some of the laws can only be amended by a special majority of the Knesset.

As in most countries, Israel's constitution deals not only with civil rights, but also with the powers and authority of the branches of government.

The Basic Law of the Government governs the executive branch. Section 33 of the Basic Law of the Government states that the maximum number of ministers, including the prime minister, will not exceed 18. Faced with demands from his coalition partners, Barak agreed to amend this section, increasing the maximum number of ministers to 24.

At first glance, this does not seem to be a terribly radical or disturbing move, After all, I do not know of a single constitutional scholar who believes there is something sacred about having 18 cabinet ministers, and aside from the increased cost to the treasury and the decreased efficiency of cabinet meetings, one may ask whether any damage has been done by the amendment.

I would argue, however, that the amendment is damaging and while not disastrous, should not have been enacted. This is because of the educational nature of a constitution, particularly but not only, in a troubled and evolving democracy.

Israel is a fractious society, made up largely of immigrants from countries with no democratic heritage. Whether one thinks of the eastern European socialists who created the political culture, the immigrants from Arab and North-African countries who arrived in the '50s, or the many new olim from the former Soviet Union, it seems miraculous that Israel is as respectful of western notions of civil rights as it is. When one adds in the security situation, it becomes even more apparent how fragile this state of affairs may be.

Therefore, regardless of one's opinion of the content of the evolving constitution, one fact is clear: a constitution which may be changed at will for political purposes will not function as a real constitution.

While the increase in the number of ministers is certainly not the same as restrictions on freedom of speech or assembly, the argument can be made that the more amendments are made for non-constitutional purposes, the less respect citizens will have for the Basic Laws and the easier it will be to change them frequently.

Constitutions should be written and changed hesitantly, after giving careful thought to the effects such amendments will have on the rights of the citizens and the stability of the regime. It is a bad precedent to change a constitution for purposes of patronage or other political gain.

It is important not to exaggerate. The latest amendment to the Basic Law of Government is not a catastrophe, and does not, in and of itself, cause direct damage to the rule of law. It is simply unfortunate that the new government has commenced on its legislative path with a step that sends a negative message in an area to which it claimed to attach great importance.

Jonathan Shiff practises law in Israel. He can be reached at tzaly_r@goldnet.net.il.

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1 tsp Dijon mustard	1/4 cup minced fresh basil
1/2 tsp salt	9 cups mixed salad greens

Bring vinegar to a boil, pour over tea bags, cover and steep for at least 30 minutes. Remove and discard tea bags. Process vinegar, mustard, salt and pepper in a blender until smooth. Turn on high and add oil in a slow, steady stream. Stir in basil. Toss greens with vinaigrette, as needed. Store remainder in fridge for another time.

About Life

Dear Ella,

Why is it so hard for some people to apologize when clearly an apology is in order?

I have been seeing Steven for the last six months. For the most part we get along beautifully, but like any couple, we argue from time to time.

When I am in the wrong, I say I'm sorry with no hesitation and with complete sincerity. When Steven is at fault, I get the royal treatment. He brings me flowers, he becomes sweet as pie and he tends to my every need. This usually lasts for about 24 hours. Have I ever heard an apology from him? Never! When I confront him about this, it just creates another argument.

What is the big deal? Why can't he admit he's sorry when it's appropriate for him to do so?

Absent Apologies

Dear Absent Apologies

Have you ever heard of the saying, "Actions speak louder than words"? It seems to me that this is one of those times.

Sometimes people don't like to admit they are sorry. I assume it's because they regard it as a humbling experience and feel somewhat vulnerable saying the actual words. Many people are not comfortable with those emotions and therefore work their way around them.

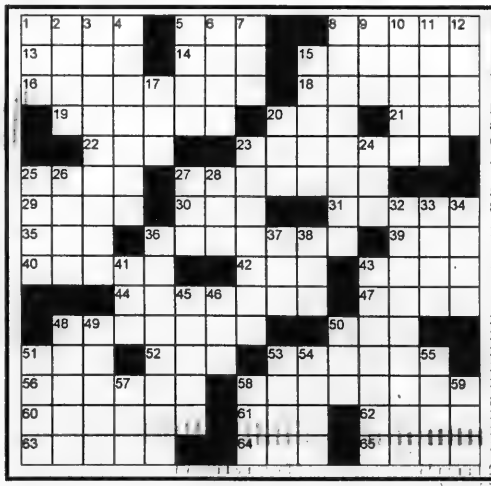
The reasons may be deep-rooted or they may simply come from pride. In any case, there are obviously more ways to admit you are wrong than just saying the words, "I'm sorry," and Steven has found one of those ways.

If you care about this man, don't make a big deal about the absent apologies. You know by his actions that he is genuinely sorry and trying to make amends. That is his way of making things right.

If you feel you must hear the words, then discuss it at a time when you're not in the middle of an argument. It will be easier to talk about when you are both on an equal footing and in a non-confrontational situation.

His actions are still coming from the heart. Don't minimize them; they are very real.

Readers may submit their questions to Ella at The CJN. *But Ella is not a professional counsellor She brings to the questions posed by readers her unique brand of earthy wisdom. Her advice is not a replacement for medical, legal or any other advice. For serious problems, consult a professional.*



The Canadian Jewish news

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Yiddish, Schmiddish!

By Matt Gaffney and David Bianco (QSyndicate@aol.com)

Across

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10 Catch
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17 OPEC product
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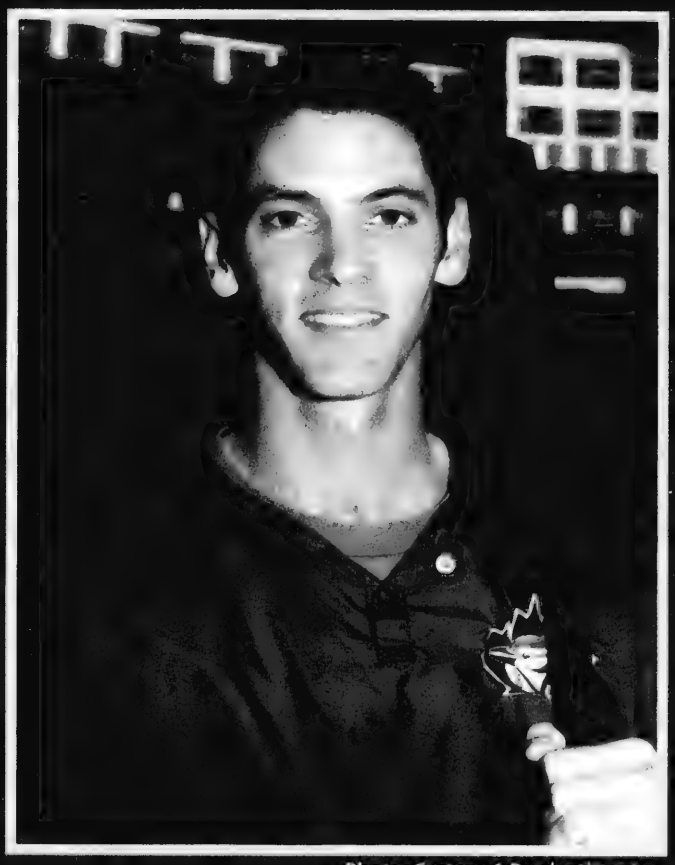
(This week's answers are on page 36).

Shawn Green
Toronto Blue Jays

Stands behind UJA Federation's Campaign 2000.



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This Week

National

Anti-Semitic crimes in Toronto up from last year, report shows. *Page 3*

Israel's trade envoy Yael Varsano-Barzilay returning home. *Page 5*

On Campus

York U. students get credit amidst the dirt of Israel's archeological sites. *Page 21*

CJ Seniors

Ben and Hilda Katz honored by Baycrest. *Page 35*

Arts

Multi-media exhibition features over 35 artists. *Page 39*

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Shabbat: Ki Tetze
Candlelighting: 7:57
Elul 8, 5759
Havdalah: 9:02

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Communities boost security

In wake of L.A. JCC shootings

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

Security was front and centre for Jewish communal agencies, synagogues and other facilities across the country last week, with at least one Canadian Jewish leader warning that the Aug. 10 shootings at the Los Angeles Jewish community centre could happen here.

"We in Canada would be shocked if events like that took place here," said Sol Littman, director of the Canadian branch of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre. "But the likelihood is that U.S. patterns will cross the border. It's less likely in Canada, but far from impossible.

"Our community should be prepared for this. The question is, what do you about it?"

In Montreal, at least, police acted quickly last Wednesday night when two youths, reportedly skinheads, were apprehended in front of the Solomon Schechter Academy, a Jewish elementary school.

The youths had tipped over a water fountain, but there were no signs that they planned to enter the building. They may be charged with public mischief.

Montreal Jewish officials applauded the quick action by police, saying it was reassuring in light of the L.A. attack.

B'nai Brith Quebec region director Robert Libman said there was no evidence linking the youths to any extremist group.

And officials in Winnipeg say last week's desecration of a Jewish cemetery there was unrelated to the Los Angeles incident (see story below).

Police in Montreal, as well as in Toronto and likely in other Canadian cities, issued internal

Continued on page 22

Before and after scenes at the North Valley Jewish Community Centre in Granada Hills, Calif. The top photo shows the silhouette of police who arrived on the scene; the lower photo shows an expression of support by Najee Ali, director of Project Islamic Hope. *[RNS/Reuters photos]*

Winnipeg cemetery desecrated

By MYRON LOVE
Prairies Correspondent

WINNIPEG — The Jewish community is in a state of shock following the worst desecration of a Jewish cemetery in memory.

In the early morning hours of Aug. 10, someone entered the 90-year-old Hebrew Sick Benefit Association Cemetery in north Winnipeg and knocked over or uprooted 219 headstones.

The damage is estimated to be over $100,000. While it is estimated that 75 percent of the downed headstones just need to be remounted, the remaining 25 percent were damaged and need to be repaired or replaced.

The Winnipeg police Hate Crimes Unit is investigating the incident.

According to police, the lack of a calling card in the form of graffiti or slogans, would seem to indicate that the perpetrators were most likely not motivated by anti-Semitism.

The executive and board of directors of the Beth Israel Synagogue, which operates the cemetery, has issued a press release notifying the public that round-the-clock security has been put in place at the cemetery.

The cemetery committee and synagogue will pay for the repair of the damaged stones if there are no surviving relatives.

"A wanton attack against one cemetery is, symbolically, an attack ... against decent people of all races..." says Beth Israel's Rabbi Alan Green.

INSIDE

Poland's Jews refuse to give up.
Please see page 9.

U.S. presses Barak for Wye now — please see page 32

The News in Brief

CANADA

Montrealers Compete

MONTREAL — Three students from Montreal are in Israel competing in this year's Olympiyeda, the country's highly popular international science contest for teens. A total of 25 teens from several nations were chosen for the all-expense paid trip, from among 400 applicants. Dubbed "the Olympics of the mind," Olympiyeda is designed to foster interest in science and technology. The three Canadian students are from Montreal, and all are in Grade 10. They are Jonathan Assouline, 16, and Jason Hadid, also 16, both from Herzliah High School, and Mathew Suss, 16, from Bialik High School. Participants are given a multiple-choice general science exam. The top scorers qualify for a second exam on a specific topic. This year's subject is space science.

ISRAEL

Burger King Spat

JERUSALEM — The Arab League is threatening to boycott the Burger King restaurant chain for opening a restaurant in the Jewish settlement of Ma'aleh Adumim several weeks ago. The league said it is awaiting the outcome of negotiations between Burger King and a U.S. Muslim group, which last week called for the boycott. Benny Kashriel, the mayor of Ma'aleh Adumim, warned that the boycott is a "big mistake," adding it would harm Israeli-Palestinian peace negotiations.

Eichmann Papers

JERUSALEM — Israel's Justice Ministry said it would release the memoirs Adolf Eichmann wrote in 1962 while awaiting execution in Israel. A ministry official said the 1,300 pages of handwritten notes would be released at the "earliest opportunity," and would include background and commentary. Critics of the move have maintained that the memoirs would be misused by Holocaust deniers.

Rape Suspect At Large

JERUSALEM — One individual is suspected of raping and sexually assaulting more than 20 women in the Tel Aviv area during the past three years, Israeli police say. Stumped in their efforts to find the suspect, the police lifted a ban on publishing details of their investigation in the hope of enlisting the public's help.

Arab Named Levy Deputy

JERUSALEM — Prime Minister Ehud Barak has appointed an Israeli Arab legislator as deputy foreign minister. Foreign Minister David Levy said the appointment of Nawaf Masalha reflects Barak's desire to have appointees who are representative of all segments of the Israeli population.

WORLD

Bronfman Honored

WASHINGTON — President Bill Clinton last week awarded Edgar Bronfman, the Montreal-born president of the World Jewish Congress, the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the United States' highest civilian honor. Bronfman was honored, in part, for spearheading efforts to retrieve assets of Holocaust survivors and heirs of its victims. Also honored were former U.S. presidents Jimmy Carter and Gerald Ford.

Poland Rejects Lawsuits

WARSAW — Poland is rejecting the validity of lawsuits recently filed in the United States for the return of property seized from Polish Jews after World War II. Such lawsuits should be filed in Poland, a Polish government lawyer said last week. A spokesperson for the Polish government added that the lawsuits were "unprecedented slander," adding they are unnecessary, since compensation or the return of property would be possible under a proposed restitution law.

President To Resign

GEORGETOWN, Guyana — A Jewish grandmother who succeeded her husband as president of Guyana, says she will resign because of poor health. Janet Jagan, born Janet Rosenberg, succeeded her husband, Cheddi Jagan, who died in March 1997. Last year, Jagan paid a visit to Toronto to thank Ve'ahavta, the Canadian Jewish Humanitarian & Relief Committee, for its delivery of medical aid to the South American country.

New Holocaust Museum

BUENOS AIRES — Holocaust survivors in Argentina are organizing Latin America's first museum dedicated to the Shoah. The building is scheduled to open here next April. Exhibits will include artifacts and documents donated by individuals and families of some of the 8,000 survivors who arrived in Argentina after the war.

Reward Offered

MOSCOW — Moscow Jewish leaders are offering a $10,000 reward for information leading to the arrest of those who attempted to blow up a Lubavitch synagogue in the centre of the Russian capital last month. A bomb was discovered July 25 in the Bolshaya Bronnaya synagogue and safely defused shortly before a ceremony attended by some 200 people, including many small children, was due to begin.

Van Gogh Drawing Returned to Jewish Heir

BERLIN — German officials have returned a van Gogh drawing to the heir of a Jewish collector forced by the Nazis to sell his art holdings at a fraction of their value.

The move, which came more than 60 years after the drawing was subjected to a forced sale, was one of several recent developments related to the return of property to Holocaust survivors or their heirs.

The van Gogh drawing and two other works of art were returned to Gerta Silberberg, 85, of Great Britain.

She is the daughter-in-law – and only surviving heir – of Max Silberberg, who was forced by the Nazis to sell a collection of Impressionist and Expressionist works that have been valued at $60 million at today's prices. He later died in a concentration camp.

The drawing, *Olive Trees*, has been in museums in Berlin and the surrounding area since 1935, when Silberberg was forced to auction off his collection.

Two more paintings from his collection have been identified in the United States and Russia, but terms for their hand-over have not been reached.

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Toronto Police report 11 anti-Jewish hate crimes

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Eleven of the 110 hate-motivated crimes that took place here during the first six months of the year were anti-Semitic in nature, according to a Toronto Police Service report released last week.

The anti-Semitic incidents – among them one assault, one case of criminal harassment and two of threats – made up the vast majority of the 13 religious offences reported.

In addition, there were 34 "multi-bias" offences, which include racially motivated offences as well as those against Jews and gays.

The report, presented at last Thursday's police services board meeting, defines hate crime as "a criminal offence committed against a person or property that is based upon the victim's race, national or ethnic origin, language, color, religion, sex, age, mental or physical disability, sexual orientation, or any other similar factor."

The incidence of anti-Semitic and other hate crimes apparently decreased in 1996 and 1997, but the overall incidence was up 19 percent over the same time period last year.

"Is it hate crime on the rise, or just more people reporting?" asks Ellen Cole, chair of Community Relations, Canadian Jewish Congress – Ontario region. "We have a sense that it's both."

The increase is "unquestionably significant," according to Sol Littman, director of the Canadian branch of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre, which began conducting Internet training sessions for police in recent months.

"It's hard to be dogmatic about what causes [the increase], but certainly one of the things we have noted is the vast increase in the use of the Internet by young people," Littman said.

Electronically communicated hate messages have become "a major concern," confirms the report. Hate groups implicated by the report, whether through flyers, voice messages or other means, include the Ku Klux Klan, Last Call International, the Original Canadian White Bloor Boys, Aryan Nations, Movement to Restore Decencies and Aryan Blitzkrieg.

The average age of suspects, however, has increased from the 18 to 25-year-old category to those between ages 26 and 40.

In previous years there were "considerably" more assaults than other offences. This is the first year, since police began compiling records on hate crimes in 1993, that wilful promotion of hate offences were almost as prevalent as assaults, with 29 of the former, 30 of the latter.

The CJC's Cole is pleased to note a commitment on the part of Toronto police to combatting hate crimes by increasing the number of officers designated in that area. "That's a big step," she said.

At the initiative of CJC, a multicultural, multi-faith group has begun meeting with Police Services to offer input in the area of hate crimes.

Montreal MP Finestone appointed to Senate

By JANICE ARNOLD
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — A split is already appearing within the Mount Royal Liberal Association over whether the riding, now vacant with the appointment to the Senate of Sheila Finestone, should continue to be represented by a member of the Jewish community.

Association president Marc Leiter said, "It is definitely not at all a guaranteed Jewish seat."

But Sidney Margles, immediate past president, said Mount Royal, which has a majority Jewish population, should have a Jewish MP.

Finestone herself indicated she feels the same way. Mount Royal's MP "needs to remain the standard-bearer of the concerns of the Jewish community," whether they live in the riding or not, she said.

Finestone, 72, was first elected in 1984 and was re-elected three times. The riding had previously been held – since 1965 – by Pierre Trudeau, and before that by Allan McNaughton for many years.

Who would succeed Finestone has been the subject of speculation for years, and especially since 1996 when Prime Minister Jean Chrétien dropped her from the cabinet and many thought she would not seek a fourth term. She had been secretary of state for multiculturalism and the status of women.

A byelection must be called within six months after a seat becomes vacant, Leiter said. The Mount Royal byelection may be held the same day as that in the Toronto-area riding that was held by Sergio Marchi. That date has not been set.

There are still five vacancies in the Senate to fill, and it is possible Chrétien may appoint other long-serving MPs in order to bring in new faces in government, thereby necessitating more byelections.

In an interview, Finestone said her Senate appointment came as "a pleasant surprise."

She welcomes the new responsibility because she is eager to continue in public service and in the legislative work, for which she has developed a talent. "I see this as a wonderful opportunity for personal growth.

"I have a great deal of respect for the Senate. It doesn't deserve its bad image. There's a lot of hard work going on. Sure there are slackers, as there are in the House of Commons," she said. The upper house, she believes, has an important role in the legislative process because of the time its members can put into study and consultation.

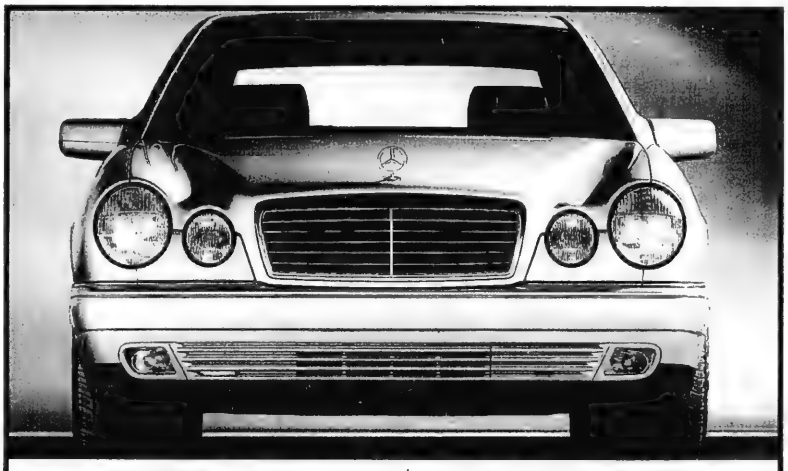
Finestone, who will serve 2½ years before the mandatory retirement age, affirmed that she is not going to be an absentee senator. "I'm too conscientious for that."

She stated she will not collect her parliamentary pension during her time in the Senate.

At the time of her appointment, she was chair of the standing joint committee on official languages and was a member of the standing committees on justice and human rights and foreign affairs and international trade.

She expects to continue many of her international interests, which lately have included the effort to eliminate land mines. She will also continue as Canadian president of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, a United Nations affiliate.

Among the highlights of her Commons career, she listed her work on the broadcasting and copyright law, expanding the rights of the disabled, enhancing the place of women, and the new privacy law, on which she has been working for the past two years.



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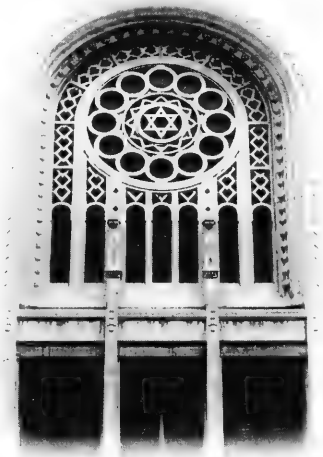

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From the editor's desk

The political theatre

It's an annual event. The 10 premiers and three territorial leaders convene to discuss the state of the Canadian federation. The discussions take place in two venues: one on camera; the other off camera.

The reason the event is important is the off-camera discussions. These are held behind closed doors, beyond the prying eye of the camera and the audiological intrusion of the microphone.

In a country as regionally diverse as Canada, it is vital that the leaders of the different regions are aware of each other's problems and understand each other's respective concerns. Of course, there can be not even the beginning of mutual understanding unless there is honest communication and unencumbered exchanges of ideas. But there can be no serious communication among the parties unless there is some relationship among them, both formal and informal, based upon the trust that evolves from the freedom to speak freely and privately.

The public often underestimates the extent to which politics is personal, the extent to which individual contacts and ties of friendship among holders of high office can be the sinew that binds together the body politic during storms and other political buffetings.

The reason the event is entertaining, sometimes sadly so, sometimes amusingly, is because of the on-camera discussions.

These discussions are held out in the open, as it were, usually in a carefully choreographed media "scrum" in which the leaders, looking relaxed, are either on their way to the meetings or are standing in a congenial arc around a microphone after the meetings. Indeed, the microphone is the very reason for these "discussions."

The leaders are not talking to each other. They are "talking" to the voters.

The eye of the camera is not prying; nor is the microphone intruding.

Rather, the camera and the microphone are the electronic canvas, on

which the leader carefully attempts to paint his own image.

These "discussions" are concerned more with public relations than with interpersonal or intergovernmental relations; they are full of theatre rather than of thought. As a result, the public tends to discount, if not actually dismiss, their importance.

The conference that concluded last week in Quebec City was the perfect premiers' meeting paradigm.

Off-camera, the discussions seem to have been substantive. Significant regional differences were apparently sufficiently reconciled to enable a consensus document to be released. At the same time, the premiers were afforded an opportunity to renew old acquaintances and to build bridges and establish new acquaintances.

On camera, the discussions were the usual entertainment fare of posing and puffing, the tone of which was set by the premier from the country's largest province.

As if on the set of an action cowboy western, Premier Mike Harris of Ontario arrived at the conference with guns blazing, indelicately discharging a hale of income tax cut bullets at the federal government.

In the ensuing spray of "gunfire" some of the bullets ricocheted in the direction of the other premiers.

"We are now bringing the example of Ontario to the rest of the premiers," boasted Premier Harris.

"If you want more jobs; if you want more growth; if you want more investment; if you want a prosperous economy; if you want sustained revenues in your government coffers, you better cut taxes and you better be competitive," he offered.

"I know there are doubting Thomases and there are governments that are doubting Thomases. They're the ones that have high unemployment, high numbers of people on welfare; they're the ones with the lowest growth; they're the ones with the lowest job-creation record and I'd like to help them all."

The premier's bruising offer was politely, but forcefully and publicly, turned down by all of the other leaders except Lucien Bouchard and Ralph Klein.

The majority of the premiers, apparently aware that Ontario is regarded by at least one environmental watch group as the second worst polluting jurisdiction in North America after only Texas, and that it still has an annual, multi-billion-dollar operating deficit, appear not to want the "example of Ontario."

MBD

SEE JN

ANOTHER AWARD FOR SPIELBERG

Steven Spielberg holds the U.S. Defense Department's highest civilian medal last week which he received from Defense Secretary William Cohen for the movie Saving Private Ryan and his contribution to heightening awareness of the sacrifices of American servicemen during the war. [RNS]

Greater Toronto Area

Israel's trade envoy says goodbye to Canada

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

Yael Varsano-Barzilay

TORONTO — The past four years have been good ones for Yael Varsano-Barzilay and, not coincidentally, for Israel, in terms of its business connections with Canada.

Varsano-Barzilay's four-year term as Israel's trade commissioner and economic affairs consul to Canada comes to an end this week. She is being succeeded by Benjamin Noy, who held the position in the early 1990s.

Varsano-Barzilay is returning to Israel, and has been offered the position of director of the North American division, Foreign Trade Administration.

Prior to assuming the post in Toronto, the 36-year-old native of Petach Tikvah was deputy director of the division and a member of the Israeli team of negotiators working on the Canada-Israel Free Trade Agreement (FTA), which came into force Jan. 1, 1997.

In Canada, she presided over offices in Toronto and Montreal. The experience has been "very versatile and interesting, meeting an array of people, handling different problems, and meeting challenges," she said in an interview last week.

Although she wouldn't have taken the position without a love for Israel – "It's difficult for me to sell something I don't believe in" – her stint here has deepened her appreciation of what Israel has to offer.

Among other attributes, she cited a striving toward excellence "that you find in a lot of Israelis, especially – but not only – in high tech."

Varsano-Barzilay has come to love Canada too, she said, and was particularly taken with the melding of work and volunteerism she's seen here. "It struck me as a good combination."

When she arrived in Toronto, Varsano-Barzilay became the first woman to hold her position in North America.

She is happy to report that the scenario "has totally changed." She now has female counterparts in Atlanta and Los Angeles – meaning that, at the end of her tenure, three of Israel's seven economic posts in North America were held by women.

Varsano-Barzilay's young age, rather than her gender, sometimes came as a surprise, but she said it was a non-issue once it came to "tachlis, or discussing what was on the table."

On the other hand, there were potential benefits. "You stand out more. I guess people remember you more," she said.

During her time here, Varsano-Barzilay and her staff initiated and organized trade missions for different business sectors, and "opened doors" – arranging contacts, setting up meetings, giving advice – for a variety of companies in the initial stages of doing business with Israel. Two Canadian International Trade ministers, Art Eggleton and Sergio Marchi, visited Israel while she was here.

"You plant seeds," said Varsano-Barzilay of her work.

She doesn't always see the fruit of her labor, because her office steps out of the picture once a deal is struck.

"Frankly, there's not always time [for follow-up]," she said. "You're on your next project. And sometimes companies don't like to give out the information."

But she is pleased to note an increase in prominent Israel-related business stories appearing in Canadian newspapers like the *Financial Post*, the *Ottawa Citizen*, and the *Gazette* in Montreal.

Since the implementation of the FTA, there has been a 70 percent increase in exports of Canadian goods to Israel and a 50 percent increase in exports of Israeli goods to Canada. In 1998, two-way trade between Canada and Israel exceeded half a billion dollars (US)

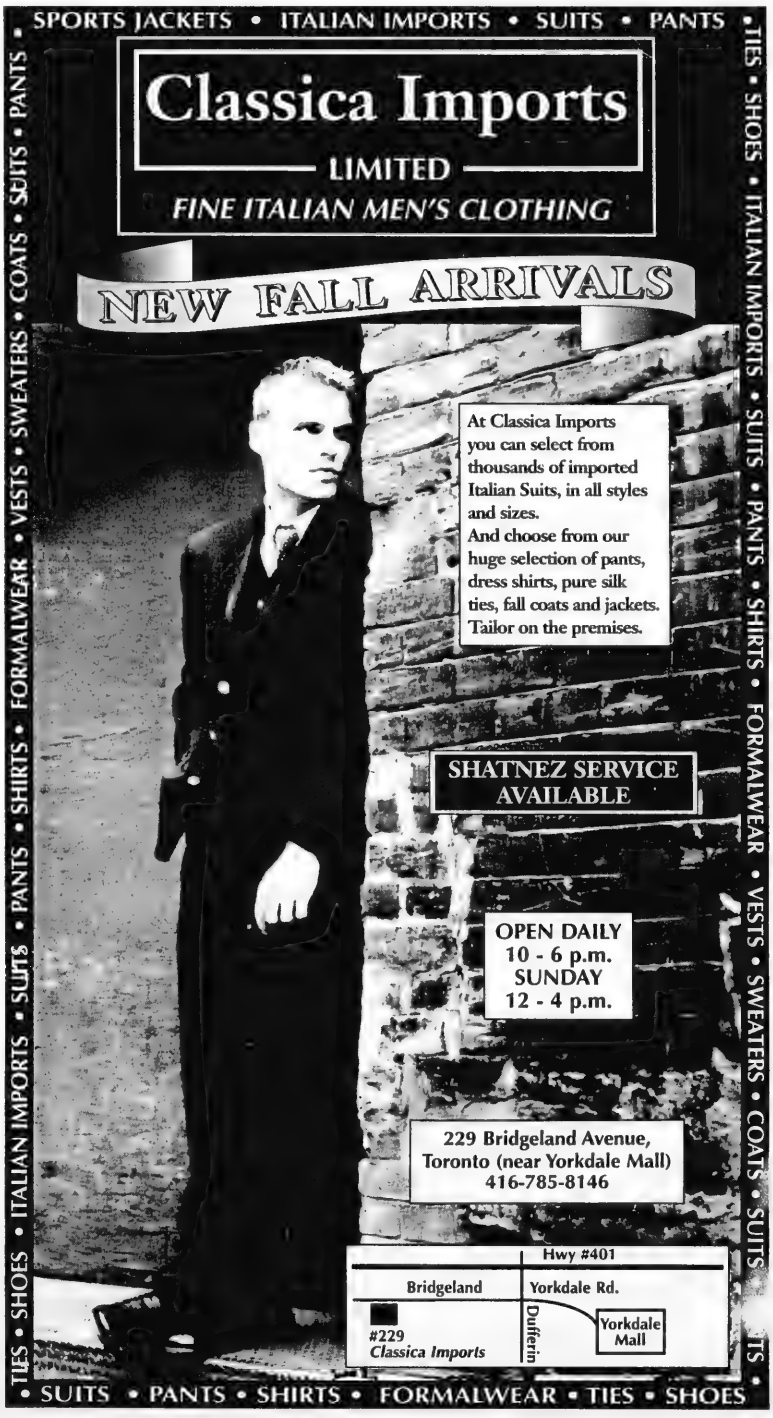
"These are staggering numbers," said Varsano-Barzilay. "There's still some growing to do, but we're certainly on the right track."

Rabbi Barry Schneider Honoured

A *"Friendship and Appreciation Reception"* was recently held at the home of *Irving and Hilda Pisarek* in honour of **Rabbi Barry Schneider and his wife, Barbara** marking 21 years of dedicated service as Rabbi at the Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue and to the Toronto Jewish Community.

Those present at this large gathering were but a small representation of the many people whose lives they touched. Among the guests were congregants, prominent members of the community, clergy and the chaplaincy.

The evening overflowed with great warmth and emotion as tributes of respect, admiration and love for the entire Schneider family were expressed.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Theatre, plays on the agenda

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The "exquisite burdens" of Jewishness are the stated focal point of one play at Ashkenaz, Aug. 30 to Sept. 6 at Harbourfront, but many of the theatre and dance pieces at this festival of new Yiddish culture also have this quality.

Ashkenaz '99

These "burdens," which can bring both laughter and tears, are in evidence, for example, in the Canadian premiere of *O Wholly Night and Other Jewish Solecisms* written and performed by Deb Margolin.

Solecism, a rarely used word, means a misuse of language, and in the play, Margolin gives a personal account of how these solecisms enriched her life.

Reviewers in both the Jewish and

Gabrielle Lansner and Paula McGonagle in MAGDA/Holocaust Stories.

the non-Jewish press have described her play as breathtaking, insightful and imbued with the sense of waiting for the Messiah.

Jewish people, she says, are sitting on a fire escape watching people go by, enjoying the sights, while they wait.

The bittersweet aspect of Ashkenaz, with the accent on the bitter, is again the theme in the Canadian premiere of the dance-theatre piece, *Holocaust Stories*, by Gabrielle Lansner and Company from Brooklyn. This is an adaptation by Lansner, the acclaimed director-choreographer of *The Jewish Wife* by Bertold Brecht and two short stories by Cynthia Ozick, which are combined to tell the story in dance and text of the relationship of two women, an aunt and her niece, and the aunt's loss of her baby Magda in a concentration camp.

The *New York Times* hailed *Holocaust Stories* when it was first staged in New York as a memorable production. It was a theatrical coup for Ashkenaz to garner it for Toronto.

The Jewish Wife is the story of a Jewish woman who decides to leave her Aryan husband in Germany in the 1930s and head for Amsterdam ahead of the Holocaust. Brecht's story infers, and Lansner expands on the inference in her choreography, that the Jewish wife was leaving a troubled marriage with a husband enamored of Nazi physical ritual.

Perhaps one of the quintessential theatre pieces of Ashkenaz will be the Canadian premiere of *Diamonds in the Dark* by the Travelling Jewish Theatre of San Francisco, an acting ensemble of Corey Fischer, Naomi Newman and Albert Greenberg.

The production is a blend of 15 pieces of 20th-century poetry by Yiddish poets and post-modern music. The result is what reviewers have termed an evocative and subtle recapitulation of what Jewish poets have contributed to understanding human nature.

As the San Francsico Chronicle put it: "*Diamonds in the Dark* gives voice to the Yiddish poets' passionate struggle to bear witness to the secular, mystical and political realities of our time."

Adding diversity and another touch of humor to Ashkenaz is the Canadian premiere of *Shtick! A Queer Play on Jewish Vaudeville* written and performed by Sara Felder of San Francisco.

The festival's program describes *Shtick!* this way: "Radical performance and gender-bending vaudeville from San Francisco's best-loved juggling Jewish lesbian theatre artist. A colorful and hilarious mosaic of comic clowning and searing satire from a performer who wowed audiences at the first-ever Ashkenaz with her *June Bride*."

Under the same heading is the world premiere of *I Just Wanna Jewify: The Yiddish Revenge on Wagner* by local writer Michael Wex, presented by Golus Storytheatre.

Deb Margolin performs *O Wholly Night and Other Jewish Solecisms.*

Using music, storytelling, sight gags and instruction in Yiddish to make its point, it begins with the assumption that the main characters of Wagner's operas, especially those of the Ring-Cycle, are in fact Orthodox Jews. Then it gets weird.

Ashkenaz is also presenting a cerebral Canadian play, *The Kabbalistic Psychoanalysis of Adam R. Tzaddik*, by Anton Piatigorsky and directed by Chris Abraham of Moriah Productions.

Freudian psychotherapy and the Kabbalah collide in this drama, which is a realistic presentation of the difficulties one Jew goes through in trying to get at the truth.

For dates and times of performances of these plays and other events at Ashkenaz, call Harbourfront Centre Information, 416-973-3000. The box office number is 416-973-4000.

***A* celebration of Yiddish poetry. From left are Corey Fisher, Naomi Newman, Albert Greenberg, *in Diamonds in the Dark*.**

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Greater Toronto Area

Brian Morris steps down as CIC national chair

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Brian Morris has resigned as national chair of the Canada-Israel Committee (CIC), preferring not to extend his mandate by a third year.

Earlier this month, Morris tendered his resignation from the top lay post at the lobby group after leading it for nearly two years. He had the option of staying on for another year, "but I'm burned out. When I see I can't do something effectively, I prefer not to do it," he told *The CJN*.

Joseph Wilder of Winnipeg will take over as CIC chair. Wilder, 63, also a lawyer, will complete Morris's term. Wilder had been nominated to become the next CIC chair anyway, and could be re-appointed as such in a year.

"I've decided not to do a third year. I'm just too busy," said Morris, a 53-year-old Bay Street lawyer and former national president of B'nai Brith Canada.

"Being the top spokesperson for Canada-Israel relations is one of the most important, if not the most important, positions in the Jewish community," he said. "It's important that Canada speak with one voice on Israel."

The CIC, he noted, is also where all of Canada's national Jewish organizations iron out their differences. "Friction is eliminated at the CIC table. It's the only place where the entire community can sit down and speak with the same voice.

"The CIC is famous for generating consensus."

Morris took over the organization in September, 1997, at the same time as the forged Canadian passport scandal blew up in Israel.

Mossad agents were found to be carrying faked Canadian passports in a botched bid to assassinate a Hamas leader in Jordan. Ottawa recalled its ambassador to Israel, and the affair had the potential to irreparably harm Canada-Israel relations, despite apologies from Israel, and promises to discontinue using Canadian documents in future spy missions.

But relations survived, and remain strong.

It was under Morris's tenure that the CIC began lobbying members of the Knesset. Until then, "Canada wasn't exactly on their radar screens." The efforts have paid off, he said, and CIC professionals, as well as Wilder, will be back in Israel later this month to talk about Canada with MKs, cabinet ministers and possibly, Prime Minister Ehud Barak.

A continuing CIC highlight is sponsoring visits to Israel by Canadian parliamentarians. Last month, the CIC took nine members of Parliament and one senator on a tour of the Jewish state.

"We've been very good at targeting up-and-coming MPs [for the annual trips]," Morris said. "A few of them have gone on to cabinet."

The CIC under Morris also met on several occasions with Foreign Minister Lloyd Axworthy to discuss a wide variety of issues, including to convey Canadian Jewry's concerns about Ottawa's voting record at the United Nations.

Over the past two years, the CIC has taken issue with at least three Arab-sponsored UN resolutions that were supported by Canada. The lobby slammed Canada's support of the resolutions as unfair to Israel, saying Ottawa's voting pattern threatened to harm not only the peace process, but its own role in it.

Most recently, the CIC deployed its trademark quiet diplomacy to persuade Canada to try and have a global conference on Israel's post-1967 territories postponed. The conference, which Canada voted to have, took place but fizzled after only a few hours.

"We would like Canada to play a more even-handed role at the UN," Morris said.

Two Jewish seniors attacked near shul

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Police are investigating the beating of two Jewish men, age 66 and 79, that took place last Friday evening at about 7:15 p.m. on Viewmount Avenue near Torah Emeth Jewish Centre.

The younger man sustained a badly swollen eye; the other, a Holocaust survivor, had a bruised forehead, nose, cheek and lower lip.

Detective Don Ryan of Metropolitan Toronto Police, 13 division, said as he was beginning an investigation Monday morning, that the case was being treated as an assault.

Two suspects may have used a chrome bar or pipe in the incident, he said. Police had a description of only one suspect, a 19-year-old white male, 5-foot-10, 150 pounds, with short hair and wearing dark shorts and a cream-colored shirt.

No remarks were made by the perpetrators to indicate it was a hate crime, Ryan said, but the police Hate Crimes Unit is involved in the case.

Without wanting to "cause undue alarm," Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region, is treating the incident as a hate crime, said Danny Roth, CJC public affairs and communications director.

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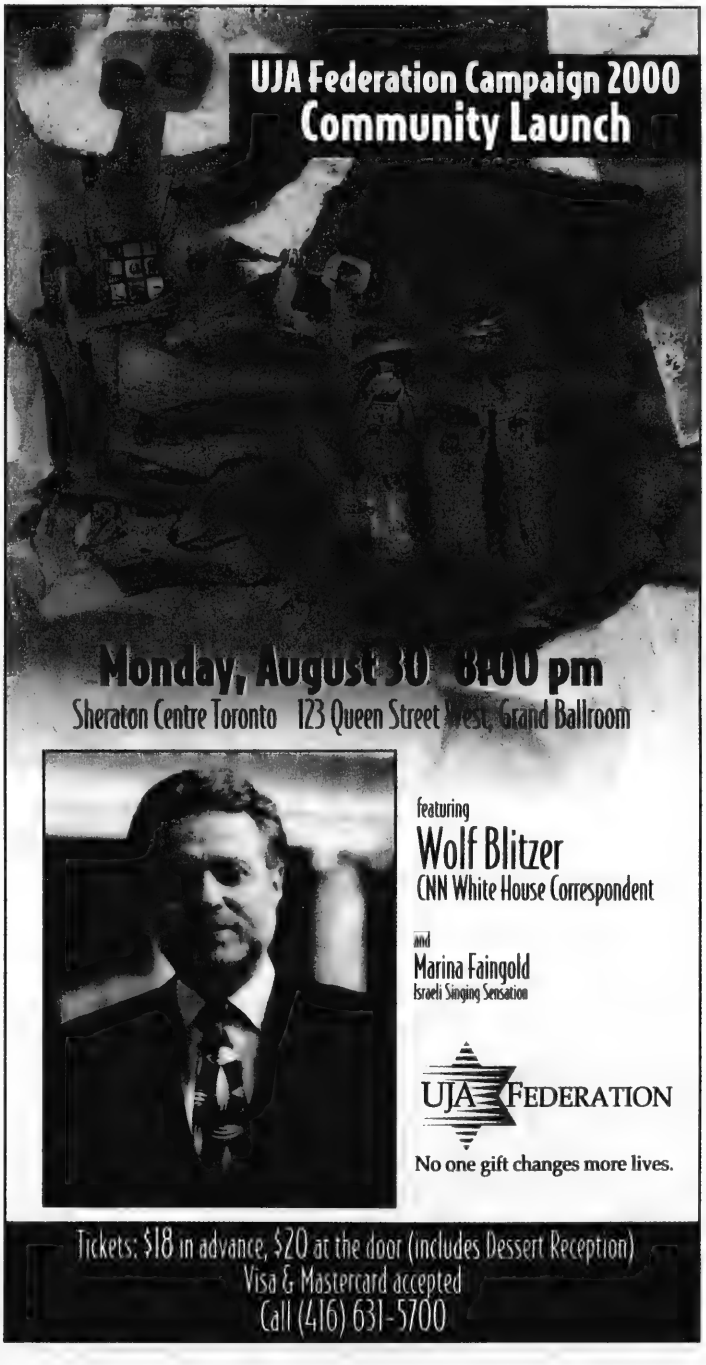

Editorials and Letters

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Hatred and cowardice: evil's twin pillars

It would be a grave mistake to dismiss Buford O. Furrow Jr. as "sick," "deranged," "beset by demons," or more simply, as a "nut." Despite the fact that reasonable and decent individuals cannot fathom the thinking – we must refer to his mental processes by some term – that so totally twists the values of a man, we must resist characterizing Furrow as "ill." For to do so, would wash away any criminal culpability and moral responsibility for his shooting last week of five people at the North Valley Jewish Community Centre of Granada Hills near Los Angeles and for the murder, later that same day, of postal worker Joseph Ileto.

Buford O. Furrow Jr. is evil.

Last week, Tuesday morning, Buford O. Furrow Jr. entered the Jewish community centre and fired more than 70 shots from a submachine gun at the Jews in his path. These Jews were three boys between the ages of five and six, a 16-year-old girl and a 68-year-old woman. Not wishing to engage in combat any law enforcement officers, Furrow fled the scene after spending his cartridges on those five Jews. Miraculously, the five survived.

About an hour later, from behind the wheel of a car he had stolen, Furrow spotted 39-year-old letter carrier Joseph Ileto at a mailbox.

The *New York Times* records what happened next. "Mr Furrow stopped his car and asked Mr. Ileto if he would mail a letter. Mr. Ileto agreed. Mr. Furrow then pulled a Glock Model 26 pistol from his back pocket and shot Mr. Ileto twice…The mail carrier bent over and attempted to run away…He [Furrow] then shot the mail carrier a few times in the back until he saw the mail carrier fall to the ground face down…Mr. Ileto was shot at close range nine times."

As Furrow told police investigators, he killed Joseph Ileto because Ileto was a "non-white target of opportunity," and he tried to kill the five Jews because he "wanted to send a wake-up call in America to kill Jews."

Furrow's ideology is hatred and his methods are craven, cowardly violence. They are the twin pillars on which all white supremacists would build their "new" society.

Like all his fellow travellers in the sinister world of vile bigotry, racial prejudice and white supremacy, Buford O. Furrow Jr. is evil. This is the stomach-churning truth that we must acknowledge. It is also the starting point for any strategy we must adopt if we are to successfully rid society of such radical malevolence. Though the incident last week took place in the United States, the common elements of that strategy apply in Canada as well. They are:

- constant vigilance against the activities of white supremacists;
- a willingness to prosecute the purveyors of hatred and the perpetrators of violent crime, to the full extent of the law;
- a commitment to restrict and to control their access to guns;
- the ongoing re-affirmation, through our education system, of the paramount importance of democratic values; and
- an unshakable resolve to live our lives each day by those values.

This is the only certain way to vanquish evil and to knock down the twin pillars.

Dry Bones
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WHAT'S THE PLAN?!
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Backs Levitts in case before beit din

In *The CJN*, Aug. 5, you reported on the case against the three rabbis of the Kashruth Council of Toronto (COR). As I understood the case, the objection was not so much that the food was not kosher but that the owners were not observant of the Sabbath.

But what about the owners of the dairies and soft drink companies and the butter and flour people, and all the other foods which are suddenly kosher at Passover and other occasions? They are not even Jewish, and certainly do not keep the Jewish Sabbath! Perhaps they keep their own Sabbath! I certainly hope that the rabbis lose their case, although one cannot help but feel that the beit din will be influenced by their status.

I think that if Levitts loses the case, we should immediately put a ban on so called kosher food processed in Toronto. After all, what is good for the goose – etc. etc.

Ted Nashman
Montreal

Some countries tried in vain to rescue Jewish children

Re "Canadians recall Transport" (*CJN*, July 29).

I believe it would be of importance to these former "Kinder" and your readers to set a record straight, which is long overdue.

England was not the only country that participated in the rescue of Jewish children after the fatal pogrom of the Nazis on Nov. 9, 1938, known to us and unfortunately still referred to by the Nazi name of "Kristallnacht."

Holland took over 2,000 children in Kindertransporten, and Belgium and France about 1,200. This is unfortunately forgotten, as most of those "Kinder" were caught by the invading German armies and murdered by the Nazis in the Shoah.

Robert Engel
Toronto

War orphans' story to be made into film

Between 1947 and 1949, the Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) brought more than 1,000 boys and girls, orphans and survivors of an unfathomable horror, to new lives in Canada.

I am searching for other war orphans, foster parents, government workers, social workers, CJC volunteers, teachers, community members or anyone who can shed light on the subject and wishes to be interviewed for *Children of the Storm*, a TV documentary.

Jack Kuper
Toronto
Fax: 416-782-4425

Editor's note: Kuper is author of *Child of the Holocaust* and director of *A Day in the Warsaw Ghetto*.

Israeli veteran with crutch rides cycle jump seat

Billeted in homes throughout the Jewish community, disabled veterans like Eliahu Ben Ovadia are here annually as guests of Aid to Disabled Veterans of Israel/Beit Halochem Canada. Aid to Disabled Veterans of Israel/Beit Halochem Canada was founded in Canada 21 years ago. Through Beit Halochem Canada, the annual two-week period of dinners, outings, special concerts and quiet time, exposes members of the Jewish community to the unique challenges faced daily by each and every disabled Israeli veteran. This personal contact gives Diaspora Jews a better understanding of life in Israel and the important role that Diaspora Jews play in Israel's well-being.

These veterans attempt to carry on a normal life. Only through subtle indications is one aware of the soldier's debilitating injuries. Ben Ovadia, for example, travelled as a passenger on his host's sport motorcycle. For two hours, he rode through King City and the Holland Marsh clutching his aluminum crutch with his left hand and holding the driver with his right. His beaming wide, childish grin never left his face.

The driver, needing to stop to ease the discomfort of sitting in one place for 90 minutes, asked if Ovadia needed to rest. His response: "I live with pain always, sometimes more, sometimes less. I'm liking this so much, I don't care to feel anything…it's OK."

Norm Freedman
Toronto

Paris memorial denigrates Jewish martyrs

Having recently returned from Paris, my family and I want to register our distress and indignation as a result of visiting the *mémorial de la déportation* adjacent to the Cathedral Notre-Dame de Paris. It proclaims the martyrdom of "200,000 unknown Frenchmen" shipped for "extermination in the night and fog."

As you well know, 80,000 of them were rounded up with the collaboration of the French police, not because they were Frenchmen, but because they were Jewish.

Regine Barshak
Brookline, Mass.

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures. Letters sent by e-mail must also include the sender's municipal address.

Perspectives

Poland's Jews refuse to give up

By RABBI DOW MARMUR

The only functioning synagogue in today's Warsaw is run along strictly Orthodox lines. Most members of the congregation aren't Orthodox; many aren't even halachically Jewish. But, as one of the leaders, Dr. Stanislaw Krajewski, explained recently to a group from Holy Blossom Temple in Toronto visiting Warsaw, only a few old men who know the liturgy as they learned it before World War II attend synagogue regularly. They keep the services going.

They know nothing of Conservative or Reform Judaism. The majority of the 400 members of the congregation, many of whom are familiar with American and European Jewish ways, may have preferred a different liturgy, but they lack the competence and the commitment to change things.

That's why the outgoing rabbi of the Warsaw congregation, Rabbi P.M. Joskowicz, is a strictly Orthodox Chassid. Even though he hasn't reflected the stance of the members, and at times he has embarrassed them with his bad Polish and lack of savoir faire, his newly appointed successor is also Orthodox – albeit much younger and perhaps more flexible.

The other congregations in Poland have no rabbis, but they have adopted similar solutions to the discrepancy between what happens in the synagogues and the way the members live. A few ardent adherents run the services; most of those who attend can hardly follow. But without the former, the synagogues couldn't function.

While in shul one Shabbat in Cracow last April, in the famous Remu Synagogue (named after Rabbi Moses Isserless), I noticed that the president of the community didn't even open a prayer book during the service. At one point, he invited me for a chat. When I suggested that we talk after the service, he told me that he was about to leave to meet an important visitor. In response to my raised eyebrows, he said that he only comes to make sure that there is a minyan. Once the quorum is in place, he can attend to other matters.

Many years ago, attending a Shabbat service in the synagogue in Warsaw, I found myself standing next to a man who didn't open a prayer book throughout the service. He told me that he came every week. He said: "As a very young man during the Nazi occupation I was saved by a good Polish Christian woman. I subsequently married her daughter. I don't know any Hebrew and next to nothing about Judaism, but I need the company of fellow Jews, so I come here regularly."

* * *

The situation of the Jews in today's Poland isn't comparable to anything the readers of this paper may know. Apart from the few old men – they are often married to non-Jewish women – who remember the old ways and want to preserve them, the congregation consists of the generation of their grandchildren (their children were often atheists and members of the Communist party) who have found Judaism in the last few years in search of identity and purpose. They depend on the old to pray for them, at least for the time being.

A few have become Orthodox. When, again last April, I was invited to give a talk on liberal Judaism by a group in the Warsaw community, the notice announcing the talk on the congregation's billboard was accompanied by a plea from the president, a member of the new generation of seekers, not to deface the poster but to come to my talk to challenge me. The poster wasn't defaced, but the would-be opponents didn't turn up either.

To enable "people of Jewish origin" to explore their roots, a telephone hotline has been established to which individuals can respond "in strictest confidence." Many do. Some take it further; others remain undecided and confused.

Many more don't deny their roots but profess indifference. Poland's foreign minister is such a Jew, as are several academics and journalists. Their opponents may, of course, at times play "the anti-Semitic card" against them, but that's not the only card that's played in today's Poland.

A member of our group was taken to his family's hometown by a very competent guide and researcher of local Judaica. When asked if he was Jewish, he replied, "I'm not sure." He may suspect that one or both of his parents or grandparents are Jewish, but they have obviously sought to hide it from him. They may have retained the habit from the war years, when they were in hiding, and continued with it as party activists when the country was ruled by Communists.

Rabbi P. Menachen Joskowicz affixes a mezuzah to the portal of a shul near Auschwitz last year. [RNS photo]

Contrary to my normal habit, I wear a kippah all the time when in Poland. As a child after the war there, I did my best to hide my Jewishness; today, coming from Canada, I want to proclaim it. I'm of a generation of Polish Jews who survived "by accident." My parents and I found ourselves on the Soviet side after the outbreak of World War II. Now I need to celebrate my survival in gratitude to God and by proclaiming my Jewishness.

Walking the streets of today's Polish cities and villages, as many Jewish visitors of all stripes do, is a way not only of seeking roots but also of bearing witness that *am Yisrael chai*, the Jewish people live. Hitler didn't get his victory, after all.

A man more fascinated by the Jewish people than most is a Catholic priest and academic in Lublin. When he was 35, his mother told him that he wasn't his parents' natural child. In 1943, days after his birth and just before the liquidation of the ghetto in his town, he was handed over by his birth mother to the woman he has always known as his real mother.

She knew very little about his family, not even their name. After years of search he found his father's brother in Israel and friends of his birth mother. He has remained loyal to the only family he has known, faithful to his Catholic religion and priestly calling.

But he keeps in touch with his Jewish roots, even though it adds to the confusion about his own identity. He has even added his father's surname to his. Father Professor Romuald Waszkinel of the Catholic University of Lublin is now Romuald Jakub Weksler-Waszkinel, a specialist in French philosophy, particularly the Jewish thinkers Henri Bergson and Emmanuel Levinas. He is one of the most attractive human beings it has been my privilege to know.

* * *

Why should a Jew want to live in Poland now? When Marek Edelman, the last surviving commander of the Warsaw Ghetto uprising and a resident of Lodz, was asked the question when he visited Canada some years ago, he answered, in characteristic Jewish fashion, with a question: Why should a Jew want to live in Canada? For him, Poland is home. Many of the young Jews who seek their way back to Judaism say the same thing. It's not for the visitor to question their commitment to their country.

For Poland isn't only what those who left it long ago remember. It's changing and a sizeable proportion of its citizens are anxious to help Jews find and preserve their roots. Yes, there's anti-Semitism, but it's not the dominant feature in today's Poland.

Jewish-Christian relations, spearheaded by Krajewski and supported by the American Jewish Committee, play an ever growing part in Polish life today. Having lectured to several Catholic institutions of higher learning in Poland earlier this year, I have evidence of the importance of this work.

Though the number of people "of Jewish origin" in today's Poland is difficult to determine, the few thousand Jews who are registered either in congregations or in the secular cultural societies are trying to live as Jews. None of us has the right to turn our back on them. They are the witnesses that Poland isn't *Judenrein* (clean of Jews), after all.

With the help of the Polish government and thanks to the support of foundations from abroad, a few imposing synagogues are being restored, notably the liberal temples in Cracow and Wroclaw (formerly Breslau). Though they aren't likely to be used for regular services, they'll be vehicles for the promotion of Jewish life.

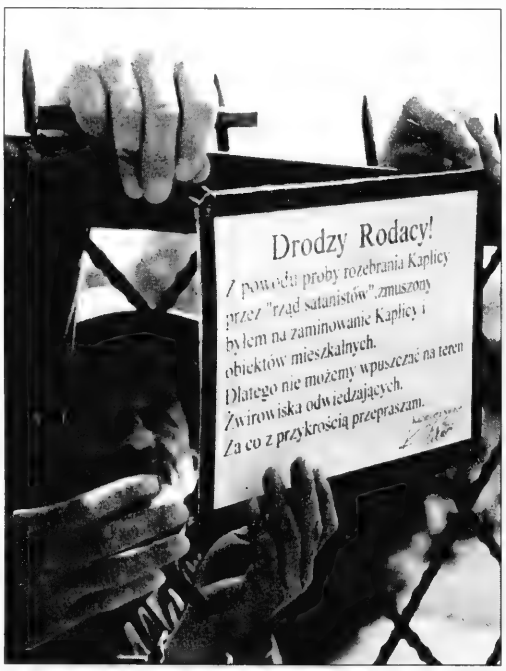
Recently a highly successful festival of Jewish culture was held in Cracow, and thousands of Poles attended. One of the concerts was held in the temple, currently under reconstruction.

Those who have affiliated with congregations want their children to be Jewish, too, whatever the Halachah may say. Hence the establishment of Jewish kindergartens, even a day school in Warsaw.

If several American Jewish organizations – notably the Lauder Foundation, the Joint Distribution Committee and the American Jewish Committee – are prepared to offer help, why should we refuse to show solidarity?

The main reason why Jews from abroad – secular Israelis no less than Chassidim from Brooklyn – come to Poland is *kever avot*, visiting the mostly unmarked graves of millions of Jews who perished there during the Holocaust. It's a painful but noble undertaking.

And then there's a second reason: to tell the small band of fellow Jews who struggle to live as Jews in the country of their birth that we are with them. Because they refuse to give up on Judaism, it behooves us not to give up on them. This undertaking may be more bewildering than painful, but it's no less noble.



An angry Pole attaches a sign last May, on a gate outside Auschwitz, advising that he has mined the area to prevent authorities from removing the crosses erected there by religious radicals.

Opinions

The why of PNAI

From time to time, I have occasion to follow the fate and fortune of PNAI, which is the abbreviation for Parents of North American Israelis. There are chapters in most of the large cities, yet it is one of the few Israeli-connected organizations that has a low profile and is probably unknown to many readers.

Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

In a recent letter to me, the organization pointed out a variety of reasons why one should join:

- Our common bond is that we have children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren who live in Israel.
- We are a self-help group of volunteers who are engaged in addressing the concerns of our children and all olim.
- Our membership is comprised of parents who come from every corner of the Jewish mosaic.
- Presently, there are 45 chapters established in most of the major communities throughout North America. Four of them are in Canada – in Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto and Winnipeg.
- We are an extended family and meet in the spirit of mishpachah.
- To the best of our knowledge, we are the only Jewish organization that does not solicit funds.
- We do not become involved in taking positions on matters concerning politics or religion.
- We are the most frequent travellers to Israel and most of us go there for periods of from two to three months.
- Because we have children living in every sector of the Israeli economy and because we have contact with many people in positions of authority, we are the best-informed group on every aspect of Israeli life.
- Parents who are leaving for Israel are only too happy to take along letters or small parcels. This pigeon carrier service has come in handy during mail strikes. Quick communication with our children was particularly outstanding during the Gulf War.
- Our head office in New York is manned entirely by unpaid volunteers, as are all our executive positions throughout our entire organization.
- Our local chapter publishes a monthly newsletter called The *Toronto GESHER*. It announces the next meeting and contains a variety of topics. Every effort is made to keep our members informed on changes in the law and many other little known points of information about such things as travel, accommodation, banking, wills, where to go, what to see, which can result in substantial savings in time and money for our members.
- We are making an effort to cement a close relationship with the Israeli community. They too have children in Israel, many of them serving in the IDF. Because of this common bond, we are the only organization in the established Jewish community that has a chance of breaking down the barriers that exist between the two communities.
- A special arrangement has been made with the *Canadian Jewish News* to have the paper delivered to their children in Israel at a very low cost.

Although I have no children or grandchildren living in Israel, I have been invited to join PNAI, and I may do just that.

The Jews of B.C.

A research project now underway in British Columbia has reinforced my deep respect for Jews who came to Canada over the past century and more. Last year, I wrote about the Jewish community of the Yukon. Now I want to tell you something about the Jews of British Columbia.

Jean M. Gerber in Vancouver

Recently, the Jewish Historical Society of British Columbia and the Jewish Genealogical Institute have undertaken a pilot project to collect family histories of the Jews of British Columbia. This pilot effort will help to determine the feasibility of a project that would reach every Jewish household in the province, asking them to tell the story of their families on their way to, and since their arrival in, the province.

Although the project is small and just beginning to collect responses, it provides a fascinating glimpse into Jewish history in Canada. The goal is to create an archives for historians and family researchers to use in writing the history of the province, as well as the history of its Jewish community.

While early Jewish immigration to Canada was concentrated in the eastern and central provinces of Canada, the northern gold rush brought significant, if small, numbers of Jews to the west coast in the 1850s.

Early Jewish settlers came up from the United States to Victoria, moving to Vancouver after it became the railroad terminus. They went further, into the northern towns where gold miners were followed by railroad dreamers, and provided air transport, goods and professional services to towns like Prince Rupert, Prince George, and to the vast outback of B.C. and the Yukon.

The origins of B.C.'s Jewish community are as wide as the Diaspora. They range from a family whose roots go back in Victoria to the 19th century community there, to newcomers from Russia and Sarajevo, South America and South Africa. They range from people who remember living in the small shingled houses that once covered our now-glittering downtown core and people who remember the streetcars that crossed miles of bush to get to the city, to people who came here from Europe in 1912 with nothing but their ambition, to people who came from Europe in 1949 with nothing but terrible memories. All these are the lives we need to document.

Jews have been on all sides of the class conflict inherent in the economic system since they arrived here. As shopkeepers, pedlars and draymen, in small shops open from early morning to late at night where husband and wife worked side-by-side, the people so despised by the Nazis built a sturdy urban economy on the one hand, while on the other, they infused with prophetic zeal the attempts to organize labor and protect the workers.

Jews in British Columbia have long been active in the political life of the province. Jews from Victoria sat in the provincial legislature. David Oppenheimer became the first mayor of Vancouver and shares the credit for creating Stanley Park. (Ironically his park got the name of Stanley, while Oppenheimer Park languishes in the heart of our infamous downtown east side.) Local boards have had their Jewish chairs and members, and active members of councils and municipal committees have labored to preserve our architectural legacy and serve the multicultural population of our cities.

But the history of Jews in political life is also about Jewish radicals, members of the United Jewish Peoples' Order, who, with a vision of social justice, attempted to remove the imbalances of the economic system and introduce a more just and equitable society. Their contributions will be part of the history.

The cultural life of the province also profits from the energy of Jewish arrivals. We have artists and supporters of museums, musical life and theatres. And while we have our share today of beautiful people in the local social columns, many of those are also philanthropists in both the Jewish and the general worlds.

Today's social historians don't just write about the Oppenheimers. They write about the lives of children and the struggles of families to make a living. They write about capitalists and communists, Jews on both sides of the barricades. They write about the lives of women on the frontiers and those in service organizations that sustained other newcomers until they could find their way. They write about women shopkeepers and women sweatshop workers.

All these are the stories we seek. From these threads we will weave our historical tapestry.

Summer camp's importance

About a week ago, my wife and I were invited to a dinner party at a friend's home. Usually, the conversation on these evenings is fairly predictable. We sit around drinking diet cola and talking about either the successes of our children or the failures of the Jewish community. When we tire of these subjects, we focus on our recent exploits in running or mountain biking or golf.

Bruce Elman in Edmonton

Each time we have these conversations, our times for 10k are faster, the single track we rode is more treacherous, or the numbers of birdies we sank increases. Sadly, this is social discourse of people in their late 40s and early 50s. This particular evening started out no differently.

We were talking about our children and which camps they were attending for the summer. This led us down memory lane. Everyone had stories of their own camping experiences in different parts of Canada, the United States and South Africa. I loved hearing these stories.

I delighted in the story about how the children from South Africa would go to camp on a special train – 1,000 Jewish youngsters each sent off by their mother with two chickens to tide them over until they reached the camp! The biggest headache for staff was figuring out the sleeping arrangements on the train.

It reminded me of my own camp experience. Children from Cape Breton used to go to Camp Kadimah by train. Sleeping arrangements were organized by the rebbitzen, Mrs. Kenner. In 1957 – my first year at camp – Mrs. Kenner had me share a berth with a kid from Glace Bay by the name of Sandy Siegel. During the night, Sandy pushed me out of the berth. Even with that rocky beginning, Sandy and I became the best of friends and remained so through university. I regret that lately we have not been in touch with one another.

The stories were humorous and touching, but, at their core, they spoke to the importance of summer camps in the Jewish Diaspora experience. It is not surprising that Jewish continuity is seen, in part, to be based upon summer camps.

So I was taken aback, when, a few days later, I read Jennifer Fox's column in the July 29 issue of *The Canadian Jewish News*. She writes: "I am fairly certain the summer of '99 will be the last time I work at day camp. The idea of being 22 and still at camp doesn't appeal to me." In the journalism business, it is probably bad form to comment on the opinions expressed by fellow columnists, but what came to mind was the old adage: "Youth is wasted on the young."

I think it is difficult to overstate the importance of summer camps in Jewish communal life. Summer camps teach the value of communal involvement and foster the development of community leadership. I am always astounded by the large number of community leaders and professionals who point to summer camps as an essential component in their Jewish development.

Summer camps encourage a concern for the welfare of klal Yisrael and cultivate a love for Eretz Yisrael. At summer camp, we learned about the plight of Russian Jewry and the miracle of the establishment of the State of Israel. The first time I read Arthur Hertzberg's *The Zionist Idea* was at summer camp.

Along with a strong Jewish home, good Jewish schooling, active Jewish youth groups, and exciting Israeli experiences, summer camps provide an important foundation for Jewish continuity in the Diaspora. They are, incidentally, great fun.

I consider myself to be a bit of an expert on summer camps. I was a camper at Camp Kadimah from 1957-63. From 1964 -65, I attended Camp Biluim. I was a counsellor staff at Kadimah from 1966-68. Thirty years ago, in 1969, we founded Camp Machar, the senior camp at Kadimah. I was the head of Machar from 1969-72, and in 1972 and 1973, I directed Camp Kadimah.

I am not ashamed to say that much of what I am today I can trace back to the influence of these camps.

Rather than succumb to Jennifer Fox's negative view on camping, I would adopt the view expressed by her fellow columnist, Erica Horn, that "you are never too old for camp."

Therefore, I am looking for a Jewish summer camp that wants a resident constitutional expert on its staff. Yes, it's true that a resident doctor is useful, but what you really need is an expert on constitutional matters. Interested camps should reply to *The Canadian Jewish News*. (By the way, my wife, Nancy, designs and makes silver jewelry and Judaica so she could probably help out in arts and crafts.)

P.S. Jennifer, in 1957 my counsellors were Alan Ross from Newfoundland and Harold Medjuck from Halifax.

The Kirshner File

Russia grapples with upsurge of anti-Semitism

A year ago this week, Aug. 17 to be precise, the Russian ruble collapsed, plunging Russia into a financial crisis from which it has yet to recover.

Sheldon Kirshner in Toronto

The collapse of the ruble, combined with the political instability and the loss of empire which accompanied the fall of communism in 1991, has brought with it an upsurge in open anti-Semitism.

On a recent trip to Moscow, U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright declared that anti-Semitism has become one of the leading issues Russia must grapple with as it gradually transforms itself into a free-market democracy.

There is a weary sense of déjà vu as anti-Semitic incidents scar the Russian landscape. Russia, after all, is no stranger to anti-Semitism. Under the czars, it flourished, with peaks and valleys of intensity. And during much of the Communist era, though officially outlawed, it was sanctioned by the government.

The dissolution of communism not only spelled finis to state anti-Semitism, which stunted two generations of Soviet Jews, but also touched off a process of revitalization in the Jewish community.

Emigration, mainly to Israel and the United States, diminished but did not sap the community's vitality. Jews who remained behind took to nascent capitalism like fish to water. The opportunities for success in Russia's gold-rush milieu seemed limitless. Here was an emerging society which, in part, placed a premium on talent, resourcefulness and hard work.

The bubble burst with the sinking of the ruble. Dark, violent tendencies which had been virtually kept in check, first by the heavy hand of communism and then by the rising tide of prosperity, reemerged abruptly.

In a replay of the past, Jews are widely being blamed for Russia's descent into insolvency. Since last August, several synagogues and Jewish community centres have been bombed and vandalized, Jews have been physically and verbally assaulted, and politicians on the national, regional and municipal levels have pandered to anti-Semitic prejudice.

Last month's stabbing of Leopold Kaimovsky, director of the Jewish Cultural Centre in Moscow's Choral Synagogue, is symptomatic of the virulent strain of anti-Semitism which has coursed through Russia's body politic of late.

Politicians have set the tone by denigrating Jews and holding them responsible for Russia's ruination. Once again, Jews are the convenient scapegoats.

The villains of the piece are members of the Communist-dominated parliament, the duma: Gennady Zyuganov, leader of the Communist party, and Albert Makashov, a former general.

In an open letter to his constituents in December 1998, Zyuganov dwelled on Zionism rather than Jews, a popular ploy in Communist times. Comparing Zionism to fascism, he described Zionism as an "aggressive, imperialist" ideology whose goal is "world supremacy."

Harking back to a theme adopted by the Black Hundreds in the late 19th century, Zyuganov ascribed Russia's "catastrophic situation" to the "destructive role of Zionist capital" and the "Zionization of governmental authorities." And in a menacing allusion, he spoke of the "non-national oligarchy" which controls Russia's economy.

Shorn of its code language, Zyuganov's diatribe was a classic example of unvarnished anti-Semitism. His unspoken targets were Russians of partly Jewish descent, as well as outright Jews: Yegor Gaidar and Sergei Kiriyenko, the former prime ministers; Anatoly Chubais, President Boris Yeltsin's ex-advisor; Boris Nemtsov, a provincial governor; Boris Berezovsky, a Jewish convert to Christianity and supposedly the wealthiest person in Russia; and Vladimir Goussinsky, a tycoon who heads the Russian Jewish Congress.

Last October, Makashov, who blames Russia's woes on Jews, went one step further than Zyuganov by calling for the expulsion of "all Yids" from Russia. His remarks caused an uproar in the duma, but a mild proposal to censure him was roundly defeated in November, as was a similar motion last April.

He remains unchastened. In an interview six months ago, he accused "Zionism and its representatives" of "destroying our government." Ominously enough, Makashov plans to run for the presidency in next year's general election.

One of his supporters, Viktor Ilyukhin, chair of the duma's defence committee, has charged Jewish members of Yeltsin's "inner circle" with committing genocide against Russians.

Zyuganov, surprisingly, criticized Makashov for his "intemperance," but added that Russians of Jewish origin are over-represented in government and finance. As he put it last January: "Too many people with strange-sounding family names mingle in the internal affairs of Russia" and are "undermining Russia's distinctive character."

Boris Yeltsin

Emboldened by the likes of Zyuganov and Makashov, lesser political figures have engaged in anti-Semitic rhetoric. In February, the governor of Krasnador, Nikolai Kondratenko, branded Zionism as a threat to the stability of his region. In late July, the Communist mayor of Stavropol, Mikhail Kuzmin, praised Alexsandr Barkashov, head of the Russian National Unity, an anti-Semitic militia whose recruits wear black military-style uniforms and greet each other with stiff-armed salutes.

It would be facile, however, to suggest that the far right and the extreme left have an exclusive monopoly on anti-Semitism. Commenting recently on the well-known rivalry between Berezovsky and Goussinky, Viktor Chernomyrdin, the former prime minister, reportedly said, "It comes out that two Jews have clashed, and now the whole country has to watch this farce."

Chernomyrdin's remark, which elicited applause from no less a rabble-rouser than Makashov, is significant for two reasons. It panders to the notion that Jews are contemptible. And, as Moscow's chief rabbi, Pinchas Goldschmidt, has noted, it has created the fear that the "Jewish card" may be played in the runup to December's parliamentary election.

Regardless of whether Jewish issues cloud the election campaign, the majority of Russians, about 75 percent according to a recent survey, believe that all citizens should enjoy equal rights, while 56 percent think that ethnicity should not be a factor in a person's appointment to a government position.

In line with these sentiments, Yeltsin, in early August, issued his first public condemnation of anti-Semitism, and pledged to find and punish anti-Jewish vandals.

Yeltsin made these promises to Prime Minister Ehud Barak against the backdrop of a number of encouraging developments. In the autumn of 1998, he ordered his ministers to draw up legislation to curb hate crimes. In January, the same month as prosecutors launched a criminal investigation of Makashov, the Russian cabinet approved a draft bill prohibiting statements which fuel ethnic strife.

In March, Prime Minister Yevgeny Primakov said that he supported legislation designed to clamp down on extremist groups. In May, his successor, Sergei Stepashin, who was dismissed last week, declared that he was committed to fighting anti-Semitism.

Strangely enough, the bill which Yeltsin's cabinet has been considering for months now, has yet to be passed. Russia already has hate crimes legislation on the books, but it is vague and has not been enforced.

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SUKKOTH	Fri. & Sat. Sat. & Sun.	Sept. 24, 25 - 6:45 p.m. Sept. 25, 26 - 9 a.m.
HOSHANA RABBAH	Friday	Oct. 1 - 9 a.m. and 6:45 p.m.
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Exploring heaven, hell

Books
Bernard Baskin

The Pope has startled and confused me (just think of the faithful) with his recent declaration that heaven and hell are not actual places but states of mind.

What does Judaism teach on the subject? There is no doctrine of heaven and hell in Judaism. The entire matter is relegated to the realm of Aggadah, the plaything of the imagination, where freedom of interpretation and elaboration are permitted and encouraged. It became part of the folklore of the people, appealing and fascinating, but never a dogmatic doctrine.

One can find almost every view expressed, from the most sublime to the ridiculous. Rabbinic and medieval literature records them all, no matter how contradictory they sometimes are.

In biblical times the Jewish afterworld was not divided into heaven and hell, but was all of one piece called *Sheol* (pit). There, under the earth, the dead, good and bad alike, lived forever in a sort of shadowland, a twilight state, in which there was neither pleasure nor pain.

Sheol, however, played little part in Jewish thought, because the ethical plan of biblical Judaism and its system of reward and punishment were all this-worldly. God's justice and God's mercy were not delayed to a future time, but were expressed in this life.

But such a faith could not long stand up against the facts of life. Our ancestors began to see that righteous people suffered and wicked people triumphed. Scholars and saints were burned at the stake, while the arrogant and the brutal lived off the fat of the land.

The old simple faith in a this-worldly repayment for both virtue and evil-doing had to be replaced with a longer view. If judgment did not obtain on earth, then injustice must be redressed in another world. A just God would not permit any less. And so gradually – before and during the time of the Maccabees – the belief in the future life began to take shape.

The Hebrew terms of heaven and hell, Gan Eden and Gehenna, refer to places on earth. Gan Eden is where God placed the first man and woman to taste of all the good that earth offered. Originally, then, Gan Eden was here. Later, the Jewish mind transferred its bliss to another world – to the heavens above.

And Gehenna, too, which later became the appellation for hell, is the name of a valley south of Jerusalem, Ge-Ben-Hinnom, the Valley of the Son of Hinnom, where, according to biblical accounts, the wicked indulged in acts of abomination, where they sacrificed their children to Moloch. It was the accursed valley here on earth, and, to the Jewish mind of later days, it became a fitting symbol for the abode of the wicked in the life beyond the grave.

For some Talmudic rabbis there was a higher and nobler conception of reward and punishment. The reward of a mitzvah or good deed is the deed itself, even as the punishment for an averah or sin is the consciousness of guilt itself. A person is to pursue the good for the sake of good.

"Be not like servants," is the classic advice of Antigonos of Socho, "who serve the master for the sake of receiving reward; but serve him without the condition of receiving a reward."

This explains why the idea of heaven and hell never took hold in the mind of the Jew to the same extent it achieved among others. Subconsciously the Jew felt that good must be done for the sake of good; that he must serve God through love and not through fear of hell or the reward of heaven.

And that is why, a great sage of the third century, Rabbi Simon ben Lakish, could boldly declare: En Gehenna L'atid Lavo, "in the future that is to be, there will be no Gehenna, no hell!" He taught: "God will take the sun out of its orbit, and in its light the righteous will be healed and the wicked judged!"

Although Jewish ideas of heaven and hell remain ambiguous and non-dogmatic, the belief in some form of immortality is basic to all forms of Judaism.

Advice from the dating experts

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

Today I conclude my look at Jewish dating and the Internet with advice from the *real* experts – the daters themselves.

Setting out on a date requires a great deal of fortitude, something that Martin Bodek has analyzed in fine detail **[http://members.aol.com/thebodie/#narc]**. From The Call, to The Breath Test, to The Conversation, Bodek has been there and offers his experience.

Here's Bodek on The Time Check: Checking your watch is sometimes necessary but always subliminally insulting to your date. There are several methods you can employ to ensure she won't notice. The first method is to wear a digital watch since the swiftest glance will give you the exact time. The second trick is to point behind her, and yelp, "Look! Tom Cruise!" and sneak a peek while she searches in vain. Method number three is to glance at *her* watch while her eyes are on her food.

Not only is Rachel Furman looking for a special person, she has also put together a great site for other people doing the same thing **[http://www2.acd-pc.com/~rsusselj/frameset1.html]**. There is a nice list of Jewish shidduch sites, chats, forums and message boards. Furman has also written a detailed essay on how to create A Letter of Interest.

She says she receives many e-mails from men who have seen her Web site and want to know more about her but tell nothing about themselves. Bad move. She says you must share something about yourself, your hobbies, your priorities and make sure to let your personality shine through.

You really have to admire the dedication of Yaron Engelstein, the guy who put together the Dating Assistance for the Jewish Male page **[http://www.google.com/search?q=cache:391385&dq=cache:www.angelfire.com/ny2/yaron2/]**.

Engelstein has culled links from all over the Internet to tell men how to put their best foot forward on the night of the date. There's the Male Guide to Selecting an Outfit. (This should help take the strain out of guessing. Now she won't ask, "What was he thinking?") You'll also find the Virtual Exercise. (It's 30 minutes till date time and you just realized that you haven't worked out in months...Not to fret, there's still hope. Visit this site for the five-minute biceps you always wanted!).

And if your date is taking place in New York, Engelstein has provided links to practically every attraction, museum and comedy club in the Big Apple.

Looking for love can be wonderful – and painful. Especially if you've been hooked up with the wrong matchmaker along the way. Michael Jacobs has been there and has founded The Official Shidduch Survivors' Club **[http://www.geocities.com/Paris/Louvre/3376/index.htm]**. He includes tips about how to find the right shadchan. "Good Sign: Keeps notes on a printed form. Bad Sign: Scribbles on the back of cigarette packets."

And to let you know that you are not alone in your quest, there is a selection of Shidduch Horror Stories – like what to do when you realize that your blind date is someone you've *already* dated.

By the way, perseverance has paid off for Jacobs. This year, "after literally years of searching" he met Tamara Shira Hershfield. After a whirlwind five-week courtship, the Jacobs were engaged. They are now married and living in the Jerusalem suburb of Kiryat Moshe **[http://www.geocities.com/Paris/Louvre/3376/engagement.htm]**.

Mazel tov!

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a Toronto-based television producer who writes, lectures and teaches about the Jewish Internet. He can be contacted at [highway@home.com].

LEGAL NOTICE BY ORDER OF THE COURT

To victims of Nazi persecution and their heirs who may have claims against Swiss Banks or other Swiss entities relating to the Holocaust:

Swiss banks agreed to pay $1.25 billion U.S. dollars to settle legal claims relating to the World War II era conduct of Swiss banks, Swiss businesses, and the Swiss government ("Swiss Entities").

The United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York (the "Court") will hold a hearing on November 29, 1999, to decide whether the Settlement should be given final approval.

Note that you may be included even if you did not have a Swiss bank account, and that this Settlement is different from the Swiss Humanitarian Fund.

Who Is Affected by the Settlement

You are affected by the Settlement if you fit into one of the following five Settlement Classes. Four Classes consist of "Victims or Targets of Nazi Persecution" (any individual, business or group persecuted or targeted for persecution by the Nazi Regime or its agents, because they were or were believed to be **Jewish, Romani, Jehovah's Witness, homosexual, or physically or mentally disabled or handicapped**), AND who:

1. Had assets on deposit with any Swiss bank, investment fund, or other custodian, prior to May 9, 1945, OR
2. May have claims against Swiss Entities relating to assets looted or taken by the Nazi Regime*, OR
3. Performed slave labor for entities that may have deposited the revenues or proceeds of that labor with or transacted that profit through Swiss Entities, OR
4. Unsuccessfully sought entry into Switzerland to avoid Nazi persecution, or after gaining entry, were mistreated, and may have related claims against any Swiss Entity.

The fifth Settlement Class includes any individual, whether or not a Victim or Target of Nazi Persecution, who performed slave labor in a work site, wherever located, owned or controlled by a Swiss Entity.

All Settlement Classes include heirs and successors of the persons and entities described above.

Even if you're not sure whether you are a member of one of the Settlement Classes, you should request a Mailed Notice and Initial Questionnaire. For example, if you performed slave labor, you may not know whether revenue or proceeds of that labor were deposited with Swiss Entities; you may still be a Settlement Class member.

How and When Claims will be Paid

No claims process or Plan of Allocation has yet been established. The Mailed Notice explains how you can make suggestions.

To receive further notice of a claims process, and ensure that you are able to file a claim, you must either mail a request for such notice to the address below, or complete and return the Initial Questionnaire attached to the Mailed Notice.

If the Court gives final approval of the Settlement, a Plan of Allocation will be adopted and the Fund will be disbursed. **Not all Settlement Class members who apply will be eligible to receive payments.**

If You Do Not Want to Participate

If you do not wish to participate in or be bound by the Settlement, you must exclude yourself by writing a letter so indicating, to the address given in the Mailed Notice, by October 22, 1999. If you do not, you will be barred from prosecuting any legal action against Swiss Entities relating to the settled disputes. If you exclude yourself, you will NOT be able to claim a portion of the Fund.

How to Comment or Object

You may comment on the terms of the Settlement by October 22, 1999. The Mailed Notice describes how to submit comments or objections. You have the right to appear at the November 29, 1999 hearing in person or through counsel, although you do not have to.

Who Represents You

The Court appointed attorneys as Settlement Class Counsel, and appointed Settlement Class Representatives, including Holocaust survivors, the World Jewish Restitution Organization ("WJRO"), and the World Council of Orthodox Jewish Communities. You do not have to personally pay the Court appointed attorneys. Certain attorneys will apply to the Court for reimbursement of their costs, up to about .2% of the Fund. Certain Plaintiffs' attorneys will also apply for fees, up to at most 1.8% of the Fund. The Court may award a lower amount. Most attorneys will not apply for fees, and counsel for the WJRO will not apply for fees or costs.

Getting More Information

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The Settlement of this case (In re Holocaust Victim Assets Litigation, Master File No. CV-96-4849) concludes all legal actions and disputes against Swiss Entities relating to the Holocaust, World War II, Victims or Targets of Nazi Persecution, the Nazi Regime, treatment of refugees, or any related thing. The term "Swiss Entities" (or "Releasees") includes Credit Suisse and UBS AG (successor to Union Bank of Switzerland and Swiss Bank Corporation), and their former and current corporate parents, subsidiaries, affiliates, and branches; the Swiss National Bank; other Swiss Banks; the Swiss Bankers Association; the Swiss Confederation (including the Swiss government); all business concerns headquartered, organized or incorporated in Switzerland as of October 3, 1996; and certain other affiliates of Swiss concerns described in the Mailed Notice. Certain claims against various Swiss insurance companies listed in the Mailed Notice are not included in this Settlement.

* The second Settlement Class also includes claims against Swiss Entities relating to "Cloaked Assets," which are assets disguised by a Swiss Entity for the benefit of an Axis company or person associated with the Nazi Regime, between 1933 and 1946.

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Canadian Jews urged to mark millennium in Israel

By NICOLE SALAMA
Student Intern

TORONTO — With the millennium fast approaching, many people may be considering a special travel destination for a memorable vacation to mark the new era.

Instead of a cruise, or the yearly pilgrimage to Florida, tourism consul Arie Shevy-Shibi, the director for the Canada Israel Government Tourist Office, is encouraging Canadian Jews to visit Israel, the "official destination of the millennium," he says.

According to Shevy-Shibi, most of the tourists who come to Israel are not Jewish. He notes that 65 percent of all visitors are Christian and it is estimated that during the millennium the number will rise to 90 percent .

This troubles him. He says the percentage of Jewish visitors to Israel should be higher – he would like to see at least 10 percent of the 350,000 Jews living in Canada visit Israel annually.

He says the Israeli government tourist office appointed 17 honorary Canadian tourism ambassadors to encourage Jewish Canadians to visit Israel; these ambassadors help promote Israel and ease safety concerns that might be keeping Canadian Jews away.

He says he wants to "open people's eyes" to the fact that there is "no danger, [and Israel is] as safe as any other country."

Shevy-Shibi notes that there is "formal co-operation between Israel, the Palestinian Authority, Jordan and Egypt to promote the region as a whole."

Expressing optimism about the impact of the new Israeli government on tourism, Shevy-Shibi says there is now a "more genuine and sincere co-operation and understanding between Israel's government and the Palestinian Authority...The peace process and tourism go hand in hand."

Shevy-Shibi stresses that not only does Israel offer historical vacations, but visitors can also participate in adventure tours or just relax on the beach. In addition, he says, Israel is planning numerous special events, ranging from museum exhibits to music and dance festivals, from now until the end of the year 2000.

According to Shevy-Shibi, tourism, one of Israel's fastest growing industries, is second only to technology.

He says the 2.3 million tourists who visit Israel annually generate $3 billion (US), and this revenue should increase by 30 percent in the year 2000 as three to four million people are expected to visit Israel.

In response to concerns about cost, Shevy-Shibi says "prices have been steadily dropping" and that travel agents will have "affordable tour packages and bargains of the millennium."

He says that all those people who visit Israel during 2000 "will be a part of a world-wide movement that will bring millions to [Israel] to celebrate this grand new era. They will enjoy a combination of beauty, friendship and spirit like in no other place in the world."

Parents as teachers

By RABBI JAY KELMAN

Guest Voices

It is a time honored Jewish tradition to study mishnayot in honor of a departed member of our community. The traditional reason given for this custom is the fact that the Hebrew letters of the words Mishnah and neshamah (soul), are interchangeable. This custom, though, is not just based on word games, but reflects a deep insight into the proper role of parents and teachers.

The written Torah that was given on Sinai is in reality quite a small book, and even though authored by God Himself, does not and cannot deal with all of life's eventualities. The Torah was therefore accompanied by a much broader oral law, a law that is entrusted to the sages of each generation to apply to life's evolving circumstances.

This oral law was not allowed to be written down and was to be passed orally from generation to generation, from teacher to student. But morals, ethics and even Halachah (law) cannot be mastered from book knowledge alone. Torah can only be effectively taught by a living example. Actions really do speak louder than words. It is the student-teacher bond that gives Torah its vibrancy and relevance to our daily existence.

The writing down of the oral law into the Mishnah in the third century of the common era occurred due to the tragic historical circumstances of exile and dispersion. There was a real fear that if not put in writing, the bulk of Jewish law would be forgotten. But in submitting the oral law to writing, the living words of Torah would now be confined to words on a page.

It is our parents who are our primary teachers. It is no coincidence that the Hebrew words for teachers and parents, *morim* and *horim*, come from the same grammatical root, a root which means to point, as teachers and parents point us in the proper direction of life. It is they who are entrusted with the holy task of teaching their children how to live their lives as God-fearing Jews.

And of course, parents teach by being a living Torah. Children will rarely listen to what parents say unless their words are followed up by action. The child-parent bond is what ensures that Torah will be passed down to the next generation. When a parent passes away, that living legacy is lost.

Nevertheless, just as the study and development of Torah continued after the compilation of the Mishnah, we must continue to develop the legacy of our parents even when the oral transmission is lost.

Acceptance of the yoke of heaven means striving to bring peace to this world both on a personal and on a communal level. "And you shall love thy neighbor as yourself" is, as Rabbi Akiva has taught us, the most fundamental axiom of the Torah.

The laws of the Mishnah teach us how to bring heaven unto earth, to bring peace to this world. We lost our Temple and hence some of the presence of God, due to *sinat chinam*, bickering amongst us. There can be no acceptance of the yoke of heaven without peace. The Mishnah begins by recording the earliest time to say the Shema but if it does not end with peace, then our acceptance of the yoke of heaven is deficient.

One can only attain ultimate peace in the world to come. This world is, in the words of our sages, an *alam sheker*, a false world where nice people often do finish last, where cutting corners often pays, where material possessions are often valued more than mitzvot.

Our soul yearns for spirituality while our body yearns for physical pleasure. This inner turmoil can only be fully resolved when our soul returns to our maker.

Yet, one who truly accepts the yoke of heaven is one who is at peace with himself and knows that when the time comes to move unto the next world he will receive just reward. Let us ensure that we say the Shema properly so that we can attain the blessings of peace.

Jay Kelman is associated rabbi at Beth Jacob Anshe Drildz Congregation in Toronto. The above is a partial synopsis of a talk he gave in honor of the shloshim for his mother, Ruth Kelman.

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For more information on how you can be part of completing the Apotex Centre, Jewish Home for the Aged, and the Centre for Neurovascular Disorders, call Shirley Worth in the Baycrest Centre Foundation at (416) 785-2500, Ext. 2013.

Baycrest Centre
for Geriatric Care

Photos by Orah Buck, from the permanent installation; "Time in Faces".

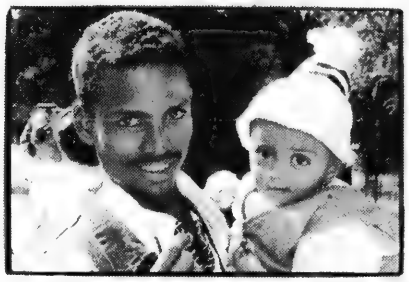
jewish toronto

Rescue Resumes in the Fall

by Adi Neuberger

Torrential rains have temporarily suspended the Jewish Agency's efforts to rescue the few hundred Jews remaining in the remote Ethiopian town of Quara. The dramatic rescue operation, which brought 1,400 Quara Jews to Israel over the past few months, will continue in early fall when heavy seasonal rains, preventing passage from Quara to Jewish Agency processing camps in Gondar, end.

"There is no way for these people to make the three week journey by foot to Gondar," explains Shlomo Molla, a Jewish Agency worker who, 15 years after immigrating to Israel, has returned to his birthplace to rescue his fellow Jews. "The rain makes it impossible."



Many of the Quara Jews recently arrived in Israel with nothing but their children and hope for the future.

Quara Jews line up at the Gondar refugee camp to be processed for aliyah to Israel.

In the meantime, Molla will continue to oversee the massive absorption of newly-arrived Quara Jews who are slowly adapting to life in their new country. "It's not easy for them," says Molla, who travels daily between ten Jewish Agency run absorption centres across the country. "Many have never even seen electricity or running water."

"Even though the actual rescue is beginning to wind down, this is only the beginning," says Mike Rosenberg, Director of Immigration and Absorption for the Jewish Agency. "We are trying to prepare close to 700 children who have never seen the inside of a classroom, to begin school in September."

Efforts to complete the final stage of the Quara rescue are expected to resume in late September.

Back to School for Epi

Dr. Seymour Epstein learned many important lessons about Jewish education during his 18 year hiatus from Toronto. Now, as the new Executive Director of UJA Federation's Board of Jewish Education (BJE), he's looking forward to sharing them with his hometown community.

"I'm glad to have the opportunity to come back to work in a community that takes Jewish education so seriously," says Epstein, known to colleagues as "Epi."

His career, both in formal and informal Jewish education, includes a doctorate from the University of Toronto, teaching at Montreal's McGill University and Camp Ramah and finally as education consultant for the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee - a UJA Federation partner organization responsible for assisting the Jewish poor and revitalizing Jewish life in communities around the world.

Since 1981, Epi has worked on behalf of the JDC in Jewish communities from Morocco to Siberia, where he served as Director of Jewish Education and was responsible for community development. "Issues of Jewish identity are different yet similar no matter where you go," says Epi. "The common thread from the perspective of education is to offer students as much exposure to these issues as possible."

High on Epi's priority list are teacher training and promoting BJE as the community's central resource for Jewish education. In a letter of introduction he recently sent to hundreds of educators, Epi encouraged teachers to visit the BJE's pedagogic library, teacher centre and media centre.

Seymour Epstein

"The BJE should ultimately provide each and every school with the materials and expertise they need to do the best job in educating our children."

Around jewish toronto

bbq blow-out

UJA Federation Young Professionals Network presents **BBQ Blow-Out, Thursday, August 26, 7:00 pm, Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst Street** – beside the Lipa Green Building. Tickets for the rain or shine event, which will include Beach Volleyball and In-line skating, are $8 in advance **(call (416) 635-2883 ext. 107)** or $10 at the "outdoor."

campaign 2000

Wolf Blitzer

Help celebrate the launch of **UJA Federation Campaign 2000, Monday, August 30, 8:00pm, Sheraton Centre Toronto, 123 Queen Street West, Grand Ballroom.** The community launch will feature **Wolf Blitzer,** CNN White House Correspondent and Israeli Singing Sensation **Marina Faingold.** Tickets in advance – $18 per person – can be ordered by calling **(416) 631-5700.**

ashkenaz

Don't miss the 3rd Biennial **Ashkenaz Festival of Yiddish Culture** – co-sponsored by **UJA Federation, August 30 – September 6, Harbourfront Centre.** For information call **(416) 703-5489.**

Budget Boosts Services

jewish toronto

The new UJA Federation budget is providing nearly $3 million more than last year for programs and services to assist the vulnerable, fortify Jewish identity and rescue Jews in danger. The increase results from the record-breaking 1999 annual campaign which raised $40.5 million.

"For the first time in many years, we are able to increase funding to our beneficiary agencies, which are struggling to keep up with growing demands and government cutbacks," says David Engel, who is co-chairing the upcoming Campaign 2000 with Mel Wolfond.

Of the new fund $550,000 is going to Jewish Family and Child Service for financial assistance to the Jewish poor, programs for abused women and children witnessing violence, volunteer visits to hospitals, nursing homes and other institutions, and subsidies that allow disadvantaged children to attend summer camp. New dollars are also supporting life-saving hunger relief for poor elderly Jews in the former Soviet Union and Orr Shalom group homes in Israel for neglected and abused youngsters who cannot live at home.

More than 150 UJA Federation funded chaplaincy volunteers visit hundreds of community members in hospitals, nursing homes, prisons and other institutions each year.

Photo: Yuri Dojc

The budget also includes financial assistance to Jews for Judaism – Canada's largest counter-missionary organization, Toronto's Ashkenaz Festival of Yiddish and Jewish culture, which is expected to attract close to 100,000 people this year and funds to expand family education programs.

"UJA Federation's support signifies the importance of our work to the community," notes Jews for Judaism director Julius Ciss.

Allocations to the Jewish Agency will help to finance, among other initiatives, aliyah for 2,000 Quara Jews from famine-stricken Ethiopia and the growing number of Jews seeking to flee Russia amidst rising anti-Semitism.

"These new funds have helped to revitalize many of the programs, services and agencies that we support around the world," says UJA Federation President Alan Sandler.

In addition to seminars and public speaking engagements, Jews for Judaism Executive Director, Julius Ciss, confronts Jews for Jesus missionaries on a regular basis.

Through increased funding from UJA Federation Ashkenaz is able to include international theatre groups such as San Francisco's A Traveling Jewish Theatre in its festivals.

From left to right: Corey Fischer, Naomi Newman, Albert Greenberg. Photo: Luis Delgado

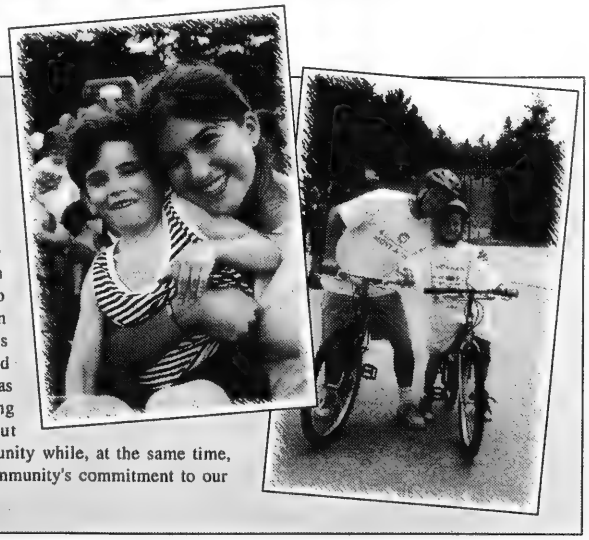
Zareinu Grows

Toronto's only Jewish day school for children who are physically and developmentally challenged has a brand new lease on life thanks to new facilities and new funding from UJA Federation.

Zareinu, which serves 55 students with a wide range of special needs, has exchanged its previous cramped quarters for a much larger and more attractive location in the city's north end.

While the one of a kind school, created over 10 years ago, is accustomed to doing a lot with a little, Danny Gordon, Chair of the school's Board of Directors, welcomes the much-needed financial support. "It's very expensive to run this type of school," explains Gordon, who has experienced all of Zareinu's growing pains from its inception. "We strive to offer our students and their families the best in education and support – and that costs money."

Although Gordon says it wasn't until Zareinu partnered with UJA Federation that the school began to make significant progress in fundraising, he maintains the relationship goes beyond dollars. "UJA Federation has been invaluable in helping us raise awareness about Zareinu within the community while, at the same time, being a symbol of the community's commitment to our cause," adds Gordon.



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A MOMENT TO REFLECT

Canadian Jewish War Veterans of The Royal Canadian Legion General Wingate Branch 256 honor the late Lt. Joseph Yehudi Levinson of Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry. Lt. Levinson was killed in action in Korea on May 26, 1951 when his jeep was destroyed by a land mine. The memorial service was held at the Korean Veterans National Wall of Remembrance in Brampton, Ont. [Al Rubin photos]

MINYANIM IN THE GTA
WEEK OF AUG. 20-26/'99

Synagogue	Address & Tel.	Fri. Night	Shabbat	Sun. A.M.	Daily A.M.	Daily P.M.
Adath Israel (C)	37 Southbourne Ave. (416) 635-5340	7:00 PM	9:00 AM	8:00 & 9:00 AM	7:00 & 7:45 AM	8:20 PM
Adath Sholom (C)	864 Sheppard Ave. W. (416) 635-0131	7:00 PM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	8:00 AM	----------
Agudath Israel of Toronto (O)	129 McGillivray Ave. (416) 789-5514	7:00 PM	8:45 AM	7:00, 7:30 8:00, 8:30	Mon. Thurs. 6:25, 6:50, 7:15 Tues. Wed. Fri. 6:30, 6:55	7:55 PM
Baycrest Centre (O)	3560 Bathurst St. (416) 789-5131	4:30 PM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	----------
Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am (C)	55 Yeomans Rd. (416) 633-5500	7:00 PM	9:00 AM	8:30 AM	7:00 & 8:00 AM	6:00 PM
Beth Lida (O)	22 Gilgorm Rd. (416)489-2550	7:00 PM	9:00 AM	----------	----------	----------
Chevra Shas (O)	3545 Bathurst St. (416) 781-7126	7:00 PM	9:15 AM	7:00 & 8:00 AM	6:30 & 7:30 AM	7:55 PM
Minyan Avreichim (The Boat Shul) (O)	2919 Bathurst St. (416) 789-4731	7:00 PM	8:30 AM	7:30, 8:00, 8:30 & 9:00	7:00, 7:30, 8:00 8:30 & 9:00 AM	7:55 PM
Temple Emanu-El (R)	120 Old Colony Rd. (416) 449-3880	7:30 PM	10:30 AM	8:30 AM	7:30 AM	----------
Temple Kol Ami (R)	36 Atkinson Ave. (905) 709-2620	7:30 PM	10:30 AM	----------	----------	----------

This is not a comprehensive listing of the synagogues in the Greater Toronto area. The information is provided by the Vaad Harabonim of Toronto and the Toronto Board of Rabbis. The Vaad and the Board will periodically revise the listings. For statutory holidays, please call the Synagogue for any changes in times.

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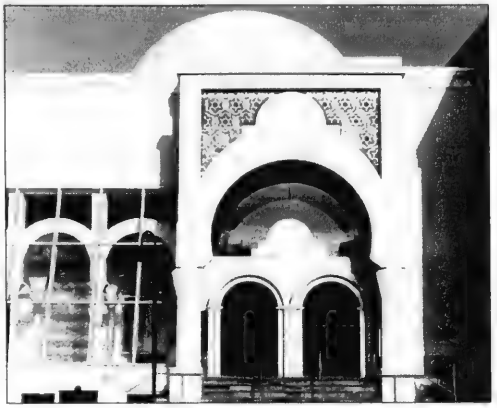

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Beth Tikvah gets new associate rabbi

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — At rabbinical school, Rabbi Eli Garfinkel won two sermonizing awards. A onetime championship high school debater, the new associate rabbi at Beth Tikvah Synagogue says that, although he ran cross-country for exercise, debating was his sport.

Now 28, Rabbi Garfinkel was ordained this year from the Jewish Theological Seminary and joined Beth Tikvah at the beginning of July. The position is a first for both Rabbi Garfinkel and the Conservative congregation, which has never had an associate rabbi before.

His mandate is to work with young people and young families.

The rabbi spent five years working at Camp Ramah Wisconsin, first as a Judaica teacher and then as assistant head of education.

He would like to recreate the "Ramah davening experience" at Beth Tikvah, he said in a recent interview. "My goal is to bring the next generation in. I think we have one of the younger populations in Toronto, and I want to keep it that way."

Rabbi Eli Garfinkel

Thus far, he has found Beth Tikvah to be "a very warm and welcoming congregation, a place that has very few pretensions."

The rabbi was born in Stillwater, Okla., and moved at age two to West Lafayette, Ind., where his father, Alan, teaches in the foreign language and education departments of Purdue University and his mother, Sonya, is a social worker in the local corrections system.

A college town located about an hour from Indianapolis, West Lafayette has two synagogues (one Orthodox and one Reform) serving a Jewish population of 1,000. "Because it's a university town, we have a lot of knowledgeable people," Rabbi Garfinkel said.

He grew up in Young Judaea (YJ), attending YJ summer camp in Michigan, and he learned to daven at weekly Hebrew school classes in West Lafayette. Based on his Jewish background, he was "quickly catapulted into positions of leadership" at Hillel during his undergraduate years at Indiana University, where he received a bachelor's degree in Slavic languages and literatures.

A trip to Russia in his third year of university inspired him to study for the rabbinate. "I became very well acquainted with the Jewish community there, and I realized that the fate of the Jewish people mattered more to me than whatever other career goals I had cooking."

Recently, after three years of work, Rabbi Garfinkel completed a a 403-page "summer Chumash," Mikraot Ramah, now being used at several Ramah camps. On quick examination, it appears attractive and user-friendly, with plain-language commentary on the 14 seasonal parshiot, and evidence of the rabbi's sense of humor in some of the titles and subtitles.

Rabbi Garfinkel honed his writing skills during university as a columnist for the *Indiana Daily Student*. Sometimes he angered readers, he said, by his continuous defence of Israel in his columns.

He wasn't always so impassioned about Jewish issues. Like many young people, he "took a break from Judaism for a while." Those years coincided – propitiously, as it turned out – with his involvement in competitive debating.

"I think debating helps you academically," he said. "It helps you with Talmud. It helps you to be able to think logically, to write papers. I think it was good preparation for rabbinical school.

"I think, when I came back to Judaism, the fact that I'd been spending those years honing my mind with debating skills meant I could jump back in."

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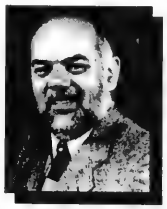


Petah Tikva to honor Morocco's late King Hassan II

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Petah Tikva Anshe Castilla Congregation will honor the late King Hassan II of Morocco next week.

The Aug. 25 event, which is open to the entire Jewish community, will include brief speeches, a 45-minute film on the king's life (provided by the Moroccan consulate), and refreshments.

The program will be conducted in English, and is scheduled to begin at 8 p.m. at the synagogue.

Speakers include Abdelkader Lecheeb, ambassador of the Kingdom of Morocco.

"The king of Morocco always considered his Jewish subjects as very special subjects and always protected them," Carlos Laredo, president of the congregation, told *The CJN*.

Laredo, who spent the first 20 years of his life in Tangiers, remembers his parents telling him that Hassan II's father, Mohammed V, stood up to the Nazis, declaring, "We don't have Jews here. We have Moroccan subjects."

He also noted the efforts of Hassan II – who died last month after ruling for 38 years – in "promoting tolerance and peace between Arabs and Jews in the Middle East."

During the Inquisition, Morocco opened its doors to the Jews, Laredo said. "We have to thank Morocco and the kings of Morocco for protecting the Jews. This is a big thing. We always have to be thankful for that."

On Campus

Excavating and getting credit for it

By SHOSHANA BRICKMAN
Special to The CJN

Although it's barely 5 a.m., we are fully prepared for our day. Like many other summer visitors to Israel, we are outfitted with cameras and water, sunscreen and wide-brimmed hats. Unlike most, however, we are wearing hiking boots and work gloves; we are carrying trowels, buckets, brushes and dustpans.

This summer, we are not only exploring, we are also excavating. Along with 20 other North American students and volunteers who are working side by side with a group of Israeli students, we are earning credits at York University while digging at Tell es-Safi, the biblical Gath of the Philistines, one of the richest archaeological sites in Israel.

Joint York University Bar Ilan project

With Dr. Carl Ehrlich of York University as our guide, we have flown across the world to participate in this summer field school, a dig conducted by the York University Centre for Jewish Studies and the Martin Szusz Centre for Land of Israel Studies at Bar-Ilan University.

The 13-hour flight is more tedious than the usual subway ride to school, but the thrill of conducting class atop Tell es-Safi is well worth it.

Located about halfway between Jerusalem and Tel Aviv, we are bordered on the east by the Judean foothills and on the west by the coastal plain. Each day, we are greeted with a view that includes forests, fields, herds of cows and carob trees.

In addition to studying archaeology through readings and lectures, we are seeing, digging and learning firsthand the history of the Land of Israel.

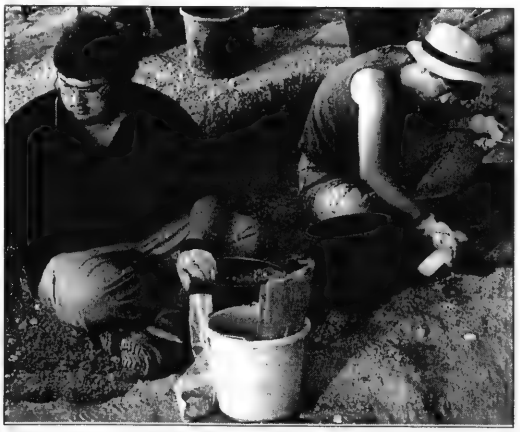
We have made many spectacular finds. Recently, we uncovered a beautiful figurine dating back to the Late Bronze Age (1550-1200 BCE). The day before that, we found a rhyton (a drinking mug in the shape of a lions head), an unbroken oil juglet, and a perfectly preserved bowl. We've uncovered several complete vessels, as well as ancient olive pits, seeds, toys, beads, jewelry and sea shells.

What were these items used for? How did they come to be left behind in a massive destruction layer? Was there a battle? A fire? Invaders? Although our methodology is scientific, our minds are free to wander; and while we dig through the layers of ancient cities, we all muse about what might have gone on here thousands and thousands of years ago.

While most of us were novices when we arrived, we are now digging, brushing, sweeping, sketching, washing and marking with skill. We have learned how to clean, sort, mark, record and interpret.

With field trips and lectures, weekend outings and the occasional afternoon by the pool (although we work hard, we are not averse to lying around our kibbutz pool after a day of dust and digging), the time has flown by. We might not have time to explore what lies underneath that mud brick wall we just started to expose. What about what lies below this level of shattered pots and jugs?

The stories of Tell es-Safi have been safely stored for almost 7,000 years. Surely, they will remain patiently buried after this seasons dig is finished. But can we wait as patiently? Though we will be back at York this September, many of us are tempted to return next season for the chance to confirm our suspicions about what those Philistines were really up to all those many years ago.



Michael Isaacs and Robin Sadavoy assiduously excavating

Hannah Orriell stretches to her full limit to reach into one of the underground caverns.

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Coast to Coast

'Heightened state of alertness' after L.A. attack

Continued from page 1

directives the morning after the L.A. attack, instructing patrols to step up surveillance of all Jewish communal institutions.

Manuel Prutschi, national director of community relations for Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC), said such police directives are routine following a violent racial incident or terrorist attack anywhere in the world.

In the short term, at least, CJC responded to the L.A. shootings by issuing an alert to all its regions, intended to heighten awareness of security at community facilities. The alert advised cities and towns to contact their local police forces and review precautions.

But officials are careful to strike a balance between enhanced security and not creating too much alarm.

"We don't want to turn our community offices into armed camps," CJC president Moshe Ronen told Canadian Press, but, he added the next day, institutions "have been made security-conscious."

This time of year, Congress updates its security manual in advance of the High Holy Days and conducts meetings with police forces across the country.

Ronen called the state of affairs "a heightened alertness. We're asking people to look out for suspicious vehicles and persons." Police "have been extremely co-operative."

Security at some community institutions, especially those with ties to Israel, has traditionally been tight, with cameras, buzzers and guards.

For the last several years, visitors to Toronto's Lipa Green Building, which houses the city's major communal organizations, including CJC, have had to identify themselves to a security guard posted outside.

CJC calls for calm

But no such arrangement exists at the Bathurst Jewish Centre (BJC), which runs a summer camp for about 400 children among its many programs.

However, an off-duty, uniformed police officer appeared outside the BJC the day after the L.A. incident, and will remain there for the time being.

The BJC received "a few" calls from anxious parents following the attack, but it's been business as usual at the camp, said the centre's executive director Deborah Pinsky.

She said the BJC "is doing what everyone else is," namely, talking to the police, reviewing security measures and making staff aware.

In Montreal, the community advised stepped-up vigilance and ensured that police have agreed to increased patrols of Jewish institutions, said Rabbi Reuben Poupko, who chairs the community's security co-ordinating committee.

A conference call took place last week in Montreal among communal leaders, and another was scheduled for this week, Rabbi Poupko said.

Some institutions are considering upgrading their security arrangements in the wake of the L.A. incident, he added.

"No one wants to send out a false message, but we don't want to be cavalier about it either."

CJC is "calling for calm to avoid overreaction," said national director Jack Silverstone. "If any good comes out of [the L.A. attack], it's that people will be less complacent about security. Unfortunately, our community remains at risk."

Congress "has a long-standing security protocol, and we can only urge others to do the same." Silverstone advises Jewish institutions to "anticipate dealing with issues in a normal fashion, but at a higher level of interest."

Visitors to Calgary's Jewish community centre have had to identify themselves before entering, ever since a letter-bomb exploded there three years ago, said spokesperson Riki Heilik.

As well, security cameras and monitors are in place, "and we have been in touch with law enforcement," Heilik said.

In Winnipeg, it's "business as usual," assured Evelyn Hecht of the local Jewish Community Council.

"There's a concern about copycats, but we're not in a state of emergency. [But] there has been a sharpening of our antennae. It's a good thing anyway this time of year."

Police in Vancouver have agreed to step up patrols of Jewish buildings, both inside and out, said Drew Staffenberg, executive director of the Jewish Federation of Greater Vancouver.

As far as the Wiesenthal Centre's Littman is concerned, a lot of blame for the rise in violent hate activity can be laid at the feet of the Internet and its proliferation of hate sites.

"The messages that are delivered in the United States are being delivered in Canada as well," Littman said. "The Internet knows no boundaries."

He said the unprecedented increase in Web sites has included a rise in those advocating hatred of Jews.

"Five years ago I don't think there were 50 sites internationally that we thought were significant in relation to hate. Today we've now monitored some 2,000.

"If you have 2,000 sites that are pushing out hate material daily, you've got to figure that somebody is going to take it seriously, somebody is going to act on it."

The Internet's effect "is to legitimize these [hate] groups. Before, they were marginalized. The Web gives them legitimacy."

He said the Aryan Nations, the neo-Nazi group to which the alleged gunman in the L.A. shootings belonged, has a Canadian "branch" operation in Alberta, "but it has risen and fallen over the years."

Two days after the Los Angeles attack, the Union of American Hebrew Congregations (UAHC), the central body of Reform Judaism in North America, issued two pages of security recommendations to its 900 member synagogues.

These include considering additional security, reviewing existing procedures, training staff, checking parking lots and monitoring mail.

However, "incidents of random, senseless violence are exactly that: random and senseless. No metal barricade, bulletproof glass or armed security guard is strong enough to prevent them," the statement says.

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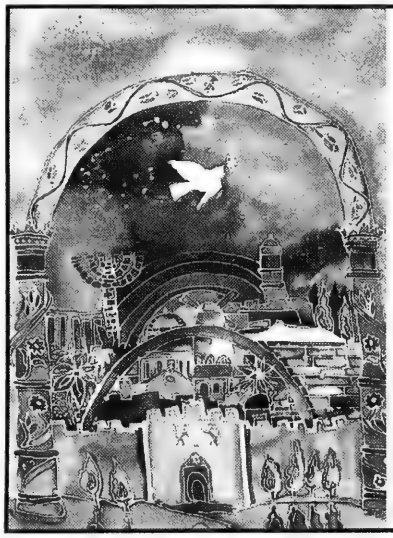

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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News Flash
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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Monday, Aug. 23, is deadline for Sept. 2 issue and Monday, Aug. 30, is deadline for Sept. 9. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Sunday, Aug. 22

JUDY AND DAVID CONCERT

Bring the kids! Join June Award winners **Judy** and **David** for an exciting show, sing and dance to great songs, 11:30 a.m., Leah Posluns Theatre. Concert is in support of Reena Foundation and Bathurst Jewish Centre. $10. 905-763-8254, ext. 3034.

NIGHT CRUISE

Join 450 young professionals and the Israel Cancer Research Fund (ICRF) for a Midsummer's Night Cruise around Toronto harbor. DJ, dancing, dessert reception. $45 (partial tax receipt). Advance tickets a must! ICRF 487-5246.

MUSICAL EVENING

Shaarei Shomayim Entertainment and Cultural Connection and Shaarei Shomayim Brotherhood musical evening with the Shpeelers, 8 p.m. $10. Coffee, cake and conversation. Proceeds to Jews for Judaism. **Sandra** and **Jerry Genesove** co-ordinators.

JEWISH SINGLES

A fun social evening for Jewish single men and women, Group A ages 21-39, Group B ages 40-69. Bridge, Trivial Pursuit, Chutzpah, Scrabble, Rummicube. 7:30 p.m., Beth Torah Synagogue, 47 Glenbrook Ave. Early Bird Bingo 7:30-8 p.m. **Mollie** 733-3634.

GARAGE SALE

Community garage sale and flea market, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Earl Bales Community Centre and Park.

Monday, Aug. 23

LA LECHE LEAGUE

La Leche League-North Bathurst (Thornhill) presents Nutrition and Weaning. Babies welcome. 7:30 p.m., 112 Judith Ave., Thornhill. **Joyce** 905-881-8779 or **Nancy** 905-889-7445.

Wednesday, Aug. 25

MAGIC SHOW

Children of all ages and their families enjoy entertaining acts of magic and illusion performed by **Robert Presswood**, 2-3 p.m., Barbara Frum Library. Pick up free tickets at children's desk starting at 1 p.m. 395-5440.

Thursday, Aug. 26

THE JEWISH MOSAIC

Forest Hill Place series, The Jewish Mosaic: Reflections of Other Cultures, focuses on Reflections of Jamaica with **Richard Davidson,** 2 p.m., 645 Castlefield Ave. Reserve. **Marlene** or **Susan** 785-1511.

CASINO RAMA

Pride of Israel Synagogue fundraiser, a trip to Casino Rama; bus leaves Pride of Israel at 9 a.m. and leaves Casino Rama at 5 p.m. Reserve early. 226-0111.

And What Else Is New

NATIONAL STUDY KALLAH

Kolel: A Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning, Canadian Council for Reform Judaism, National Study Kallah, Aug. 25-29, at UAHC Camp George, Parry Sound. The theme, Approaching the Days of Awe with Awe, features a faculty of Canadian rabbis, cantors and educators. 905-709-1900, ext. 233.

TORAH RESPONSES

The Toronto branch of Ohr Somayach International is participating in an international symposium entitled Torah Responses to a Challenging Generation, Sunday, Sept. 5, in New York and Monday, Sept. 6 (Labor Day) in Toronto. Lecturers include **Rabbis Mordechai Becher, Mendel Weinbach, Dovid Gottlieb, Yitachok Breitowitz** and **Eliezer Breitowitz.** The Toronto symposium starts 9:30 a.m., registration at Leah Posluns Theatre. Panel discussion concludes 6 p.m. 905-886-5730.

PRAY AND LEARN

Everyone is welcome at the Pray and Learn program at Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue, led by **Elliot Malamet.** It resumes 9:30 a.m., Shabbat, Sept. 4. Also, tickets for the High Holy Days may be purchased by calling **Helen** or **Carol** 789-3213.

OSTROVTZER MEMORIAL

Gathering in memory of Holocaust victims in Ostrowiec and vicinity, Sunday, Aug. 29, Lambton Cemetery (rain or shine). Speakers

Continued on page 25

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What's New

Continued from page 24

are **Stephen Speisman** and **Israel Gurfinkel.** For information, **Al Speisman**, president, 785-5688.

YONGE SHUL

The Yonge Shul High Holy Day traditional services and interactive educational classes are being held Rosh Hashanah at North Toronto Collegiate and Yom Kippur at the Roehampton Hotel. $85 if registered before Sept. 1. Singles and families welcome. 787-2444. In partnership with the Village Shul.

LEARN TO SPEAK YIDDISH

If you want to learn to speak Yiddish properly, join the next semester of conversational Yiddish at Adath Israel Congregation, which begins Wednesday, Oct. 6, 7 p.m. with **David Newman**. For information, **Louis Gula** 495-0919.

JERRY-AT-TRICK REVUE

Mel Lastman Variety Players' Jerry-At-Trick Revue at Fairview Library Theatre, Aug. 29 to Sept. 5 (matinee performances Aug. 29 and Sept. 5). $15. Information/tickets **Florence Debonis** 665-3934 or **Helen Davis** 491-3479.

CASINO RAMA

On Monday, Aug. 30, join Adath Sholom Synagogue Sisterhood on a trip to Casino Rama. Bus leaves Adath Sholom, 864 Sheppard Ave. W., at 8:45 a.m. sharp! $7/person includes buffet lunch. Reserve and prepay by Aug. 27. 635-0131.

MAVEN BOWLING LEAGUE

Maven Bowling League, a fun, social league of singles and couples, male and female, 30s and 40s, is looking for new members. It starts Thursday, Sept. 9, 7 p.m. at a centrally located bowling alley. Join in the pre-season barbecue, 6 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 28. **Ron Caine** 229-6600, ext. 261 days or 905-889-8333 evenings and weekends.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteer at home and help the Jewish Children's Museum! It is looking for people with sewing and woodworking skills to create some simple items for the museum. Also, people are needed to interact with visitors in the museum during the week. **Katya** 636-1880, ext. 390.

FREE HELP FOR SENIORS

Are you a senior, 55 plus, looking after your husband or wife all day? Would you like free volunteer relief? (no physical care provided). Contact **Paula Mintzberg**, Respite Services co-ordinator at the Bernard Betel Centre, 225-2112, ext. 118.

JF & CS GROUPS

Jewish Family & Child Service groups. Information/registration **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

Positive Parenting: discipline techniques, self-esteem, expectations, begins Oct 6; Living With Your Teen: The Challenges & the Rewards, begins Oct. 20; Today's Woman: Making It Happen, begins Aug. 24; Bereavement Group, coping, new single identity, how to go on, begins daytime Sept. 22.

HEBREW CLASSES

Beth Israel Hebrew Academy offers Hebrew classes for children and bar/bat mitzvah preparations. Now accepting fall registration. 950-770-1062.

LADIES BOWLING LEAGUE

Ladies 10-pin Bowling League is looking for bowlers for Wednesday evenings at Playtime Bowl (Lawrence/Dufferin area). **Charlene** 221-9328.

COUNSELLING CENTRE

Announcing a new face: Jewish Counselling and Resource Centre (JCRC) formerly known as Torah Life & Living Canada, located at Finchurst Plaza, 305 Finch Ave. W. JCRC is an organization that cares for people who are hurting, families affected by pain from within. 250-6999.

SOCIAL SKILLS PROGRAM

PALS Interactive Skills Program, an activity-based socialization experience designed to help your child feel better about him/herself: develop strategies to cope with bullying, teasing and stress, and to express feelings more appropriately. For children ages 6-14 who are shy or have difficulty making friends. Begins the week of Oct. 11. Jewish Family & Child Service, **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

FOR SENIORS

Association of Jewish Seniors general meeting, Thursday, Aug. 26, 9:30 a.m., Shaarei Shomayim Congregation. Guest speaker from Alliance for Seniors. Topic Y2K: The Year 2000. Everyone welcome. **Goldie Leiberman** 635-2860.

Mixed Seniors Bowling League has openings for a few seniors. **Sydney Fox** 633-7305.

LZA Seniors Club is taking registration for Miami Trip 2000. Limited number of rooms available for three, four and six weeks. **Libby** 782-2059 or **Shelagh** 250-1234. Ladies Folkdancing classes Thursdays 1:30 p.m. and Cultural Discussion Group Tuesdays 10 a.m. at Borochov Cultural Centre, 272 Codsell Ave. Centre is open for socializing Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Community garage sale and flea market Aug. 22; Casino Rama Aug. 25; trip to Leelanau Sands Casino, Michigan, Oct. 4-7, $469 Canadian; ballroom dancing Thursdays 10 a.m.; Sunday dance Sept. 5. 395-7881.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: Morning cruise then matinee performance of *Move Over Mrs. Markham* at Gryphon Theatre Aug. 25; *West Side Story* at Stratford Oct. 12. A trip to Israel is in the planning. **Lena** 785-5773. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Aug. 19, speaker **Pearl Gladman**, national director, Field Services, B'nai Brith; Aug. 26, bingo. **Jerry Bengall**, president, 905-707-7334 or **Malka Colla,** chair, social committee, 630-5771.

Young at Heart Seniors winter vacation at Saxony Glatt kosher hotel, one or two months. **Helen** 635-6343.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Public Affairs Forum on Affordable Housing and Rent Control, Wednesday, Aug. 25, 1:30 p.m. Guest panelists: **Dianne Dietrich,** Toronto Housing Corporation; **Mike Feldman,** MPP; **Michael Labbe,** Options for Homes; **Howard Tessler,** Metro Tenants Association.

Gala dance party to celebrate International Year of Older Persons, Thursday, Aug. 19, 7-10 p.m. Light supper. members $10, non-members $13. Reserve ticket at Ticket Sales Desk.

Introduction to the Schools of Psychology Part II with **Sidney Soban** Tuesdays, Sept. 7-Oct. 12 (6 lectures) 10-11:30 a.m. **Bookie.**

Israeli Club Etrog: Do you speak Hebrew? Join club members every Tuesday at 7 p.m. for movies, lectures, dances, bingo, picnics. Aug. 24, summer dance. **Anna** ext. 110.

Movie, *The Horse Whisperer*, Sunday, Aug. 22, 2:30 p.m.

HADASSAH-WIZO INSTALLATION

Toronto Hadassah-WIZO officers installed recently at Beth Tzedec Synagogue (from left) Joanna Slone, treasurer/financial secretary; Mindy Kirsh, recording secretary; Beverley Crackower, vice-president; Carol Lou Spiegel, president; Sharon Kroft, immediate past president; Audrey Steinhauer, corresponding secretary.

ROSENBERG MEMORIAL LECTURE

Pictured at the recent Rabbi Stuart and Hadassa Rosenberg Memorial Lecture at Beth Tzedec Synagogue (top row, from left) Bob Cohen, president, Beth Tzedec Congregation; featured guest speaker Ismar Schorsch; Dr. Michael Rosenbluth, son-in-law of the Rosenbergs. Front row, from left Rochelle (Rosenberg) Taggu; Ronni Rosenberg; Murad Taggu, son-in-law of the Rosenbergs; and Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl. [Mollie Rothman photo]

SINGLES EVENTS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 26

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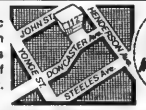

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This newly created position will work with both Jewish Family & Child Service and the Bathurst JCC to develop their new Centre for Families in the Promenade offices of UJA Federation. This is a part-time contract position, accountable to the Bathurst JCC, which requires the following qualifications:

- Degree or Diploma in Education, Social Work, Community Work or related work experience.
- Experience in working with volunteers and committees.
- Highly developed skills in identifying program needs and providing quality service delivery.

Please forward resume by August 30, 1999 to:
The Selection Committee, Family Centre
4588 Bathurst St.
Toronto, Ont.
M2R 1W6

JCS

Bathurst Jewish Centre

Notice to Visitors to Pardes Shalom Cemetery

Arrangements have been made by Pardes Shalom to provide transportation to the cemetery before Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, for those without transportation.

Bus service will be provided on the following 3 days: Sunday, August 29; Sunday, September 5; and Sunday, September 19.

On each of these days a bus, identified by a sign "**PARDES SHALOM**" will depart from the front entrance of the Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst Street, at 10:00 a.m. for Pardes Shalom Cemetery.

The bus will make a stop at the parking lot of Betel Centre, located on Steeles Ave. W., at 10:30, to pick up passengers before proceeding to the cemetery.

The bus will leave the cemetery at 12:30 p.m. for return to the Betel Centre and the Bathurst Jewish Centre.

For further information, and to register, please call the cemetery office (416) 635-2883, extension 211 - Trudy, or extension 224 - Esther.

SINGLES EVENTS
is an advertising feature of
The Canadian Jewish News
Deadline is Wednesday, 4pm, 8 days preceding issue date.
For rates or to place an ad, call:
Tanya at (416) 391-1836
The CJN encourages readers to direct any queries they may have on an upcoming event to the event's organizers.

***GAMES JEWISH SINGLES PLAY! Sun. Aug. 22 at 7:30pm.** Beth Torah, 47 Glenbrook Ave. ***BRIDGE, Trivial Pursuit, etc.** $5. **94 couples** have already met! Mollie, 416-733-3634.

Are Shabbos Dinners all Greek to you? Then lets come to an understanding. Our next Yonge Shul Shabbaton featuring the tastes of Greece will be held on Fri., Aug. 27 at 7:30pm for ages 30 - early 40's. Space is limited so register at 787-2444 by August 25. Cost is $18. **"Mykonos Never Tasted So Good"**

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More Than Just Walking. The Friendly Singles Walking Club. Sat., Aug. 21st at Edwards Gardens & Taylor Creek Pk. $20 includes a BBQ. Call 416-701-1515.

What's The Hottest New Year's Ticket at Yonge & Eglinton? The Yonge Shul is offering Rosh Hashanah at North Toronto Collegiate & Yom Kippur at the Roehampton Hotel. Traditional service and interactive educational classes will be offered. $85.00 if registered before September 1/99. Call 416-787-2444.

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Round-the-clock Jewish radio station launched

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — North America's first round-the-clock Jewish radio station began broadcasting here August 6 with little fanfare, but with plenty of ambition.

Radio Shalom went on the air with about half its program content in English and half in French, said president Eric Aouizerats, a businessman who moved to Montreal from France three years ago, and who was instrumental in making the new station a reality.

But it will likely be a while before most Montreal Jews get to listen to it, because potential listeners have to pick up special subcarrier radios that carry the station on an FM-2 frequency not available on the regular FM band and used for several other ethnic stations.

The prices of the units range from $25 to $75.

Aouizerats said they hope to eventually be able to saturate the Montreal Jewish market by setting up the special radios at Jewish grocery stores, bakeries, restaurants, institutions and other Jewish venues, and through a high-profile marketing campaign, including setting up booths at shopping malls.

These strategies, he said, will expose Montreal Jews to the station and entice them to acquire the relatively inexpensive special radios on their own.

He noted that using the same technique, an ethnic Arab station, also using sub-carriers, eventually attracted 80,000 listeners.

Aouizerats says he got the idea of launching the station after arriving from France and realizing that, despite a limited level of local Jewish radio programming, there was no all-Jewish, round-the-clock station. France has 17, including one in Paris.

In 1997, he consulted with such people as Robert Levy of the Grand Rabbinat, and Solly Levy, who has his own Jewish radio show on Radio Ville-Marie and on whose frequency (91.3 mhz) the Radio-Shalom sub-carrier operates (at 92 mhz). Radio Shalom's broadcast signal should be receivable up to 120 km away from Montreal.

Aouizerats applied to the CRTC for a broadcasting licence and was granted one just a few months ago after a two year wait.

Now, from an office on Victoria Avenue in the heart of ethnic Montreal, his plans are to build a completely independent, multilingual and non-profit station for all Jews, which will contain religious, secular and cultural programing, music, interviews and news supported by advertisers.

Almost all the programming will be produced by volunteers in Montreal, he said, with some coming from such countries as France, England, and Israel.

Already, he said, several airlines, restaurants, and travel agents are advertising the station, which can carry 504 minutes of ads per week.

Aouizerats stressed that he intends his station to be completely autonomous and to appeal to all of Montreal's Jews.

"This is lulav radio," he said. "If any part [of the Jewish community] is missing, it is not kosher."

In order to preserve its independence, Aouizerats has not joined any Montreal Jewish organizations

With only a few days on the air at writing, Radio Shalom was still in the midst of getting its final programming grid together, but Aouizerats said it should be finalized by the end of August.

The station's prime time will be from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m., from noon to 1 p.m., and from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Stanley Asher, a well-known local historian who has reviewed Jewish books on Radio-McGill (CKUT), is a Radio Shalom vice-president and in charge of its English-language programming.

Franck Sadia, with more than 10 years experience in Jewish radio in Europe, is the station's full-time general manager.

Aouizerats said that Radio Shalom is working towards a major gala for the end of September to promote the station. Plans are to include the patronage of Elie Wiesel, an honorary president of the station, and Roberto Benigni, who made the film, *Life is Beautiful*.

To make the station more accessible in the future, he said, Radio Shalom is also planning to eventually be available through digitalized cable and even through the Internet.

Coast to Coast

New Jewish resource site launched on the Web

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Canada and other countries outside the United States are the latest target markets for a comprehensive Jewish resource Web site.

The site, zipple.com, is a one-stop entry point for all things Jewish on the Internet.

"We're trying to bring the Jewish communities around the world all together," says Jeremy Ahto, of S&S Communications in Chicago, the company marketing the Web site.

Using colorful graphics and a logical, organized layout, everything Jewish, through an infinite number of links, is available on the site: Israel, the Holocaust, religion, books, recipes, travel, Jewish dating services and chat rooms, Jewish music, a central list of Jewish charities, Jewish and non-Jewish media, celebrities, communities around the world, and more.

You can ask the rabbi; look for shmurah matzah; check out a Torah reference; log on to a Jewish newspaper; shop till you drop; find out how to keep kosher in Asia; look for candlelighting times in the city you live in; or get a live picture from the Western Wall.

Zipple.com also offers general links such as stock quotations, weather, free e-mail, and conventional search engines such as Yahoo, Snap, Excite, and Alta Vista.

Users can contribute to the site by adding recipes or sending in new content.

The Jewish communities link on the home page brings you to major Jewish world communities. You can be linked to Canada's major Jewish cities, and then be connected to more links within each city. Find a kosher restaurant in Toronto, the address and phone number to the Jewish federation in Calgary, or scores of other Jewish sites.

Zipple.com was conceived by Jory Rozner, a 30-year-old woman from Chicago, who was struck by the Internet's ability to bring the whole Jewish world together.

Rozner said she sorted through all the Jewish sites she could find, searched out a technology firm and paid for Zipple's start-up out of her own pocket.

A lawyer, Thomas Ahto, became Zipple's chief operating officer and helped Rozner put together a business plan to raise funds and generate revenue for the new company.

Since its launch, Zipple.com has drawn media attention, including stories in *USA Today, The Chicago Tribune, Boston Globe*, and numerous stations in the United States and Israel.

Rozner has said that she chose the name Zipple to set it apart from other Jewish sites.

"I wanted the site to be cool, hip, colorful and fun," she said. "Jews who are already involved in Judaism will go anywhere on the Internet to get the information they need, but you have to make a special effort to appeal to young people and non-affiliated Jews.

"Zipple.com is designed to do just that."

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WJCC hands out awards

By MYRON LOVE
Prairies Correspondent

WINNIPEG — For promotions and marketing man Jeff Lieberman, it was an ideal role.

As vice-president, membership and marketing at the new Rady Jewish Community Centre at the Asper Jewish Community Campus, Lieberman helped boost the membership to more than 5,500 people. The old downtown Jewish Community Centre had only 400 or 500 members.

"It was the most exciting committee to be serving on," says the president of Time Images, which develops promotional products. "Our committee established the membership rules at the new centre [and sold it] to the community at large."

In recognition of his achievements at the centre, and his efforts on behalf of Winnipeg's Jewish community, Lieberman is this year's recipient of the Harry Silverberg Leadership Development Award.

"It is a nice surprise," he says. "I have been involved in the community over the years because I believe in community service. I wasn't expecting any reward. It is really great to be recognized for one's efforts."

In addition to his work at the Rady Centre, Lieberman has been a board member of the Winnipeg Jewish Community Council (WJCC), and will be chairing Shalom Square this year.

He recently received his award at the WJCC's annual Koved evening. Sharing the podium with him was Rietta Floom, this year's recipient of the Max Nathanson Young Leadership Award.

"I am flattered and honored," says Floom, who was born in Ottawa but grew up in Winnipeg. "There are a lot of other people who give of their time to the community and are equally deserving."

Floom just completed a three-year term on the WJCC board, and has been a board member of the Jewish Child & Family Service, a CJA canvasser – she co-chaired Super Sunday two years ago – a board member of the B'nai Brith Jewish Community Camp and co-chair of the Hebrew Bilingual Committee of the Brock Corydon School Parent Council. She has a master's degree in public administration from Carlton University, and is currently a hearing officer with the Provincial Residential Tenancies Branch.

The two awards provide a subsidy toward the cost of going to the General Assembly of the Council of Jewish Federations in November in Atlanta. Both Floom and Lieberman are planning to attend.

Coast to Coast

Jacobson family gathers in Halifax

By JOEL JACOBSON
Atlantic Correspondent

HALIFAX — More than 100 descendants of Simon Zachariah Jacobson and Elka Spitz Jacobson recently attended a reunion in Halifax.

"This is a real thrill," said Bertha Jacobson Rubin Lazar of Montreal, the only remaining offspring of Simon and Elka of Lithuania. "I appreciate the fact that, at 88, I can still get around to meet and talk to people. I can understand them. I can hear them. What more can I ask?"

Lazar's son Zack, of Halifax, his wife Myrna, and Myrna Jacobson Yazer, a granddaughter of Simon and Elka, did much of the legwork for the gathering.

"Five years ago, my cousin Selma [Jacobson Brothman of Philadelphia] and I talked about a family reunion," said Yazer at the gathering.

"Then last summer, Zack and I agreed to do it. We estimate, quite closely, that there are 280 descendants of Zachariah, his first wife Sarah, and second wife Elka."

Zack interjects, "There were children of my cousins that my children had never met. There were relatives I hadn't seen in a while and some of our family who hadn't connected in decades. It seemed like a good time to do it.

Simon Jacobson, Vancouver, his wife Raisie, Selma Jacobson Brothman, Philadelphia, and Esther Jacobson Silon, Beverly Hills, Calif., were together at Camp Kadimah during the Jacobson reunion in Halifax. Simon, Selma and Esther are children of Samuel (Zionist Sam) Jacobson whose parents were Simon Zachariah Jacobson and Elka Spitz Jacobson. [Zack Rubin photo]

"The fact that many relatives had never met others had a major impact on me."

Zack and Myrna contacted several of their family peers to compile lists, and a letter-writing campaign started in September 1998. By October, after a second letter, responses started coming.

The attendees enjoyed a Friday night Shabbat dinner at Beth Israel Synagogue, a trip to Camp Kadimah where more than 50 of the reunion crowd attended as children, and other social gatherings. The host committee also prepared several picture murals which were greeted with laughter, tears, witticisms, stories and probably a few tall tales.

"This weekend meets my greatest expectations," said Yazer, as she hosted a Shabbat luncheon for relatives from Jerusalem, Rishon Le Zion, Tel Aviv, Boston, Philadelphia, Beverly Hills, Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto, Waterdown (Ont.), and Vancouver.

Simon Jacobs, born in 1854, became Jacobson when he emigrated to Saint John, N.B in 1907. He married Sarah, had three daughters and a son and moved to Palestine where Sarah and the three daughters died. Simon and his son Jacob Simon (Yankel Sander) returned to Lithuania, where Simon married Elka and had seven more children.

Ilga Leja, wife of one of the Jacobson descendants, Howard Epstein of Halifax, accepted the challenge of piecing together the branches and twigs of the Jacobson family.

The result was "a foundation for future research and documentation," she wrote in the foreword to the lengthy booklet she prepared, which identifies each descendant of Simon and Elka, Simon and Sarah, and Ben Zion Spitz, Elka's brother.

Linda Epstein of Jerusalem travelled farthest but returned to her Halifax roots. "This is a sense of history, of continuity," said Epstein of the reunion. "There were several of the family I had not met before and I'm meeting their spouses, too."

She laughs. "I really like a lot of these people. I enjoy them."

Scene in Ottawa

By G.K. SIMCOE

To her staff, she is known as Mrs. Finestone; others know her as Sheila. But few people know that her real name is Grace. Well, even if it wasn't the precise name bestowed on her by her beloved father, Monroe Abbey, 72 years ago, it certainly captures the essence of her honorable tenure in the House of Commons.

Sheila Finestone will now gracefully conclude her parliamentary career as a senator. It is a fitting end for a woman who has made – and presumably will continue to make – a positive and meaningful contribution to public policy.

Her efforts on behalf of Jewish concerns must also be noted. For question period aficionados, she will always be remembered for her sharp chastisement of a Tory minister while she was in opposition: "Il n'a pas ni de guts, ni de courage."

She always knew wherefrom she spoke. Finestone showed her own mettle when she did combat with that unholy alliance of international forces hostile to Israel that gathered in Nairobi in 1985 to pass the odious Zionism-is-racism resolution. She has never backed down from a fight – and almost always, she has been on the side of the angels. (One could quibble about her stand on Meech…but that's another story.)

With Finestone's appointment to the Senate, that most coveted Liberal seat of Mont Royal is up for grabs. Establishment Liberals have quickly moved to discourage any challengers to their anointed successor, Eric Maldoff. Maldoff is a well-known figure within Montreal's Jewish community and very close friends with Eddie Goldenberg, Jean Chrétien's principle advisor, and David Zussman, a Liberal insider's insider.

There are those within the predominantly Jewish riding of Mont Royal, however, who have no special affection for the one-time president of Alliance Quebec. Moreover, a number of credible activists have been waiting in the wings to make a run at the nomination for the safest Liberal seat in the country.

No one has formally come forward, yet. But it is a sure bet that Maldoff will not win the nomination by acclamation – if at all.

The Jewish community can only hope that the grace consistently displayed by Senator Finestone will have rubbed off on the various wannabes. Otherwise, this may prove to be a very ugly and public contest.

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CJ Food

Summer snacks let mom get out of the kitchen

By EILEEN GOLTZ
Special to The CJN

There comes a time in the summer when I say no more to kitchen duty.

I decided to go on strike and told my boys it was time for them to fend for themselves. Not wanting to actually cook when it's 90 degrees outside, they took my file of no-bake cookies and went to town.

The following recipes have been taste tested by nine 15-year-olds and five 12-year-olds.

CHEWY RASPBERRY BARS

35 to 40 vanilla wafers
½ cup sweetened coconut flakes
¼ cup caramel topping
½ cup seedless red raspberry jam or other flavor jam or preserves
confectioner's sugar for garnish

Line an 8-inch square baking pan with foil, letting the foil extend about 2 inches above pan on opposite sides. Grease or spray with nonstick cooking spray. Process 25 of the vanilla wafers in food processor (or crush in a sturdy plastic food bag) until reduced to fine crumbs (you should have 1½ cups). Add coconut and caramel topping to crumbs and process (or knead in bag) until crumbs are moistened. Press firmly over bottom of prepared pan. Place in freezer while proceeding.

Scrape jam into small bowl and stir until very smooth. Spread evenly over chilled crust. Top with remaining wafers, in 3 rows. Cover and refrigerate at least 1½ hours or until set. Remove from pan by foil to cutting board. Dust with confectioner's sugar. Cut between wafers into bars.

Note: To make low fat, use fat free caramel topping.

To remove jam from knife between cuts, dip knife into a tall container of hot water and wipe dry.

CHOCOLATE OATMEAL COOKIES

2 cups sugar
4 tbsp. cocoa powder
1 tsp. vanilla
½ cup milk
½ cup butter
¼ cup peanut butter
3 cups oats

In a saucepan bring the sugar, cocoa, vanilla, milk and butter to a boil and remove from heat. Add the peanut butter and oats; mix well. Drop by teaspoonfuls onto waxed paper. Let cool until set. Makes 2½ to 3 dozen cookies.

CRISPY PEANUT BARS

10 oz. peanut butter chips
½ cup butter or margarine
6½ cups crispy rice cereal
12 oz. semisweet chocolate chips
½ cup light corn syrup
½ cup chopped honey-roasted peanuts

Line a 13x9-inch baking pan with foil, letting foil extend about 2 inches above pan on narrow ends. Grease or coat foil with nonstick cooking spray. Melt peanut butter chips and butter in a large bowl in microwave or in a heavy saucepan over low heat, stirring often, until thoroughly blended and smooth. Remove from heat, add cereal and stir until evenly coated. Scrape into prepared pan, spread evenly, then cover with waxed paper.

Place another 13x9-inch pan or heavy book on top and press into an even, compact layer. Remove waxed paper. Place pan in freezer for 10 minutes or until cereal mixture is firm while proceeding.

Melt chocolate chips as directed on bag. Add corn syrup and stir until well blended. Spread chocolate evenly on cereal mixture, then sprinkle with nuts. Top with waxed paper and lightly press nuts into chocolate. Refrigerate 1 hour or until firm. Lift foil by ends onto cutting board. Cut into bars.

Planning tip:

These bars can be refrigerated for up to 2 weeks, or kept frozen up to 1 month in an airtight container with waxed paper between layers.

GRANOLA FIG BARS

20 fig bars
2½ cups granola with raisins
⅔ cup light corn syrup
2 tbsp. honey
¾ cup crispy or regular M&Ms

Line an 8-inch square baking pan with foil, letting foil extend about 2 inches above pan on opposite edges. Grease or coat foil with nonstick cooking spray. Arrange fig cookies in prepared pan, in 4 evenly spaced rows of 5 bars each. Press down on bars until bars touch each other.

Put granola in a medium bowl.

In a heavy saucepan, bring corn syrup to a boil over medium heat. Without stirring, boil vigorously 3 minutes or until tiny white bubbles start to form on surface. Remove from heat; stir in honey until blended. Pour over granola and stir until coated. Cool slightly, and then stir in M&Ms. (If too hot, M&Ms will melt; if too cool, they can't be stirred in.)

Scrape onto fig bars, spread evenly, then cover with greased waxed paper and gently press into an even, compact layer. Cover and refrigerate 1½ hours or until firm. Lift by foil ends onto cutting board. Cut into bars. To make lower fat, use fat-free fig bars and low fat granola.

MOCK BUTTERFINGER COOKIES

3 cups crushed corn flakes
1 cup crunchy peanut butter
½ cup sugar
½ cup white corn syrup
6 oz. chocolate chips

In a saucepan heat the peanut butter, sugar and corn syrup over low heat until melted. Stir in cereal. Pat into an 8x8-inch lightly greased pan. Melt the chocolate chips in the microwave and spread them over the top. Cool and cut into 12 pieces.

THIN MINT CRACKERS

1 lb. dark coating chocolate
80 (or so) round butter crackers
few drops of peppermint flavoring

Melt the chocolate coatings in the microwave or in a double boiler. After it is melted, stir a couple of drops of peppermint flavor into the chocolate. Dip crackers into the melted chocolate and then place onto a cold cookie sheet and put into the refrigerator to set. (A freezing tray to rest the dipped cookies will keep the bottoms neat-looking.) In a few minutes take them out and package in candy cups. The cookies are best kept at room temperature or in a cool dry place away from any odors. Makes 80 cookies.

מזל טוב Mazel Tov

We cannot guarantee the date a picture will appear. Please limit all greetings to 25 typewritten words. We reserve the right to edit all items and condense any that are longer than that.

Label the back of all photos and enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope for return. Send all your photos to *The CJN*, Mazel Tov, 1500 Don Mills Rd., Suite 205, North York, Ont., M3B 3K4.

Mazel tov to Ruth and Ernest Goldsmith, who celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Shabbat, Aug. 21.

Mazel tov to Saul & Sophie Buchalter on your 50th wedding anniversary, June 5, with love and best wishes from your children and grandchildren.

Mazel tov to Miriam & Herb Freedman on their 50th wedding anniversary. Love Allan, Paula, Mindy, Anne, Michael, Rory, Robert and Brant.

Mazel tov Molly & George Kohn on their 50th anniversary. Love from children Stan & Marlene and Jeff & Nona, and grandchildren.

Mazel tov to Rose & Alex Bayer on your 50th wedding anniversary in April. Love, your children and grandchildren.

Mazel tov to Dr. Harry & Rosalie Shadlyn on their 50th wedding anniversary. Love, Ruth & Al and family.

Mazel tov to Dave Ship on his 85th birthday! With love from Tsippi & Donald Nickless, Saul & Viviane Ship, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Mazel tov to David & Karen Gluckstein on their 25th anniversary. From their children Michelle and Sherri and parents Adam & Rose Bermanski.

CJ Food

Healthy watermelon can be served in different ways

By EILEEN GOLTZ

The watermelon is a guiltless food. It's about 95 percent water and it's also good for you, since it contains vitamins A and C.

Most of us have only had the pleasure of eating watermelon just as nature intended it: cold, and right out of the rind. But this summer, after purchasing mass quantities of my favorite melon, I figured I'd better find some recipes that let me incorporate it into my menus.

The following recipes are the happy results of my search.

WATERMELON POPSICLES

Popsicle molds are sold at some drugstores and department stores.

2½ cups seeded diced watermelon
½ cup fresh raspberries or frozen unsweetened, thawed
6 tbsp. sugar
1 tbsp. plus 2 tsp. fresh lemon juice
1 tbsp. crème de cassis (black currant-flavored liqueur) or light corn syrup

Combine all ingredients in blender; puree until smooth. Strain into 2-cup glass measuring cup, pressing on solids to extract as much liquid as possible. Pour puree into popsicle molds, dividing equally. Freeze overnight. (Can be prepared 1 week ahead. Keep frozen.) Makes about eight ¼-cup popsicles.

WATERMELON, CANTALOUPE AND RED PEPPER SALSA

a 1-lb. piece of watermelon
a 1-lb. piece of cantaloupe
½ red bell pepper
½ small sweet onion such as Vidalia
⅓ cup packed fresh cilantro sprigs
½ fresh jalapeño chili
2 tbsp. chopped fresh mint leaves
1 tbsp. fresh lime juice

Remove rinds and seeds from melons and cut fruit into ¼-inch pieces. Cut bell pepper into ¼-inch pieces. Finely chop onion and cilantro and, wearing rubber gloves, finely chop jalapeño with seeds. In a bowl toss together all ingredients and season with salt. Salsa may be made 4 hours ahead and chilled, covered. Makes about 4 cups.

WATERMELON GAZPACHO

6 cups cubed seeded watermelon
1½ cups chopped golden delicious apples
½ cup finely chopped onion
½ cup finely chopped green pepper
1 tbsp. dried basil
½ tbsp. salt
¼ tbsp. coarsely ground pepper
¼ tbsp. chili powder
1 tbsp. cider vinegar

In blender, puree watermelon; pour into large mixing bowl. Stir in remaining ingredients. Refrigerate, covered, at least one hour to blend flavors.

FLORIDA WATERMELON SALSA

3 cups watermelon, diced medium
½ cup red onion, diced small
½ cup sweet red pepper, diced medium
½ cup tomato, diced medium
1 tsp. jalapeño pepper, minced
1 tbsp. garlic, minced
2 tbsp. fresh cilantro, chopped
1 tbsp. fresh basil, chopped
1 tbsp. fresh parsley, chopped
1½ tbsp. balsamic vinegar
¼ cup olive oil
salt and pepper to taste

In a bowl combine all ingredients, toss gently and refrigerate for 2 hours. Serve cold or slightly warm with your favorite fish or chicken. Makes 4-6 servings.

WATERMELON - BASIL VINAIGRETTE

4 cups fresh watermelon, chopped and drained
¼ cup red onion, diced small
2 tbsp. honey
¼ cup white wine vinegar
¼ cup oil
2 tbsp. fresh basil chopped
1 tbsp. fresh parsley, chopped
salt and pepper to taste

Combine all ingredients in blender or food processor and blend for approximately 30 seconds. Drizzle over mixed salad greens and garnish with sliced watermelon. Makes approximately 2 cups.

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שלום עליכם – צו זיין 140סטן געבורטיאָר

פון ישראל קאָפּיטאָ

די ייִדישע וועלט צייכנט איצט אָפּ דעם 140סטן געבוירטיאָר פון געניאַלן ייִדישן קלאַסיקער שלום עליכם. ער איז געבוירן גע-ווארן דעם 2טן מערץ, 1859, אין פּערעיאַסלעוו, לעבן קיעוו און איז אוועק פון דער וועלט דעם 19טן מאַי, 1916, אין עלסטער פון 57 יאָר.

וען דער יונגער משכיל, שלום בן מחום ראַבינאָוויטש, האָט באַ-שלאָסן צו נעמען די פּסעודאָ אין האָנט, האָט ער געפּרוּאוועט זיך טאַלאַנט אין שרייבן העבריאיש. אַזוי האָט ער אין „הצפירה", אין 1879, פּאַרעפנטלעכט זיינע אַרטיקלען וועגן ייִדישן חינוך. ער האָט אויך געשריבן אין „המליץ" וועגן אַקטועלע ענינים אַן וועגן דעם לעבן פון די יידן אין זיין שטעטל.

מיט אַ יאָר שפּעטער הויבט זיך אָן זיין „ראַמאַן", אין דער ייִדישער שפּראַך, אַ „ראַמאַן", וואָס איז פאַרוואַנדלט געוואָרן אין אַ לעבנסלענגלעכער ליבע. דאָס איז געווען די ערשטע פּעדער פּרוכט פון גרויסן ייִדישן הומאָריסט אין יענער תקופה — דווקא אין אַ ליבע דערציילונג: „צווישׁ שטיינער", וואָס איז דערשינען אין פּאַרש-צוגען אין „ייִדישעס פאַלקסבלאַט" פון פּעטערבורג אין 1883. ער האָט זיך אנטערגעשריבן **שלום ראַבינאָוויטש.**

די ערשטע טריט זיינע אין דער ליטעראַטור, האָט דער געניא-לער וואַרט־מייסטער באַלד אָנגעהויבן ווי דער באַזיגער פון די גרויסע ייִדישע פאַלקס־מאַסן, ווי אויך די יידן פון אַ גאַנץ יאָר. אין זיין שאַפּן געפּינען מיר די טרויעריקע פאַרגאַנגעניהייט פון די יידי-שע מאַסן אונטערן צאַרישן רעזשים. זייער אויסגעווארצלטע באַזו-לאָזיקייט פאַרוואַנדלט זיי אין „מחם־מענדלשע" גליק־זיכערס.

ער געפּינט אָבער די יידן, וואָס זיינען שווער פאַרהאַרעוועט. מיט גרויסער ליבע מאָלט ער די פּשוטע מענטשן אַן מיט אַ גוט-מוטיקן שמייכל באַשרייבט ער זייערע טרויעריקע איבערלעבונגען.

שלום עליכם האָט צעשפּאַרט די וועגן פון דער נעטאָ אַן זיינע העלדן זיינען אַרויס אין דער בריט פון דער וועלט. צייטגנוייז צייכנט זיך זיין הומאָר אויס אין אַ לידישער באַפאַרבונג אַן צייטי-וויז איז ער פול מיט אינערלעכן טראַגיזם. אין זיין אָפּאַרטן „לאָכן איז געווען, דאָקטוירים הייסן לאָכן", אין פּאַראַנען די שטענדיקע האָפּעדיקע אַן גוטמוטיקע שטימונג פון פּאַלקסמענטש, וואָס היט זיין וויידע אַן פּילט זיין קראָפּס.

אין דער תקופה פון דר. טעאָדאָר הערצל איז שלום עליכם גע-וואָרן אַ צייטיסטישער שרייבער. וען הערצל האָט זיך באַוויזן אויפן האַריזאָנט פון ייִדישן לעבן, איז שלום עליכם געווען איינער פון זיינע ערשטע אַנהענגערס. ער איז געווען אָקטיוו אין דער באַוי-טער חובבי־ציון באַוועגונג, דאָס מאָל ווי אַ שריפטשטעלער. ער האָט פּאַרעפנטלעכט אויפקלערונג־אַן פּראָפּאַגאַנדע־בראָשורן; ער האָט אָנגעהויבן שרייבן אַ צייטיסטישן ראָמאַן, אַן בכלל אַרײַנגע-וועבט צייטיסטישע מאָטיוון אין זיינע ליטעראַרישע ווערק.

בײַם ערשטן צייטיסטישן קאָנגרעס אין באַזעל איז שלום עליכם געווען אַ דעלעגאַט. ער האָט אינערגעוועקט אין ייִדיש אַלע וויכטי-קע רעפעראַטן, וואָס זיינען געהאַלטן געוואָרן בײַ דעם קאָנגרעס און זיי פּאַרעפנטלעכט אין אַ בראָשור, אַרויסגעגעבן פון פּאַרלאַג „אחיאסף" אין וואַרשע. די בריטע פּאַרשפּרייטונג פון דער בראָשור האָט באַווין די נויטוועדיקייט פון אַזאַ ליטעראַטור אין ייִדיש. קיין ערנסטע צייטיסטישע צייטונגען אין ייִדיש האָבן נאָך ניט עקזיסטירט.

דער פּאַרלאַג „אחיאסף" האָט אין 1899 אָנגעהויבן אַרויס-געבן אַן ערנסטן ייִדישן זשורנאַל: „דער יוד", אונטער דער רעדאַק-ציע פון דר. יוסף לוריא. אין דעם צייטיסטישן וואָכנבלאַט האָבן אַנטיל גענומען די בעסטע ליטעראַרישע כוחות פון יענע יאָרן, ווי מענדעלע, פּרץ, אברהם ריישן, ראובן בריינין, מאַריס ראָזענפעלד, בן־עמי, ח. נ. ביאַליק, מ. ספּעקטאָר, שלום אש אַן אַנדערע.

שלום עליכם איז געוואָרן איינער פון די הויפּט מיטאַרבעטער. אין די יאָרן 1899־1902 האָט ער דאָרט פּאַרעפנטלעכט פעלעטאַ-נען און דערציילונגען, וואָס נעהערן צו זיינע בעסטע שאַפּונגען. דאָ האָט ער געדרוקט דעם בריוו אויסטויש פון מחם־מענדלען מיט זיין וויץ שיינע־שיידלען. דאָ האָט ער געשילדערט די קליינע מע-נטשעלעך מיט זייערע השגות פון קאַסריליווקע. דאָ האָט ער אָנגע-הויבן צו באַשרייבן טובֿיה דעם מילכיקן. ער האָט דערציילט מעשיות פּאַר קינדער, געגעבן מאָנאָלאָגן.

אין אַט די אַלע ווערק האָט שלום עליכם אַרײַנגעפלאָכטן ציי-ניסטישע מאָטיוון. דאָס איז גוטען ווי אַן אויסגלייך צוזיטש שלום עליכם דעם קינסטלער און פּאָלקס־שרייבער און שלום עליכם, דעם דענקער און פּאַרשפּרייטער פון חיבת־ציון אידיין.

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JCC rampage suspect wanted 'America to kill Jews'

By TOM TUGEND
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

LOS ANGELES — When Buford O'Neal Furrow walked into the North Valley Jewish Community Centre and opened fire last week, he reportedly wanted his action to serve as "a wake-up call to America to kill Jews."

A source said the white supremacist, suspected in a shooting spree at the North Valley Jewish Community Centre that injured five, made the comment as he turned himself in to FBI authorities in Las Vegas on Wednesday, 24 hours after the assault.

The gunman's attack at the centre in the San Fernando Valley community of Granada Hills sent shock waves and demands for tighter security throughout the Jewish community, still tense from arson attacks on three Sacramento, Calif., synagogues on June 18.

Carli Morgenstern, 17, was one of three counsellors watching over 14 children in kindergarten and Grade 1. Morgenstern said she heard the gunshots and then saw the wounded counsellor run into the room, blood dripping down her leg. The other counsellors frantically gathered the kids together and ran to the centre's parking lot and then across the street before heading for the convalescent home next door.

Morgenstern said the centre had held no fire drills and that the counsellors had not received any training in how to handle an emergency.

"I never thought about security or that we didn't have a security guard," she said later. "It never bothered me. This is such a friendly place; everybody knows everybody else."

Responding to security fears, the United Jewish Communities and the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) formed an alliance after the shootings to work with Jewish community relations councils to spread security awareness, especially as the High Holy Days and the Jewish school year near. In the coming weeks, the groups will open a security hotline and will post the ADL's security handbook on the Internet.

Manuals for emergency planning and crisis management are regularly provided to staff at Jewish Community Centres Association (JCCA) affiliates.

In a news release, the JCCA advised all of its affiliates to contact their local law enforcement agencies and to take appropriate precautions. The statement commended "the calm, concerned manner" with which Jewish community centres across the continent "dealt with the situation." It also commended the Los Angeles staff at the centre and the Los Angeles police and fire departments "for their swift and courageous response to this difficult event."

Buford Furrow, the suspect in the shootings at a Los Angeles Jewish Community Centre, is surrounded by U.S. federal agents as he leaves the Foley Federal Building in Las Vegas after an initial court appearance. [RNS photo]

Most seriously injured was a 5-year old boy, not yet identified, who was shot twice, one bullet piercing his abdomen, the other his foot. After undergoing six hours of surgery, the boy, who doctors described as "a real fighter," was in serious but stable condition.

Lesser injuries were sustained by Isabelle Shalometh, 68, the centre's receptionist; Mindy Finkelstein, 16, a camp counsellor; and Joshua Stepakoff, 6.

Another injured 6-year old boy was not identified at his parents' request.

Authorities said they filed a warrant charging Furrow, 37, with five state counts of attempted murder and that he will be extradited to Los Angeles after an arraignment. Federal civil rights charges may also be brought.

Police and media reports say Furrow has had a history of mental problems, criminal assaults and has been affiliated with various racist and anti-Semitic groups.

The Seattle Times reported that Furrow was also a member of the white supremacist Aryan Nations.

The Los Angeles-based Simon Wiesenthal Centre said that a munitions-laden van, apparently abandoned by Furrow after the shooting, contained a book written by Richard Kelly Hoskins, a former member of the American Nazi Party and an adherent of the anti-Semitic Christian Identity movement.

"Hoskins believes that Jews are a satanic threat to civilization and that 'people of color' are subhuman," said Rabbi Marvin Hier, dean of the Wiesenthal Centre.

Rabbi Abraham Cooper, associate dean of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre, told CNN that Furrow had visited the centre's Museum of Tolerance recently and was thrown out for "abnormal" behavior.

Furrow is a resident of Olympia, Wash., and reportedly once lived with Debbie Mathews, widow of Robert Mathews, founder of the hate group called The Order. Mathews was killed in 1984 when his hideout caught fire during a shootout with federal agents.

Some 22 Order members were accused of numerous crimes, among them the 1984 murder of Alan Berg, a Jewish talk-show host in Denver.

Thom Mrozek, a spokesman for the U.S. attorney's office in Los Angeles, told the Associated Press that federal prosecutors would also charge Furrow in the slaying of Joseph Ileto, 39, a postal worker killed in Los Angeles about an hour after the JCC shootings.

Ileto was found dead in his driveway. He had just delivered mail to a home and was returning to his truck when he was shot several times, Mrozek said.

The incident has also prompted renewed calls for stricter gun control laws.

Although few believe sweeping changes can be enacted, even in the wake of the string of assaults across the country, some U.S. lawmakers and gun control advocates say it is time for Congress to act on pending legislation that would impose some restrictions on gun sales.

The Senate has already passed a juvenile justice bill that would subject individuals purchasing guns at gun shows to background checks, ban the import of magazines with a capacity of more than 10 rounds, and require that trigger locks or other safety devices be sold with handguns.

But the House of Representatives, following a fierce lobbying effort by the National Rifle Association, rejected those proposals in June.

In the wake the centre's shooting, some Jewish activists are taking lawmakers to task.

"Congress' inaction has left loopholes in our gun control laws, but more importantly it has fostered the culture of violence that spawns tragic and potentially tragic events every week," said Rabbi David Saperstein, director of the Religious Action Centre of Reform Judaism.

Meanwhile, the North Valley JCC, which normally welcomes 200-300 youngsters daily, vowed to carry on. Activities were transferred to a nearby church Wednesday, and will be returned to the centre as soon as the police allow.

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U.S. pushing for quick implementation of Wye

By ALUF BENN
Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

JERUSALEM – U.S. President Bill Clinton is pushing for a quick implementation of the Wye agreement, according to a letter he sent Prime Minister Ehud Barak over the weekend.

The presidential message, following a phone conversation between the two leaders, added to a flurry of U.S. pressure on Israel, including meetings conducted by Justice Minister Yossi Beilin in Washington last week with national security adviser Sandy Berger and Secretary of State Madeleine Albright.

During the session, the Jerusalem envoy was told by the Washington power brokers that a quick withdrawal – and release of security prisoners – is essential to rebuild Palestinian confidence in the peace process.

The U.S. diplomatic messages concede that they know Barak wants to move the process forward, but they express doubts that his plan to turn the third withdrawal into part of the final status deal will win Palestinian support.

Barak, meanwhile, has ordered the army to prepare for a Wye withdrawal commencing on Sept. 1, with the first troop movements scheduled for Oct. 1.

The first top-level U.S. official to visit Israel since the elections will be the chair of the joint chiefs of staff Gen. Henry Shelton, who is due here for meetings with Barak and top IDF officials.

Meanwhile, Israeli and Palestinian negotiators were at the Erez junction to thrash out the details of a compromise plan for a final Israeli withdrawal, according to Wye, in February 2000.

The Palestinians are still unhappy about the delay and Israel is trying to sweeten the deal by offering releases of security prisoners and by giving the go ahead to start construction of the Palestinian port in Gaza.

Clinton's letter was not mentioned by Barak at the cabinet session yesterday. The Prime Minister's Office confirmed that Clinton sent a letter to Barak, but it did not contain any element of "pressure" on Israel.

Barak told ministers yesterday that he expects an agreement with the Palestinians over the next 10 days. He said the talks with the Palestinians include an agreed upon postponement of the third stage of the second withdrawal, while other aspects of the agreement would be advanced.

Deputy Defence Minister Ephraim Sneh met with chief of Palestinian security Muhammad Dahlan, telling him: "We aren't going to cheat you... Barak is a man who keeps his word, and if you insist, he'll implement Wye. But his offer guarantees that the agreement will be even better.

Exploring peace with Syria

By ALUF BENN
Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

JERUSALEM — The United States believes the proposals raised by the late prime minister Yitzhak Rabin in his negotiations with Syria should not be ignored, Secretary of State Madeleine Albright told Justice Minister Yossi Beilin in a meeting in Washington last Friday.

Sources say Albright commented that Rabin's proposals were still valid and must be addressed in the effort to renew the Israeli-Syrian dialogue.

Beilin reported to Prime Minister Ehud Barak on his meeting with Albright.

As a condition for renewing talks, Syria is demanding that Israel respect Rabin's "commitment" to a full withdrawal from the Golan Heights to the borders of June 4, 1967. In the past, the Syrians have asked the United States to base the renewal of talks on their interpretation of the negotiations during Rabin's term. The United States has refused the Syrian request.

American sources had previously told *Ha'aretz* that Albright's predecessor, Warren Christopher, passed a message in July 1994 from Rabin to Syrian President Hafez al-Assad promising withdrawal to the June 4 lines "if Israeli demands for security arrangements and normalization are met."

The same sources emphasized that Rabin's offer was not a "commitment" but rather a "basis for negotiations." In her meeting with Beilin, Albright used a less vague term, but not the word "commitment."

Israeli officials are interpreting Albright's remarks as a signal that the United States is likely to support the Syrian position regarding the starting point for new talks with Israel.

Beilin holds that Rabin's proposal was not an agreement and is not binding on the current government. He believes there is no point in discussing a withdrawal to the June 4 line, which is not a legitimate border. If that is the Syrian demand, then Assad does not really want peace with Israel, Beilin said.

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The Week in Israel

Aug. 9

• Israel launched air strikes against Hezbollah targets in southern Lebanon. The sorties, which followed five other strikes in 24 hours, came in the wake of Hezbollah attacks on Israeli positions in the region. Israel has launched more than 100 such attacks this year.

Aug. 10

• Israel government offices and state-owned utilities are behind schedule in preparing for the Y2K computer bug, according to the state comptroller. The comptroller urged authorities to take the so-called millennium bug more seriously.

• Prime Minister Ehud Barak said Islamic officials violated the law when they widened an opening in a wall of Jerusalem's Temple Mount compound earlier in the week. Barak praised the response of the police, who before dawn, sealed off a door-sized opening excavated at the Al-Aksa Mosque.

Aug. 11

• Security officials sealed the West Bank after a Jew was wounded in a shooting attack near Jenin. The shooting incident came after a Palestinian twice drove his car into a group of Israeli soldiers, wounding 12. The Palestinian was shot and killed.

Aug. 12

• Syria rejected an Israeli call by Foreign Minister David Levy for direct talks. Meanwhile, a Syrian diplomat participated in an open academic meeting attended, for the first time, by Israeli researchers.

• Education Minister Yossi Sarid offered counselling help to the victims of this week's shootings at the JCC near Los Angeles. The ministry has decades of experience in helping victims of terror.

Aug. 13

• Speaking at the 26th graduation ceremony of the National Security College, Barak urged Syrian President Hafez al-Assad to seize a "historic opportunity" to make peace with Israel.

Files from JTA and Ha'aretz.

Moscow chief rabbi slams Russian authorities

By JULIA GOLDMAN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

NEW YORK — Russia is not "responding adequately to political and violent anti-Semitism," said the chief rabbi of Moscow.

Noting a recent spate of anti-Semitic acts, including the July 12 knifing of a prominent member of the Moscow Jewish community, Rabbi Pinchas Goldschmidt told a recent gathering of American Jewish leaders here that neither the Moscow city government nor the country's federal government is fulfilling its promises to provide security for Jewish sites in Russia.

At a news conference at Anti-Defamation League headquarters in New York, Rabbi Goldschmidt also formally announced the creation of a joint institute to monitor anti-Semitism in Russia.

The Russian Jewish Congress, an umbrella organization, will work together with the ADL, the National Conference on Soviet Jewry and other groups to study Russian public attitudes toward Jews.

A poll of these attitudes is already under way, according to the national director of the ADL, Abraham Foxman. He said the American and Russian groups will work "jointly to determine the best steps to expose" the extent of Russian anti-Semitism and will produce educational publications to distribute to the Russian public.

Rabbi Goldschmidt said Russian Jews "are apprehensive, and some people are worried about who is standing behind" the recent attacks, explaining that the government's inaction is breeding suspicion that it may not want to find the perpetrators.

Three bombings that occurred in Russia during the past four months remain unsolved. The attacker in the July 12 incident was apprehended by private security officers hired by the Jewish community, Rabbi Goldschmidt said.

"Without the provision of local Jewish business people providing their own security," he said, most Jewish property would be "not secured at all."

Contrasting the recent attacks in Russia to the shootings at a Jewish community centre near Los Angeles, Rabbi Goldschmidt pointed out that American political figures and law enforcement officials responded "right away."

During a visit to Washington last month, then-prime minister Sergei Stepashin met with the heads of American Jewish organizations and vowed to "eradicate" anti-Semitism.

In introducing Rabbi Goldschmidt, Ronald Lauder, chair of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, said that what Russian leaders "say here and what they say in Russia are two different things. What they say in Russia is – they don't say anything" about anti-Semitism.

Stepashin was fired suddenly last week and replaced by a former internal security chief, Vladimir Putin.

Rabbi Goldschmidt expressed hope that the new Cabinet appointed by President Boris Yeltsin would implement a crackdown on anti-Semitism as one of its first priorities.

"There is not enough local pressure or national pressure," he said, adding that "the Jewish community is only coming into being now" in Russia.

He said he was looking forward to a visit from American Jewish leaders to lend support to the cause.

Asked if the recent change in government gave him any reason to be hopeful that the Russian government would put more emphasis on Jewish security, Rabbi Goldschmidt said, "As Jews, we always have to be optimistic."

Government shake-up concerns Russian Jews

By LEV KRICHEVSKY
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

MOSCOW — Russian President Boris Yeltsin's latest cabinet reshuffling could hinder the government's ability to crack down on anti-Semitism, according to Russian Jewish leaders.

"There is little grounds for optimism when we call on the government to ensure stability but there is no stability with the government itself," said Pavel Feldblum, the executive vice-president of the Moscow Jewish Community.

Feldblum's comments came after Yeltsin sacked his entire cabinet, including Prime Minister Sergei Stepashin, in a surprise move last week. Yeltsin replaced Stepashin, the fourth prime minister he has fired in the last 17 months, with security chief Vladimir Putin, a former KGB spy.

During a trip to Washington last month, Stepashin condemned anti-Semitism in Russia and vowed to "eradicate" it.

Last week's news took leading politicians, experts and ordinary Russians by surprise. Last week, Moscow's leading newspapers speculated about an impending cabinet reshuffle, but few expected the change would come so soon.

Like Stepashin, Putin, 47, is a native of St. Petersburg. A former aide to St. Petersburg's liberal former mayor, Anatoly Sobchak, Putin has enjoyed a meteoric rise in the Kremlin.

Recently he has been the director of the Federal Security Service (FSS), the Russian domestic intelligence agency that is the successor to the Soviet-era KGB, as well as the secretary of Yeltsin's Security Council.

Putin, who has a reputation for being loyal and cautious, said he planned to retain key ministers from the outgoing government in his new cabinet. He also vowed his administration would continue the Kremlin's current policies, including a commitment to economic reforms.

In his previous jobs, Putin became familiar with some of the issues that concern Russia's Jewish community. As the former head of the FSS, and in his work on the Security Council and on a presidential commission to combat extremism, Putin dealt with the issues of anti-Semitism, neo-Nazism and racism in Russian society. But Putin has never made any direct public comments about anti-Semitism.

Putin has had several meetings with Jewish officials, according to Moscow's chief rabbi, Pinchas Goldschmidt. Last year Rabbi Goldschmidt was among a group of Jewish leaders who met with Putin, then head of the FSS, to discuss security-related issues.

Putin was "sympathetic" to issues raised by the Jewish leaders in the meeting, said Mark Levin, executive director of the Washington-based National Conference on Soviet Jewry, who participated in the meeting.

But Levin and the Union of Council for Soviet Jews, another U.S.-based advocacy group for Jews in the former Soviet Union, expressed caution over the appointment.

As with most previous reshuffling, the reason for Yeltsin's latest decision remains unclear.

In a televised address to the nation, Yeltsin said he would like to see Putin as Russia's next president.

But according to a new poll, Putin enjoys little popularity among Russia's electorate. Ninety-two percent of 3,049 callers to a poll conducted last week by the Echo Moskvy radio station said they would not cast their votes for him if he ran for president.

The Duma, Russia's lower house of parliament, is expected to approve Putin's appointment.

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German Jewish leader Bubis buried in Tel Aviv

By TOBY AXELROD
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

BERLIN — A man who witnessed the near destruction of German Jewry in the Holocaust, but survived to help preside over its renaissance, died last week at the age of 72.

In keeping with his wishes, Ignatz Bubis, the outspoken and respected leader of Germany's Jewish community, was buried Sunday in Tel Aviv.

That he chose to be buried in Israel rather than in Germany, illustrates a failure he said he felt toward the end of his life – the failure to convince his fellow Germans that they cannot escape their past, but that they bear a unique responsibility to be a light unto other nations in remembering and preventing another Holocaust.

Bubis' death came weeks after he said he would rather be buried in Israel than in Germany because he feared that his grave would be desecrated like that of his predecessor, Heinz Galinski.

On Sunday, his request was fulfilled in the Kiryat Shaul cemetery in Tel Aviv, where German President Johannes Rau and Israeli President Ezer Weizman led some 200 mourners at his funeral.

The Central Council of Jews in Germany reported that Bubis died at a hospital in his home city of Frankfurt. The exact cause of death was not given, but Bubis had suffered a series of illnesses in recent months. He is survived by his wife, Ida, and their daughter, Naomi Ann.

Across the nation, Bubis was mourned as a man who brought his own experience as a Holocaust survivor to bear on behalf of all minority groups in Germany.

In Berlin, the public was invited to write words of condolence in a book in the Jewish community centre. Flowers were placed there and at another Jewish centre.

Because he survived the Holocaust, part of Bubis' job was to warn his fellow Germans not to stray down the path of intolerance again. But he was also one of those eyewitnesses whose jobs have been increasingly replaced by memorial stones and museums.

Germans are marking with fanfare their metamorphosis into a phase when they're not branded by the crimes of their elders. They want to be considered a normal nation, even using the term Never Again Auschwitz as a slogan behind which their soldiers joined the NATO forces in Kosovo.

When Bubis believed his fellow citizens had failed to learn from their tragic history, he blamed himself.

"I am ashamed for you," he said from a podium in Berlin, when neo-Nazis threw stones and tomatoes at Germans demonstrating against racism in 1992.

"All decent Germans carry his message in their hearts," wrote the journalist Volker Mueller.

Jewish leaders in Germany and abroad and German politicians from across the political spectrum – some of whom had verbally sparred with Bubis – mourned his death.

Bubis was known for being outspoken when he believed his fellow citizens needed to be criticized. Last year, he took German writer Martin Walser – expressing an opinion held by many postwar Germans – to task for saying it was time to stop using the term Auschwitz as a whip against Germany.

Be it in favor of the integration of new citizens, or against right-wing extremism, Bubis let his opinion be known.

Bubis said he supported a Holocaust memorial in Berlin, but not at the expense of protecting the memorials at concentration camp sites. Germany's culture minister, Michael Naumann, recently promised to nearly double the funding available to such memorials.

Bubis, who was born in 1927 in Breslau – now Wroclaw, Poland, but then a part of Germany – lost his father and two siblings in the Holocaust. He was liberated from a labor camp in 1945 by the Russian army and called his survival an accident. He later settled in Frankfurt, where he became a successful, if sometimes controversial, real estate investor.

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Customers bid farewell to Shoppers' Rae Frank

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — After 50 years working in the same drug store at Bathurst and Glencairn, Rae Frank, 74, has retired.

Customers, many of them close friends, gathered recently to say goodbye to the sprightly woman who always gave helpful advice with a smile.

"I'll just take it easy for a few weeks and then decide what to do with my spare time, probably volunteering of some kind," she said.

For 24 years, Frank worked side by side with her late husband, Harry, in running Northways Pharmacy, and then stayed on for 24 more years at Shoppers, in the same location.

"I had good days and bad days, just like everybody else."

In the past few months she had slowed down, and was working for Norman Stern, the franchise owner, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., helping in the dispensary.

In the early days at Northways, she was working 100 hours a week, seven days a week, and raising three children besides.

"In those days, mothers didn't go to work as much and my children resented the time I spent away from them. But now that they are parents they understand," she said.

The children helped out in the store whenever they were needed, despite their resentment, Frank said.

In 1972, the Franks tried living in Israel for six months with the intention of making aliyah.

"It would have been a different life for us, but as it turned out Murray Koffler offered Harry and me a chance to work at Shoppers and we came back to Canada."

But the Franks never lost touch with their many friends in Israel,

Rae Frank

making at least 30 trips there over the years.

One of the reasons for their frequent trips was to see their daughter, Pam Ahlfeld and her family, who lived in Israel for 10 years and now live in Toronto.

Frank's other two children are Dr. Sheldon Frank, a specialist in gynecology and obstetrics in Kitchener, and Elana Frank Simpson, a Toronto film producer. She has seven grandchildren, ranging in age from 12 to 25.

Even after he graduated in medicine, Sheldon delivered prescriptions for his father's pharmacy if the need arose.

Rae and Harry Frank were married in 1943 while Harry was in the armed services . Rae continued working to help her husband go through pharmacy college after he was discharged.

"Pharmacy has changed a lot in 50 years," she said. " It is now much more automated, which is easier on the customer. And there are so many new medicines. People are living longer and more healthful lives."

She is grateful that her long career enabled her to make so many friends.

Since she lives close to the store, Frank will continue to be a familiar figure in the area.

Ben and Hilda Katz honored as Baycrest Man/Woman of the year

TORONTO — A couple who immigrated from Poland in the early '20s were honored recently by Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care as Man and Woman of the Year.

At the ceremony in June, the Katzes announced another endowment to Baycrest, the Ben and Hilda chair in gerontological nursing.

"Ben and Hilda Katz are not only great benefactors for Baycrest, but are visionaries who saw the potential of this centre to become a world leader in geriatric care and helped to make it happen," said Marvin Sadowski, chair of Baycrest's board of directors.

The Katzes' association with Baycrest began more than 30 years ago when Hilda's mother Rose Shanfield moved to the Jewish Home for the Aged. The couple was so impressed with the excellent care Shanfield received that they decided to support Baycrest.

In the early '80s, the Katzes gave a significant donation toward the building of Baycrest's hospital, which bears their name. The gift inspired many in the community to give contributions to the hospital.

"Ben and Hilda Katz are the heart and soul of Baycrest," said Sam Ruth, executive vice-president of Baycrest until 1980.

In addition to these two donations, the Katzes have also supported the transportation fund; the scholars endowment fund; the Centre for Gerontological Social Work at Baycrest and University of Toronto (the first centre of its kind in Canada) and lots more.

Hilda and Ben Katz

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TV show on A Quest for Meaning

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Where would one see a haredi Jew and a homosexual rabbi in the same context – and maybe earn a university credit in the process?

The answer: On Vision TV.

Judaism – A Quest for Meaning is a 12-part series with Toronto educator and writer Elliott Malamet. The basis for a University of Waterloo distance education course, it will run on Wednesdays from 8:30 to 9:00 p.m., beginning Sept. 1.

The show will also appear on the Odyssey Channel in the United States, and eventually on TVOntario and City TV. It was produced in association with all four stations.

The series came to be after Sleeping Giant Productions, a Toronto company whose motto is "television that matters," approached the university last year about doing a series on Judaism, with the idea of turning it into a distance education course.

Waterloo offers about 200 such courses, including two with Judaic content, to students across Canada.

Prof. Paul Socken, chair of the dean's advisory committee on Jewish studies (and chair of Waterloo's department of French studies), liked the idea, provided it was "theme-based – like what an ancient faith like Judaism has to offer a modern society."

Socken's role, he said, was that of "shadchan" between Sleeping Giant and Malamet. Socken also hired Malamet as an adjunct professor to develop and teach the course, called *The Quest for Meaning in Modern Judaism.*

A scene from one of the episodes of *Judaism-A Quest for Meaning.*

"The reason I thought of Elliott," said Socken, "is that he has the perfect synthesis of being able to speak to ordinary people and to keep the academic level very high."

Malamet, 39, has a PhD in English literature, and teaches rabbinics and Jewish ethics at the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto (CHAT). He has also taught at the University of Toronto and Queen's University.

A *CJN* columnist, he has written as well for the *National Post* and has appeared as a guest on CBC television and radio.

Every week he leads an interactive educational adult service at Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue, drawing on an eclectic variety of sources.

"A lot… that emerged on the television series is stuff we talked about at Pray and Learn," Malamet said.

Although he hadn't considered doing such a project himself, Malamet thought it was the type of thing that should be done. The offer to participate was "absolutely fate-ridden," he said.

The series was filmed in Toronto, New York, Boston and Israel. Among those featured are author/lawyer Alan Dershowitz, feminist author Letty Cottin Pogrebin, educator Rachael Turkienicz, filmmaker Simcha Jacobovici and rabbis from every denomination.

"We tried to get as much diversity as possible," said Malamet.

"These people would never get together in real life," he noted. "That, I found fascinating."

A segment called *Trouble in the Family*, referring to disunity among the denominations of Judaism, is one of Malamet's favorites. "I think it's very important. Exciting, actually," he said.

The final episode, filmed at CHAT and the Toronto Heschel School, is also important, he said.

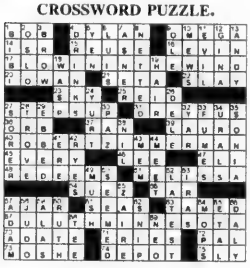
The videotapes are "almost a kind of teaser for the more substantive academic work" of the course, said Malamet.

To the best of Socken's knowledge, the project is precedent-setting.

"Although [Waterloo's Jewish studies program is] small and we're beginning, we're trying to do things that are innovative, exciting and topical, and that will give Waterloo a place in the constellation of Jewish Studies programs," he said.

Students enrolling in the course will have additional course work, assignments and a final exam.

ANSWERS TO THIS WEEK'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE.



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Art for Everyone

TORONTO — The Satok School of the Arts is having an Art For Everyone Festival based on the theme of The Star of David.

The evening will begin with a tour of the students' art work created by students of all ages. Blind artist Ron Satok will do a performance art piece on the theme of Goliath. Satok said his performance art piece will focus on the surprise and shock that Goliath feels after being hit in the head by David's stone.

Ontario Lieut-Gov. **Hillary Weston** will be in attendance at the opening on Aug. 24.

The show runs until Sept. 10 by appointment only. On Sept. 11-12, the show will be open to the public from 11a.m. to 5 p.m.

Satok School of the Arts, 446 Ontario St., Toronto. 967-0780.

Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

CRITIC PICKS 50 GREATEST JEWISH FILMS

Kathryn Bernheimer, a critic of Jewish films based in Denver, has accomplished an audacious and entertaining deed in her recent book, *The 50 Greatest Jewish Movies: A Critic's Ranking of the Very Best* (Birch Lane Press).

In the process of listing her choices, she pays thoughtful homage to a vast and growing body of cinematic work that extends back to early film classics such as *The Golem* (silent, 1920), *The Jazz Singer* (the first talkie, 1927) and *The Great Dictator* (1936), and right up to such contemporary gems as *Schindler's List* (1993) and *Shine* (1996).

Woody Allen is well represented with *Annie Hall* (1977), which Bernheimer calls "the most beloved Jewish romantic comedy of all time," *Broadway Danny Rose* (1984) in which Allen plays one of his "most sympathetic and thoroughly Jewish characters," and *Crimes and Misdemeanors* (1989), rightly extolled as "a complex morality tale that ranks as the cinema's most rigorous exploration of Jewish values and ethics."

Paul Mazursky is another of Bernheimer's favorite directors, weighing in with *Down and Out in Beverly Hills* ("a comic Jewish success story," 1986) and *Enemies, A Love Story*, a deft 1989 treatment of **I. B. Singer's** novel of Holocaust survivors coping in America. Director *Joan Macklin Silver* directed two strong contenders, *Hester Street* (1974) and *Crossing Delancey* (1988), but only the latter made it into the top 50; *Hester Street*, however, is given due homage.

Bernheimer's number 1 film is *The Chosen* (1981), "one of the most profoundly Jewish films ever made." Following close behind is *Fiddler on the Roof* (1971). Besides titles already mentioned, the top 10 list includes *Shoah* (1985), *Funny Girl* (1968), *Gentleman's Agreement* (1947), *Exodus* (1960) and the two biblical epics *Ben-Hur* (1959) and *The Ten Commandments* (1956), which share the number 10 spot.

Canada is represented with **Ted Kotcheff's** treatment of the **Mordecai Richler** novel *The Apprenticeship of Duddy Kravitz* (1974) and the cinematic rendering of **Morley Torgov's** novel *The Outside Chance of Maximilian Glick* (1988), which Bernheimer calls "an utterly charming coming-of-age comedy." Honorable mention is given to *The Quarrel*, another Canadian entry which Bernheimer admits did not receive its due critical acclaim.

As expected, Bernheimer's list includes *The Pawnbroker*, *The Diary of Anne Frank*, *Goodbye Columbus*, *Cabaret*, *Biloxi Blues* and *Yentl*. I heartily endorse her inclusion of *Driving Miss Daisy* (1989) and the 1988 documentary *Almonds and Raisins: A History of the Yiddish Cinema* – chosen as a stand-in for the many Yiddish classics produced between 1927 and 1939.

Old standards on the list include *Body and Soul* (1947), *The Last Angry Man* (1959), *A Majority of One* (1962), *The Young Lions* (1957) and *Marjorie Morningstar* (1958).

More questionable, perhaps, is the inclusion of the **Mel Brooks** comedy *Blazing Saddles* (1974), the gangster film *Bugsy* (1991), the **von Bulow** murder story of *Reversal of Fortune* (1990), the traumatic thriller *Marathon Man* (1976), the syrupy Dickens-based musical *Oliver!* (1968) and the "highly commercial, superficial yet appealing" *Dirty Dancing* (1987).

Foreign films on the list include *Au Revoir Les Enfants* (France, 1987), *The Revolt of Job* (Hungary, 1987), *Madame Rosa* (1977) and *Europa Europa* (Germany, 1991).

In an afterword, Bernheimer attempts to explain the exclusion of such films as *Sophie's Choice*, *The Garden of the Finzi-Continis*, *The Shop on Main Street*, *The Frisco Kid*, *The Sunshine Boys* and *Crossfire*. Ultimately, she acknowledges there just wasn't enough space.

Paikin's visit to Kirkland Lake is a bitter-sweet portrait

By **SHELDON KIRSHNER**
Staff Reporter

At one time, six out of 10 stores in Kirkland Lake's business district were Jewish-owned. Today, as in other small Ontario towns, the Jewish community has dwindled to the point of no return.

On Aug. 23, Steve Paikin of TV-Ontario's *Studio 2* visits Kirkland Lake and meditates on its Jewish past, present and future.

Appropriately enough, his documentary focuses on the cemetery, perhaps the most concrete manifestation of a once-vigorous Jewish presence in this northern Ontario settlement.

The original settlers, we're told, came to Kirkland Lake to mine economic opportunities. Some were merchants. Still others were farmers. But it was essentially a transient community.

One settler, Hyman Kaplan, settled in a town called Swastika, which still exists, and then moved on to Kirkland Lake.

Eddie Duke, Paikin's 78-year-old guide, recalls some of the old characters. One of them, Roza Brown, who died in 1947 at 94, was a gold prospector who had been a laundry worker in Cobalt.

In its heyday, Kirkland Lake's Jewish community was something of a hub. Duke recalls that parties and festivities attracted Jews from neighboring towns like Timmins and Noranda.

By the 1970s, the community had decreased significantly. The synagogue, built in 1927, was sold in 1971 because a minyan couldn't be raised.

And now, as Duke accompanies Paikin through the cemetery, he laments that no one may be left to say kaddish for him.

A bitter-sweet portrait of Jewish smalltown Ontario.

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Re-imagining the Shtetl (Canada/USA) Literary readings with Yehuda Elberg, Kafka Eliach and Lilian Nattel. Sept. 1, $8

Diamonds in the Dark by A Traveling Jewish Theatre (San Francisco) Sept. 1 & 2, $20/$15/$12

SHTICK! by Sara Felder (San Francisco) Sept. 4 & 5, $20/$15

The Kabbalistic Psychoanalysis of Adam R. Tzaddik by Moriah Productions (Toronto) Sept. 4 & 5, $10/$12/$10

The Golem (Poland/USA) A silent film with live music. With Alan Bern, Aug. 31 with Daniel Hoffman Quartet, Sept. 5, $8

Brave Old World's Song of the Lodz Ghetto (USA) Sept. 5, $12/$8

Ashkenaz Fidl Kapelye (International) Sept. 5, $8

New Yiddish Chorale (New York) with Toronto Jewish Folk Choir Sept. 6, $8

Marty Ehrlich and the Dark Woods Ensemble (New York) Sept. 6, $10

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Arts & Travel

Fleischer Museum boasts collection of impressionism

By SHEILA DROPKIN
Special to The CJN

SCOTTSDALE — Before the first week of our holiday in the Phoenix/Scottsdale region of Arizona was over, my husband and I had visited all the major private art galleries, the fabulous new Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art (which had opened the day of our arrival) and the exhibition of artifacts from ancient Egypt in the Phoenix Art Museum. And so we were wondering where to go next.

In addition to all the scenic wonders of the mountains and desert, this part of the United States is ideal for providing an art fix, even when you can't afford to purchase anything.

To our delight, we were referred to the Fleischer Museum in north Scottsdale, as far away as one can get from the art scene and still be in the same city. Opened in 1990 as the first museum dedicated to American Impressionism, California School, the Fleischer is a unique example of the blend of art and business.

The museum, open daily except holidays, is the focal point of the corporate headquarters of Franchise Finance Corporation of America (FFCA) and admission is free. The day we visited, we shared the space with about 20 elementary school students, their teacher and a docent.

The Fleischer includes a two-story exhibition space and a sky-lit sculpture court, occupying 15,000 of the 60,000 square feet available inside the dramatic building, which is a work of art unto itself.

Constructed of red sandstone and other materials native to Arizona, including granite and copper, the $8.5 million (US) structure is the brainchild of Morton Fleischer, FFCA founder and president, and his wife Donna, who serves as curator of the museum.

The drama and beauty of the museum is contrasted sharply with what appeared to be the rather pedestrian offices of the corporation's 75 employees, which can be glimpsed through the windows of the sculpture court.

I did note, though, that the offices had art on the walls and read subsequently that all the office furniture is top of the line. Employees also enjoy a fully equipped health club, an aerobics centre and a racquetball court.

Located on 260 acres of vast expanse, against the scenic backdrop of the McDowell Mountains and the Sonoran Desert, the building boasts a sense of western grandeur and majesty.

Completing the atmosphere is the dramatic 15-foot bronze sculpture by artist Buck McCain which is located at the building's entrance. Called *Spirit,* it features five life-size frolicking horses.

The museum's permanent collection was based on the Fleischers' personal acquisition of more than 150 California impressionism pieces.

After a 40-year period of anonymity, there has been renewed interest in this school of art since the 1970s. The school was founded by artists who traveled and painted internationally and had settled in California at some point in their careers.

They came there for the climate, beauty of the diverse landscape and the availability of bright, sunny days. They enjoyed great success in the early years of this century until the advent of modernism in the 1930s.

The Fleischers began their collection in 1983 with the purchase of *Mount Alice at Sunset,* a dramatic oil painting by Franz Bischoff which hangs in a place of honor in the museum. They haven't looked back since and as the size and scope of the collection grew, Donna Fleischer left her own horticulture business to serve as its full time director.

Although some of the artists were native Californians, most came from elsewhere in the United States, Europe and even Canada. Among the paintings on exhibit were two by Canadians John Wesley Cotton and James Arthur Murrow.

Canadian-born William Clapp, who was raised in California and studied art in Paris in the early 1900s, is represented by a pointillist-style painting called *Steep City Street, 1944.* Pointillism relies on the effect of a multitude of dots of color which create a vibrant and radiant picture.

While the focus remains on American impressionism, the museum now also includes Russian and Soviet impressionism from the Cold War era, serving as a window to Russian life during the Soviet era. In fact, the receptionist told us that some of the paintings we were admiring were soon to be removed to make room for an upcoming exhibit of Russian works of art.

For more about the Fleischer, visit its Web site at, www.fleischer.org.

Spy deserves 'Righteous' honor

By JOSEPH SERGE
Arts Editor

When I visited Yad Vashem in Jerusalem this year, I was struck by the sheer number of trees dedicated to Righteous Gentiles. They seemed to go on forever around the museum's grounds, each representing someone who rescued Jews from Germany and Nazi-occupied countries.

Yet at present there isn't one tree dedicated to British spy Frank Foley, who according to *Foley, The Spy Who Saved 10,000 Jews* by Michael Smith (Hodder & Stoughton), used his cover as a passport control officer in pre-war Berlin to hasten the emigration requirements of many German Jews.

Officially working for British intelligence in Weimar Germany, Foley was a passport control officer in the British Consulate.

"Anyone seeking a visa to come to Britain or anywhere in the Empire had to be vetted by the local passport control officer... to keep track of Bolsheviks and anarchists," Smith writes.

Following Hitler's rise to power in the early '30s, Foley became increasingly busy when Jews who saw Kristallnacht and other state-sanctioned pogroms as portents of the Holocaust started lining up outside the consulate.

Immediately sympathizing with their cause, in 1935, Foley cabled London that Britain must relax its immigration laws. "For the Jewish youth, the future holds out no prospects in Germany and the greater part will be forced to emigrate."

And though in the '30s, the Nazis encouraged Jews to emigrate, bureaucracy and catch-22s (both British and German) made emigration to Palestine virtually impossible.

The British allowed emigration to Palestine via a Capitalist Visa for which potential immigrants needed to show they had enough money to start a new life.

However, any money a potential emigrant collected was taxed by the Nazis at 25 percent. The rest of their marks were paid into a *Sonderkonto,* or blocked account, that would be transferred at a high rate of exchange to Palestine. Not until this amount was transferred would the Germans give an exit visa, and this often took many months.

The trouble was the British wanted to see the money before they issued an entry visa.

"It was a catch-22 situation. I could only get the money once I was in Palestine and the British couldn't give me an entry visa before I had the money in hand," Wolfgang Meyer-Michael, a German Jew wanting to leave, says in the book.

"[There was] a very charming man, a Captain Foley, who was very interested in my plans and quite obviously prepared to help."

Foley used his connections in the Passport Office to expedite the emigration of fleeing Jews as well as he could. In this instance, Foley suggested that Meyer-Michael obtain a promissory note from a relative in Holland, even if his relative didn't have the money.

"The whole thing was a ploy. Foley knew that as well as I. But ...within half an hour I had the [entry visa] in my hands."

The first half of the book is full of incidents where Foley interceded on behalf of fleeing Jews.

A young woman, 19, Jewish and a communist, wanted to join her boyfriend and baby's father in Rhodesia. Although she was granted an exit visa by the Gestapo, the Rhodesians would have turned her down because of her communist affiliations. Her friends suggested she see Foley.

Smith writes: "'How old is she?' Frank asked. Told that she was 19, he replied: 'She was in prison for two years. That means she must have been just 17 when she was a communist. It seems to me that at that age anyone is likely to commit a youthful folly. Tell her to come and see me tomorrow.'"

When she went the next day, Foley had a visa ready for her.

"Quite how many Jews Frank had saved from the impending Holocaust is impossible to tell," the author says. " But one of those best placed to know said that between 1933 and 1939, tens of thousands more people received visas than should have done under a strict interpretation of the rules."

Frank Foley in 1939

At the outbreak of war, Foley had to leave Germany.

The second half of the book deals mostly with Foley's involvement in wartime espionage. Foley was one of the chief interrogators of Rudolf Hess when he flew to Britain on a peace mission.

Some of these espionage stories are intriguing, although they have nothing to do with the main focus of the book, Foley's involvement in rescuing Jews from pre-war Germany.

But there are also a fair number of digressionary chapters. A history of the Nazis' rise to power and of Palestine and the Balfour Declaration isn't really necessary.

Still it is a worthy book and Foley is worthy of the title Righteous Among the Nations.

In a note at the end of the book, the author pleads Foley's case: "The German Jews who arrived in Palestine had done what they could, entering his name in the Golden Book of the Keren Kayemet, the Jewish National Fund, and planting a grove of trees [at Kibbutz Harel, outside Jerusalem]. But the most widely recognized honor accorded to those who helped the Jews has been denied Foley for what seem quite spurious reasons."

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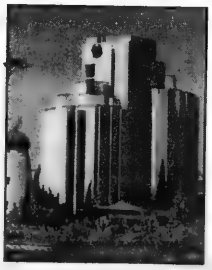

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A spiritual journey of discovery

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

Synagogues have played a central role in Jewish communal life and worship since the destruction of the Second Temple.

And if you haven't noticed, synagogue buildings are extraordinarily imaginative from an architectural point of view.

There are synagogues in Hungary, Germany and Canada shaped like Moorish temples.

There are mud synagogues in Morocco and Yemen.

There are wooden synagogues in Poland.

There are ultra-modern synagogues in the United States whose crystalline forms create a mountain of light.

And, of course, there are the ruins of ancient synagogues in Israel.

Samuel Gruber, director of the Jewish Heritage Research Center in Syracuse, New York, has been studying synagogues near and far for years now.

This is readily evident as you flip through the pages of his handsome coffee-table book, *Synagogues* (Metro Books).

The Suchowola Synagogue, built in the mid-1700s was a fine example of Poland's wooden synagogues.

This informative and lavishly illustrated 120-page volume graciously unfolds in nine chapters.

Gruber analyses the synagogue in terms of its form and function.

He explores synagogues in the ancient world, the Middle Ages and the Renaissance.

He highlights synagogues in Muslim countries and in India and East Asia.

He studies Reform synagogues, and synagogues which have been lovingly rebuilt.

And last but not least, he offers up a portfolio of synagogues in the United States, home to the world's largest Jewish community.

Leafing through *Synagogues*, I was especially struck by the magnificent interior of an Orthodox shul in Presov, Slovakia; by an ancient synagogue in Galilee; by Aleppo's now empty and silent synagogue; by Cochin's palm-fringed synagogue; by Budapest's Romanesque masterpiece; and by Frank Lloyd Wright's high-vaulted temple in Elkins Park, Pennsylvania.

Synagogues, in short, takes us on a spiritual journey of discovery.

Exhibition features over 35 artists

By MIRIAM CHINSKY
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Dialogue, at the John B. Aird Gallery, is an absorbing Montreal import presented by the Association of Jewish Artists. Held over until Sept. 25, it showcases some 40 works by over 35 artists in a variety of media and styles.

Produced by former Montrealer Gary Bercovitch, Susan Garfield-Shulman, and Sol Levinson, founder of the group, it features artists of note as well as aspiring newcomers.

Bercovitch, who co-ordinated the Toronto exhibition, sees the juried selection culled from "the cream" of a Montreal show held in May and also entitled Dialogue, as representative of the comprehensive spectrum within the Jewish community. He adds, however, that non-Jewish artists were invited to contribute to the exhibition, and the word Dialogue derives from the joint venture.

Subject matter offers wide appeal, ranging from city highrise to wooded landscape, from sensuous nude to Kabbalah concept.

When Love Beckons by Nicole Landy.

Artists include: Bercovitch, Blaukopf, Bloom Spunt, Brooks-Bercovitch, Caiserman-Roth RCA, Dietcher, Drewry, Evette, Garfield-Shulman, Goldfarb, Green, Grostern, Heimlich, Herman, Herscovitch, Horowitz, Khandijian, Landy, Lang-Browns, Letovsky, Levinson, Levy, Mendel, Papier, Rill, Rohrlich, Rubinfeld, Rubinoff, Silverstein, Tyshler, L. Vineberg, M. Vineberg, Whol, Wolf, Wolfstein-Joseph.

The exhibition is sponsored, in part, in recognition of MAZON CANADA, funding food services for those in need. "We like to give back to the community in general," Bercovitch notes.

The Association of Jewish Artists was formed one year ago in Montreal. "Bringing together Jewish identified artists, it looks to providing both a communal voice and fine exhibition venues," says Bercovitch. Current membership is 45 but he observes, "Based on the quality of work shown in Dialogue, we expect to recruit many more Ontario visual artists to the association.

He believes that Jewish artists throughout the province will want to identify with one another and be interested in mutual feedback.

For membership information contact artists@altavista.net or write The Association of Jewish Artists, 455 Broadview Ave., Toronto, Ont. M4K 2N3.

John B. Aird Gallery, Macdonald Block, 900 Bay St., is open Tuesday to Saturday. To inquire further call 928-6772.

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Health

THREE CENTURY CLUB

Minn Sandler, 103, recently joined Helen Johns, minister of citizenhip, culture and recreation with responsibility for seniors and women, to launch the Three Century Club. As part of Ontario 2000, the province's program to commemorate the new millennium, the club honors Ontario residents whose lives span the 19th, 20th and 21st centuries. The launch took place at Baycrest Centre, where Sandler lives.

New densitometer at Baycrest helps to detect osteoporosis

TORONTO — A state-of-the-art bone densitometer has been added to the diagnostic imaging department at Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care, to more accurately detect osteoporosis in seniors and get them into treatment earlier.

The Hologics QDR 4500 SL bone densitometer is considered to be among the most advanced technologies available for measuring bone loss. Baycrest is only the second health care facility in Toronto to use it; the other is St. Joseph's Health Centre.

Unlike conventional densitometers, which measure bone mineral density in the hip and spine, the new technology does an additional side-view scan of the spine, providing a more accurate reading.

"The lateral scan can detect osteoporosis in difficult or early cases where a conventional study might miss it," says Wendy Lavine, director of diagnositic imaging at Baycrest. For example, osteo-arthritis, which is prevalent among the elderly, can falsely increase the bone mineral density measure in a conventional frontal reading of the spine.

The new technology also eliminates the need for elderly patients to shift their bodies into different positions for the measurement. Such shifting can compromise accurate readings. Instead they simply lie still on a flat bed and the densitometer conveniently moves around them.

The risk of osteoporosis-related injuries, especially hip fractures, is high among the elderly. Osteoporosis-related fractures cost Ontario's health system $394 million a year, according to the Osteoporosis Society of Canada.

A diagnosis of bone loss can alert doctors to those seniors at risk of osteoporotic bone injuries, and get them into a comprehensive treatment program that includes medication, diet and exercise to slow down or possibly reverse the degenerative disease. Such action will help seniors stay active and healthy longer, and reduce their risk of fractures.

"An important part of treatment is that doctors be able to measure the effectiveness of drug therapies and other interventions on a patient with osteoporosis over a period of time," says Dr. Terumi Izukawa, deputy head, department of medicine, at Baycrest Centre.

"Lateral densitometry will show with more accuracy if there has been an increase in bone density with a particular drug treatment, or if bone loss has at least slowed."

In addition to drug therapy to treat osteoporosis, Baycrest has partnered with two other Toronto hospitals and Public Health to run POWER – an innovative exercise, education and nutrition program for adults aged 55+ who are diagnosed with osteoporosis. POWER is supported by the Regional Geriatric Program of Metropolitan Toronto, and Procter and Gamble Inc.

Baycrest's bone densitometry service is available to adults aged 55+ with a referral from their doctor. It's part of Baycrest's overall osteoporosis treatment strategy, which includes the osteoporosis clinic, the POWER program, and the fitness and health promotion program.

Researchers fight against STSS

TORONTO — The deadly killer Streptococcal Toxic Shock Syndrome, commonly associated with flesh eating disease, has a new foe.

Researchers from the department of microbiology at Mount Sinai and Princess Margaret hospitals found that there was a 30 percent reduction in mortality rates for patients treated with a medication called intravenous immunoglobulin. Their findings were released April 1 in the journal *Clinical Infectious Diseases.*

Streptococcal toxic shock syndrome (STSS) has an 81 percent mortality rate. In December 1994, researchers noted a rise in STSS. They treated 21 cases from across Canada with intravenous immunoglobulin (IVIG) over the next five months. The out-comes were compared with those of 32 patients from Ontario who contracted STSS between 1992 and 1995, who did not receive IVIG. The 30-day survival rate was 67 percent in the patients who received IVIG, compared to 34 in those who did not.

"The creation of a province-wide network to study this disease over the last nine years, has not only allowed us to discover the mechanism by which this organism strikes, but more importantly, to evaluate new ways to treat this infection," says Dr. Donald Low, microbiologist-in-chief for Mount Sinai and Princess Margaret hospitals and professor of microbiology and medicine for the University of Toronto.

"Anecdotal experience with the use of IVIG, both at the turn of the century and in the late 1980s, suggested that providing patients with antibodies could neutralize the toxins produced by the bacteria," says Low. "That led us to the study of IVIG as a course of treatment during the late fall of 1994, in the face of escalating STSS cases."

STSS develops when a bacteria (group A streptococcus) produces a toxin that tricks the immune system into over-reacting. The body releases small molecules called cytokines, which cause fever, low blood pressure and leakage of fluid from blood vessels into surrounding tissue. This inhibits adequate flow of blood and oxygen to many organs, including the kidneys and brain, leading the person into shock and organ failure.

Group A streptococcus is a bacteria commonly found in the throats and on the skin of patients. It is most often the cause of bacterial throat infections (strep throat). At the turn of the century, this bacteria caused infections (such as scarlet fever) that were associated with a high mortality rate. For unexplained reasons, the severe complications associated with infections belonging to group A streptococcus almost disappeared from the mid 1930s until the mid 1980s, only to reappear in the form of STSS and necrotizing fasciitis (NF), the latter commonly referred to as flesh eating disease.

In 1992, there were 24 cases of STSS reported in Ontario. Nine cases developed necrotizing fasciitis, the flesh eating disease that is often associated with STSS. In 1994, the numbers had risen to 42 with STSS and 33 with NF. Between January and March of this year, there were 21 reported cases of STSS and nine of NF.

Financial support for the project was provided by The Canadian Bacterial Diseases Network.

The ability to identify additional patients across Canada was facilitated by the participation of physicians from the Canadian Infectious Disease Society.

Since the study, one of the patients who survived has started a foundation, Strategies for Life, to raise funds to support research in this field.

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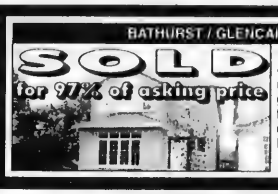

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150 FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION

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198 SPACE FOR LEASE

Bath./Lawrence - Bsmnt., semi private entrance, suitable for office. 416-784-9684.

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Kosher establishment needs experienced counter help. Read & write English fluently. Yiddish speaking an asset. Call Israel at 416-787-1234.

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SECRETARY for Toronto Day School, immediately. Computer literacy, Hebrew typing, experience in school setting preferable. Send letter/resume to CJN Box # 7201.

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Kosher chef with 40 yrs. exp seeks f/t, p/t job. 905-731-6049

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Very Young Looking sincere, attractive petite, 49 year old Jewish lady wants a refined gentleman with old fashion values for enjoying finer things in life. Age 50-65. Reply P.O. Box 27 CJN, 6900 Decarie Blvd, #341, Montreal, H3X 2T8.

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330 OBITUARIES

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

279 PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY

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280 ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bowlers Wanted. New bowlers wanted for established Buba & Zada 10 Pin fun league. Alternate Sat. evenings at 7:15pm at Pro Bowl, Wilson Ave. Call Ben at 635-1256 or Joe at 636-8469

Singles Set Bowlers is our name, we are seeking new members to play our game. Men & women who are 60 plus, come on out and have fun with us! We're a social league who has outings, parties and BBQ's too everything is planned to suit all of you. We bowl 2 games every Monday night, from 6:30 - 8 then go out for a bite. Give us a call for more info. Paulette, 441-2717 or Sam, 638-3409.

330 OBITUARIES

DRESDNER, Simon - on July 29, 1999, late of 123 Spadina Rd.

FRANK, Mary - on July 30, 1999, late of 1925 Steeles Ave. E.

KARP (ROSENBERG), Doris - on July 30, 1999, late of 44 Charles St. W., #1801.

LEVITT, Eric - on July 31, 1999, late of 55 Harbour Sq., #2011.

LOVE, Fannie - on July 31, 1999, late of 99 Hayden Ave., #706.

SHERMAN, Sollie - on July 31, 1999, late of 1 Clark Ave. W., #702.

PODOLAK, Meier - on Aug. 1, 1999, late of 195 Palmerston Ave.

DOMINIC, Jadwiga - on Aug. 2, 1999, late of 715 Finch Ave. W., #404.

CORSONSKY, Bessie - on Aug. 3, 1999, late of 3560 Bathurst St.

DeKOVEN, Maurice - on Aug. 3, 1999, late of 422 Shallmar Blvd., #511.

TANSKY, Mort - on Aug. 3, 1999, late of 4 Lynda Ave.

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335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
RUTH CHARNEY ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, August 29th, 11:15 a.m.
Mt. Sinai Cemetery
Beth Lida Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
JACK CHROSCICKI ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, August 22nd, 11:30 a.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Beth Tikvah Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
JACK DAVIS ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, August 22nd, 11:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Bathurst south of Steeles
Hebrew Friendly Son's of David Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

330 OBITUARIES

KLAY, Baruch - on Aug. 4, 1999, late of 155 Kendal Ave., Apt. 412.

ROSS, Murray - on Aug. 4, 1999, late of 241 Union Ave.

ROTENBERG, Myrna - on Aug. 4, 1999, late of 56 Sugar Millway.

SENYI, Magdi - on Aug. 4, 1999, late of 1132 Bay St., #1602.

DISENHAUS, Ethel - on Aug. 5, 1999, late of Achavat Achim Nursing Home.

MORRISON, Barney - on Aug. 5, 1999, late of 90 Fisheerville Rd., #306.

STOUTCHEVSKI, Lev - on Aug. 5, 1999, late of 555 Finch Ave. W.

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The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
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will take place
Sunday, August 22nd, 11:00 a.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Dufferin St., north of Major MacKenzie
Beth David Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
BEN HOFFMAN ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, August 22nd, 12:30 p.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Community Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
HARRIET (TOOTSIE) ROSEN ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, August 22nd, 12:00 noon
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Beth Emeth Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
LUCYNA GOLENZER ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, August 29th, 1:00 p.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Community Section CCC
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
NATHAN HOFFMAN ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, August 22nd, 12:30 p.m.
Lambton Cemetery
Beth Jacob Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
CHANKA & DAVID (PERETZ) ROTENBERG ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, August 22nd, 10:30 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Lodzer Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
SYLVIA GREENBLATT ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, August 22nd at 11:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Bathurst S. of Steeles
Hatzofim Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend
Anne Marks Bella Feldman

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
GERTRUDE HETTLER ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, August 29th, 10:30 a.m.
Dawes Road Cemetery
Labour Zionist Alliance Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
JUDITH ORBACH ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, August 22nd, 10:30 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Chenstochover Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
FRANCES RUBY ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, August 22nd, 10:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Beth Emeth Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
EVA GORD/BROWNSTONE ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, August 22nd at 10:30 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Bathurst St., 2 Blocks South of Steeles
U.J.P.O. Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

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SEND ME MY BESHERT
Single female, 33, attractive, spiritually oriented, environmental and popular educator, writer, healer. Seeking a male to laugh and explore life with, and enjoy a healthy green life style. AD#1223

SUMMER ROMANCE
Single female, 35, brown hair, green eyes, 5'1", enjoy movies, long walks, window shopping, art galleries, theater, good sense of humour, down to earth, kind hearted, definitely not a princess. Seeking a male, who is sweet, honest, well groomed, confident, strong values, modern thinking. AD#1039

SUMMER ROMANCE
Single female, 34, enjoy long walks, cycling, dining, dancing, the theater, ice cream. Seeking a Jewish male, 33-40, non smoker, no children, warm, caring, sensitive, intelligent, fun loving. AD#1407

LET'S SHARE LIFE
Single female, elegant, attractive, professional, 50+, enjoy cultural activities, sports. Seeking a male, educated, honest, good sense of humour, professional. AD#1296

SERIOUS RELATIONSHIP
Single Jewish female, 36, 5'5", active, slim, nice figure, enjoy dining in or out, socializing. Seeking a male, professional, intelligent, good conversationalist, enjoy working out and is ready for a relationship and starting a family. AD#1107

SMILES AND CHUCKLES
Single Jewish female, slim, attractive, professional, good sense of humour, enjoy good conversation and having fun. Seeking a male, non smoker, 40-50, Jewish, Reform or Conservative. AD#1034

MIFTY 50'S
Divorced Jewish female, 51, 5'5", attractive, affectionate, fun loving, independent, outgoing, good sense of humour and family values, enjoy opera, theater, long walks. Seeking a professional male, 45-55, financially secure, intelligent, with similar interests. AD#1077

PAMPER ME
Single female, 40, full figured, attractive, friendly, happy, affectionate. Seeking a male, financially secure, who will spoil and pamper me, and I will be loving companion for life. AD#1136

LONG TERM
Single female, 40, Jewish, green eyes. Seeking a male who is established, kind hearted and a business man. AD#1215

CITY AND COUNTRY GIRL
Single Jewish female, non smoker. Seeking an attractive male, 63+, with a great sense of humour, who enjoys the arts and travelling. AD#2059

LET'S HAVE COFFEE
Divorced Jewish female, 46, petite, attractive, blond, easy going, compassionate, enjoy dining & dancing, theater, exploring new places, family life, proud of my Jewish heritage. Seeking a single Jewish male, 46-58, non smoker, with similar interests. AD#1305

SEEKING COMPANION
Single female, attractive, honest, easy going, warm, petite. Seeking a Jewish male, 38-45, kind, reliable, educated, similar interests. AD#1456

MARRIAGE MINDED
Single female, never married, late 30's, professional, pretty, traditional values, observant, spiritually atuned. Seeking a male, well educated, honest, established, 40-50, strong, giving, sensitive, with a passion for life and growth for himself and others. AD#1213

SPECIAL MAN
Single female, on the outside is fun loving, spontaneous, attractive, on the inside is sensitive, secure. Seeking a male who likes what is on the outside but more deeply likes what is on the inside. AD#1451

FAMILY VALUES
Single Jewish female, attractive, 42, university educated, employed, honest, intelligent, affectionate, loyal, caring, sensitive. Seeking a Jewish male, 40+, financially & emotionally secure, honest, generous, family values. AD#1637

THOUGHTFUL
Single female, beautiful, petite, warm, caring, intelligent, thoughtful, enjoy long walks, nature, cooking, music, Jewish traditions. Seeking a quality Jewish male, caring,sharing. AD#2057

LET'S ENJOY GOOD MUSIC
Divorced Jewish female, slim, pretty, petite, warm, caring, giving, enjoy nature, walks, cozy fires, family and friends. Seeking a male, 58-68, for caring and shaning. AD#1452

EQUAL
Single Jewish female, 5'4", 120lbs, long dark brown hair, green eyes, athletic build, employed, two university degrees, enjoy outdoors, camping, jogging, dancing, fine dining. Seeking a handsome male, late 20's to early 40's, who is outgoing. AD#1047

SERIOUS RELATIONSHIP
Very attractive Jewish female, 39, 5'3", very slim, golden hair, enjoy travelling, hiking, dancing, swimming, cooking, reading. Seeking a professional male, 39-45, sincere, honest, non smoker, with similar interests. AD#1321

Men seeking Women

To respond to an ad, call 1-900-451-4552 Ext. 65

HOME AND COUNTRY LIVING
Single male, 39, 5'5", 150lbs, blue eyes, well established, health care professional, warm, enjoy Jazz & Blue's music, travelling. Seeking a fit female, 29-37, who is healthy, confident, intelligent. AD#1511

LIFE TO SHARE
Single Jewish male, 37, professional, honest, caring, great sense of humour, fun to be with. Seeking an attractive female to enjoy life to the fullest together. AD#1218

LIKES DAY TRIPS
Separated male, 56, enjoy theater, dining out, day trips, long walks, cycling, cruises, day trips. Seeking a female with similar interests. AD#1057

FIDDLER ON THE ROOF
Single Jewish male, an original, good looking, young looking, healthy, traditional values, sports oriented, enjoy long walks, dining and dancing, reading, . Seeking a female, for a long term relationship, possibly marriage. AD#1106

LONG TERM RELATIONSHIP
Single Jewish male, 40, 5'8", medium to husky build, kind, caring, sincere, compassionate, traditional values, non professional, enjoy theater, music, dining and dancing, outdoor activities. Seeking a Jewish female, 28-39, divorced, with children OK! AD#2060

NO HEAD GAMES
Single white male, Jewish, 5'5", blue eyes, brown hair, spontaneous, easy going, fun loving, enjoy sports, travelling, outdoor activities. Seeking a Jewish female, 21-28, down to earth, spontaneous, no worries, no head games please. AD#1219

FAMILY LIFE
Single Jewish male, 5'8", 160lbs, blue-green eyes, fit, a writer. Seeking a Jewish female, who is ready for commitment and starting a family. AD#1061

LONG TERM RELATIONSHIP
Single Jewish male, 37, 5'7", slim, full of life, fun to be with, enjoy long walks, dining and dancing, hiking, movies. Seeking a Jewish female, 28-37, for long term serious relationship. AD#1613

HOPELESS ROMANTIC
Divorced male, professional, Eastern European background, 5'10", slim, fit, handsome, down to earth, non smoker, enjoy movies, sunsets, and a healthy life style. Seeking a female, 30ish, affectionate, slim, attractive, for a long term relationship. AD#1323

MARRIAGE MINDED
Single male, easy going, sincere, enjoy movies, art, books, long walks, a wide variety of interests. Seeking a female, 25-35, for a serious relationship. AD#1603

FUN TO BE WITH
Single male, 34, 6', brown hair, blue green eyes, slim, enjoy movies, dining out, trade shows, culture, adventures. Seeking a Jewish female, 30-36, 5'5"+, easy going, outgoing, with similar interests. AD#1596

ACTIVE
Single male, professional, active, enjoy fun and games, travelling, dining out, sports activities. Seeking a female, who is attractive, intelligent, athletic, with similar interests. AD#1312

HEALTHY LIFESTYLE
Divorced male, 5'10", handsome, professional, slim, fit, down to earth, non smoker, a hopeless romantic, enjoy sunsets on the beach. Seeking a slim, attractive female, in her 30's, who is kind and affectionate. AD#2058

PROFESSIONAL
Single Jewish male, 50, professional, enjoy sports, fishing, walking, movies, dining out. Seeking a Jewish female, 38-45, attractive, with similar interests. AD#1416

HOPELESS ROMANTIC
Divorced male, Eastern European background, professional, 5'10", slim, fit, non smoker, down to earth, romantic, enjoy sunsets and a healthy life style. Seeking a slim, attractive female, 30ish, for a long term relationship. AD#2052

ROMANTIC AT HEART
Single Jewish male, late 40's, 5'10", grey blue eyes, sincere, warm, gentle, compassionate, good sense of humour, enjoy the theater, bowling, tennis, long walks. Seeking a female, single or widowed, Orthodox preferred, but not required, with similar interests and personality. AD#1150

FRIENDS FIRST
Single Jewish male, 53, fit, employed, live in Thornhill. Seeking a Jewish female for friendship, with no expectations. AD#2053

LIKES TO SHARE
Single Jewish male, 37, honest, caring, fun to be with. Seeking a female, who is attractive to enjoy life to the fullest together. AD#1088

DEVOTED TO YOU
Single male, 5'8", 160lbs, athletic build, greenish-blue eyes, handsome, honest, generous, kind, smart, enjoy exercising, reading, swimming, tennis. Seeking a Jewish female, no children, wonderful, devoted, ready to start a family. AD#1528

SERIOUS RELATIONSHIP
Single Jewish male, 45, 5'10", slim, active, widower, affectionate. Seeking a female, who is kind and fun loving. AD#2049

THE PHOENIX RISES
Divorced male, 50's, young looking, attorney, entrepreneur, slim, trim, 5'8", dark, athletic, marshall arts master, Palmid, Chacham, Kamballist, wish to return to Orthodoxy and study. Seeking a female, 30-50, slender, attractive, wise, supportive, for long term relationship. AD#1104

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Sports

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The Canadian Jewish news

Baseball team settles for silver in New Mexico

By PAUL LUNGEN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — A pitcher who throws like Sandy Koufax and hits like Shawn Green stymied Canada's junior baseball team at the Pan American Maccabi Games, held recently in Mexico City.

Jason Brown, the 17-year-old phenom from California – whose fast ball crosses the plate at 85 miles per hour – was a one-man wrecking crew who gave the Americans an insurmountable edge in the gold medal game, acknowledged Mark Halberstadt, one of Team Canada's coaches.

Mark Bendahan, a longtime pitcher with Canada's Maccabiah softball team, coached the boys with Halberstadt's help.

Canada settled for silver after the 12-4 shellacking administered by the United States. Venezuela and Mexico were also-rans in the four-team event – the first time junior baseball has been featured at a Maccabi competition.

The baseball silver was one of 13 medals racked up by Canadian athletes at the quadrennial games. The host Mexicans led the way with 232 medals followed by the United States with 152. After that, it was a long way back to the third overall finishers, Argentina, which captured 36 medals.

The American baseball contingent was loaded with talent, Halberstadt said.

They were led by their pitcher, Brown, who will attend Stanford University on a baseball scholarship next season, he said.

The Americans were coached by Louisiana State University's top baseball man while most of the American squad hailed from warm weather locations, like Florida and California, where they play baseball eight or more months a year.

The 17-and-under boys junior baseball team at the Pan-American Maccabi Games in Mexico City. [Top row, from left] John Elias (coach); Mark Halberstadt (coach); Mike Nehemiah; Jordan Stroll; Jory Solomon; Benjamin Barnoff; Mitchell Sadofsky; Noah Bernamoff; David Dudkiewicz; Benjamin McPhee; Mark Bendehan (coach). [Front row, from left] David Bernholtz; Joshua Friedmann; Erik Brown; Jarryd Halberstadt; Jordan Beitel; Ryan Butkowsky.

One hundred and fifty youngsters tried out for the squad and the Americans brought 19 to Mexico City. They gathered for an intensive one-week training camp before heading to Mexico.

Fifty kids in Toronto and Montreal tried out for the team and organizers settled on a 14-man squad – eight from Toronto and six from Montreal.

Still, the Canadian kids acquitted themselves well and would have been competitive – except for Brown, Halberstadt suggested.

In an early, round robin matchup against the Americans in which Brown was rested, Canada lost 6-5 in a contest that could have gone either way.

But in the gold medal game, it was a different story. Brown suited up and threw a no-hitter for five innings and was hot with his own bat to stake the Americans to a 6-0 lead. In the sixth and next-to-last inning, the Canadians finally got to him, nailing him for four runs to make it interesting.

But in the seventh, the Americans turned on the juice and tagged Canadian pitchers for six more runs to grab an insurmountable 12-4 lead.

The Canadians played hard but were simply outmatched, Halberstadt said.

"They were game kids, but the Americans have been schooled a heck of a lot more than us. They were very capable ball players. They play baseball like we play hockey.

"They were lean and mean and very well schooled players."

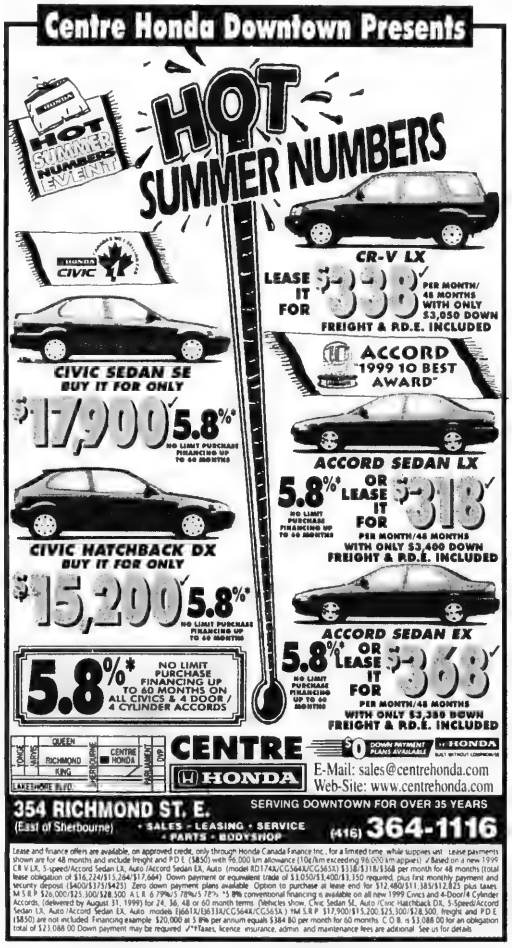
Brown in particular was a force to be reckoned with. Not only did he throw at 85 mph, but also he showed a great curve and an equally good slider, Halberstadt said. If he continues to develop, he should be a pro prospect after he finishes college, he added.

Halberstadt was full of praise for the young Canadians, which included his son Jarryd, the team's 14-year-old catcher who plays for the Thornhill Reds Bantams.

"They were competitive, eager to go and they gave us 110 percent effort," he said.

Allen Gerskup, chair of Maccabi Canada's national athletic committee, said Canada is among the countries that is pushing to include junior baseball as an official medal sport at the 2001 Maccabiah Games in Israel.

The Pan Am Maccabi Games were an important test run for the idea, but it's still not clear whether the broader quality of competition exists to warrant including the sport in 2001, he said.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Let's get back to hockey

Test your *Total Hockey* I.Q. with this quiz:

1. Name the members of the following lines: the HUM Line, the Brat Line, the Boilermaker Line.

2. This Jewish Sudbury-born goaltender played only two games over three seasons in the early NHL, spending most of his career in the minors. Name him.

3.This Jewish Montreal-born defenceman was a second all-star in 1952 with the Rangers. Name him.

4. Name the first Western team to win the Stanley Cup.

Answers:

1. Detroit's mid-'60s HUM Line consisted of Paul Henderson, Norm Ullman and Bruce MacGregor; the Leafs' Brat Line of the 1970s included Tiger Williams, Jack Valiquette and Pat Boutette; Chicago's Boilermaker Line (1948-50) consisted of Roy Conacher, Doug Bentley and Bill Mosienko.

2. Joe "Kelly" Ironstone didn't see any action as a spare goaltender for Ottawa Senators in 1924-25. He played one game for New York Americans in 1925-26 and in 1927-28 he played one game for the Leafs, earning a shutout.

3. Hy Buller, known as the "Blueline Blaster," played most of his NHL career with the Broadway Blueshirts but was traded to the Habs in June 1954. He decided to retire at age 28 instead of reporting.

4. In February 1896, Winnipeg Victorias became the first Western Canadian team to win the Stanley Cup, at at time when champion teams from various leagues could challenge for it.

The Inside Back

Still funny after all these years

As I was saying...

By RON CSILLAG

Full disclosure: Sam Orbaum and I were friends in high school, and I delivered the now-defunct *Montreal Star* to his house, just around the corner from mine in the shtetl of Chomedey. I admired Sam for his wit and his writing ability. Even early on, the guy could swing a quill. (As a reporter for the school paper, he once asked for my thoughts on Mother's Day. "Shh," I replied. "Mum's the word." Sam roared, and went with it).

But even more, I respected his guts. Here we were, in a secular school that had its share of toughs (who congregated in a ground-floor breezeway to smoke, drink zillion-proof plonk and not exactly profess their love for the children of Israel), and here was Sam, the only guy at school who wore a kippah all the time.

I didn't witness it, but Chomedey High lore had it that one day, a ruffian knocked the yarmulke right off Sam's noggin. Sam, so the story goes, demanded that the item be picked up; said ruffian mentioned an anatomical impossibility; and fisticuffs ensued until teachers intervened. Sam never backed down, and never lost his sense of humor.

The kippah incident might be apocryphal, but the sense of humor is real. And it's come in handy for my friend Sam, who made aliyah in 1981 and went on to become a big-shot humor columnist for *The Jerusalem Post*. In regular dispatches, Sam regales all of Israel with his zany view of a country that should – must, if one wants to maintain any semblance of balance – be viewed zanily.

From tzuris with plumbers or electricians and a perennial bank overdraft (shades of Ephraim Kishon), to explaining a Canadian winter to his British-born wife, to telling millions about the every move of his three daughters (quite possibly, the most famous triplets in Israel), Sam has emerged as his country's Dave Barry, a long-suffering Everyman who pays his bills and endures every bureaucratic slight imaginable, but manages to find pearls of humor in any situation, whether real or the product of an imagination that never seems to quit.

Now, the good people at the *Post* have had the wisdom to publish his best stuff in book form. *But Seriously* is 286 pages, each of which will have you laughing out loud, and each of which will remind you that life in Israel is somewhat more challenging than in Cote St. Luc or Willowdale.

"Make a note of this date: 23 Tevet, 5760," Sam advises of the over-ballyhooed millennium. "You'll probably be among the 99.99999998 percent of humanity marking that day as Jan. 1, 2000. The other 0.00000002 percent of the species will be busy that day revoking kashrut licenses."

But Seriously

Sam Orbaum

Sam is obviously nostalgic for his frozen birthplace, whether through misty-eyed reminiscences of snow-removal machines, the absurdity of Quebec's sign laws, or imagining *Front Page Challenge* on Israeli TV. His beloved Prince Charles Street (on Jesus Island, he stresses, better known as Laval) "looked like Anatevka with bungalows," while the most inviolable street hockey rule as a kid was "the Two-Foot Guvmint Proppity Law," under which the first two-foot strips of everyone's lawn belonged to the government, and was thus a kind of sanctuary.

His new lyrics to old tunes are a hoot. Sam's ear for dialogue rivals that of Art Buchwald.

He even manages to find something worthwhile in the fact that he has cancer. Nothing funny about cancer? Sam thought so too, until the disease and its treatment taught him that humor is strength in sufferance. And he did have some funny moments...

But Seriously is not available in Canada (pity). But seriously, you can order it off the Web at www.jpost.co.il or from Sam directly at sam@jpost.co.il. Tell him I sent you.

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HONEY APPLE CAKE

3/4 cup sugar
1 tsp cinnamon + 1 tblsp sugar mixed
2 large sweet apples (Golden Delicious)
2 large eggs
1/4 cup honey
1/2 cup vegetable oil
2 tsp grated lemon rind
1 1/2 cup flour
1 1/4 tsp baking powder
1/4 tsp each: baking soda, salt
2 tblsp each: fresh lemon juice, water mixed
1/2 cup chopped walnuts

Preheat oven to 350°F. Lightly oil & flour 8" square pan. Peel and slice apples thin, set aside. Beat eggs with 3/4 cup sugar until light. Blend in honey, oil and lemon rind. Sift flour, baking powder, baking soda and salt.

Mix 1/2 flour mixture and 1/2 lemon juice mixture alternately into egg mixture; repeat with remaining flour and lemon juice mixtures. Mix in walnuts on low speed.

Spoon 1/4 of batter into prepared pan and spread evenly. Arrange 1/3 apple slices on batter and sprinkle with 1/3 cinnamon mixture. Spoon another 1/4 batter in dollops over apples and spread very gently.

Repeat with 2 more layers of apples, cinnamon and batter, ending with another layer of batter; top layer of apples may not be completely covered.

Bake 40-45 minutes or until tester comes out clean. Cool in pan.

About Seniors

Dear JESSE,

I recently retired and am having difficulty filling up my time. Although I spend time with my children and grandchildren, I need other things to do too. What do you suggest?

SV

Dear SV,

One of the nice things about being retired is that you can make up your own schedule. Although this increases your freedom and flexibility, it also presents you with new challenges.

I would suggest that you consider volunteer work. Organizations that serve seniors are very much in need of volunteers. You could drive people to medical appointments, take an agency client shopping, help pack for a move, write letters or e-mail grandchildren on behalf of clients, teach a homebound senior how to surf the Net, and more. The opportunities are endless.

Volunteering can be a very rewarding experience for both you and the recipient of your work.

Contact the federation office in your community to get more information on volunteering.

Readers are invited to send any questions they have for Jesse to The CJN. *Jesse represents the management and staff of Jewish Support Services for the Elderly (JSSE) in Montreal*

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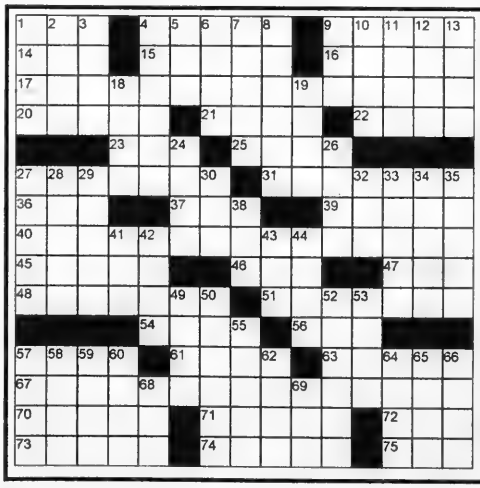

The Canadian Jewish news

The Jokerman

By Matt Gaffney and David Bianco (QSyndicate@aol.com)

Across

1 With 4-across, star of this puzzle
4 See 1-across
9 Last in a certain series
14 Syr. neighbor
15 Fail to waste
16 Michigan Senator Carl
17 Famous song by 1-across
20 Ann Landers, for one
21 _____ precedent
22 Do in in the Bible
23 Proverbial limit
25 Actor Tim
27 Volunteers
31 Affair of 1894
36 Globe
37 Dashed
39 Achille _____ (infamous ship of 1985 news)
40 Real name of 1-across
45 Excluding none
46 Judah P. Benjamin colleague
47 Inventor Whitney
48 Uses a coupon
51 Singer Etheridge
54 Disraeli purchase
56 Cigarette additive
57 Barely open
61 Red and White
63 Got under control
67 Birthplace of 1-across
70 "_____ that will forever live in infamy"
71 Indian tribe for whom a lake is named
72 Chum
73 Pol Arens
74 Station of a sort
75 Sneaky

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2 Edvard Munch museum site
3 It's often furrowed
4 Follows up on "L'chaim!"
5 Tokyo Stock Exchange medium
6 San ___ Obispo, CA
7 "Roots" Emmy-winner
8 Had after expenses
9 Bullfight cheer
10 Kitty sounds
11 Hitler quality
12 Actress Lollobrigida
13 Comic Kaufman
18 Scary stinger
19 Kojak's lack
24 Mongolian structure
26 Erase, to an editor
27 More hurt
28 Treasure _____
29 Lessened in strength
30 La ___, Bolivia
32 Babi ____ (Sept. 1941 massacre site)
33 They can be toxic
34 Europe-Asia divider
35 Actress Braga
38 Nada
41 Prior to, poetically
42 Jewish and seedless
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49 Dogsled command
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(This week's answers are on page 36.)

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Toronto Blue Jays

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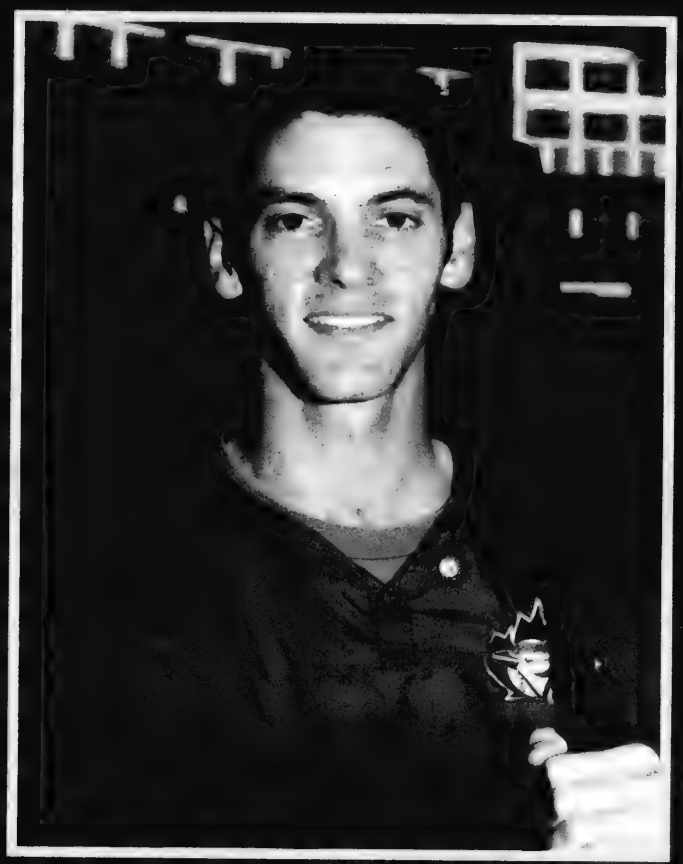

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This Week

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Police seek leads in attack on two seniors. *Page 3*

Benjamin Noy returns to Canada as trade envoy. *Page 5*

Reform camp in Parry Sound is the culmination of a dream. *Page 28*

On Campus

McGill student completes a year in Ghana. *Page 32*

Arts

It's here: Come one, come all. Ashkenaz is back in town. *Page 54*

Sports

Love of horses is all in the family. *Page 66*

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SEARCHING FOR SIGNS OF LIFE IN THE RUBBLE

Israel's Home Front Command rescue teams search for trapped earthquake victims in Turkey last week. The rescue forces comprised 385 people , including about 100 doctors and medical workers. *Please see related story on page 33.* **[Israel Sun photos]**

Progress for 13 Iranians?

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) is working closely with an internationally known retired diplomat to try and resolve the case of the 13 Iranian Jews detained on allegations of spying for Israel, *The CJN* has learned.

The diplomat, whose identity is not being made public, is negotiating with Iranian officials "at the highest level," CJC president Moshe Ronen told *The CJN* last Friday.

"He has been assured there will be a positive solution to this," Ronen added.

Largely as a result of international pressure and the efforts of the high-level envoy, Iran "appears to have softened" and "seems to be looking at a humanitarian way to conclude this." Ronen said the diplomat reports that Iran is examining several resolutions.

The retired envoy has the ear and respect of top Iranian leaders, Ronen said, adding that the United Nations and Israel "are aware" of his efforts.

CJC came into contact with the intermediary by way of Walter Arbib, a well-connected Toronto Jewish businessman who is president of Skylink, which charters helicopters and other aircraft.

Arbib has advised Ronen in the past on international matters, and has known the diplomat for several years. It was through Arbib's urging that the man agreed to take up the matter, Ronen said.

Canada's Foreign Affairs department and CJC are being briefed regularly on the envoy's efforts, Ronen added.

CJC involved behind scenes

He said influential Jewish leaders in the United States also approached the diplomat, "but Canada got to him first."

Ronen said the envoy is working with the Iranians both by telephone and through personal meetings. He did not comment on whether the man is in Tehran, where the 13 Jews are being detained.

Reports last week said that Tehran planned to formally indict the 13 Jews on Aug. 19. That did not happen, and Ronen says, "There is no question in my mind" that Iran did not move on the case because of the intermediary's efforts.

CJC's position calls for the Iranian government to unconditionally release the 13 Jews, who have been detained since March on charges of spying for "the Zionist regime." Ronen feels that if the matter is concluded positively, the international community should find ways to normalize relations with Iran.

Ronen has asked for a meeting with Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy, hoping that Canada would request the prisoners' unconditional release. This week, the Congress president is in Israel on private business, but he scheduled a meeting with Foreign Minister David Levy to keep him apprised of the diplomat's efforts.

He said Congress has been asking for a meeting with Iran's ambassador to Canada, so far to no avail.

Ronen, however, is advising that the envoy's mission will take time.

"I'm not prepared to say this matter has been resolved. It could take weeks, even months."

In the meantime, he said the diplomat has advised that international pressure on behalf of the 13 Jews should continue, but not escalate.

Continued on page 35

INSIDE

See our *Community Focus* Supplement.

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Winnipeg police charge five in cemetery desecration — See page 30

The News in Brief

Canada

Elementary School Moves

VANCOUVER — Vancouver Hebrew Academy has found a new home next to the Vancouver Jewish Community High School, at least for the next two years. The Jewish elementary school has signed a two-year agreement with the Vancouver School Board to move into the old Oakridge school on Baille Street.

New Rabbi Chosen

EDMONTON — Rabbi Ari Enkin of Montreal has been chosen as the new spiritual leader of Beth Israel Congregation. Rabbi Enkin, 24, and his wife Shana were expected to arrive here this month. The rabbi will take up his duties Sept. 1.

More Funds Needed

WINNIPEG — Community leaders here say they need a $1 million increase in the annual Combined Jewish Appeal campaign over the next four years. "In the past two years, we have been able to stabilize our campaign at around $3 million a year," said a recent report from the Winnipeg Jewish Community Council. But after surveying the community's needs, the committee estimates that the CJA campaign will have to rise to about $4 million a year.

Israel

Settler Acquitted

JERUSALEM — An Israeli court has acquitted Jewish settler Nahum Korman of charges that he killed a Palestinian boy in 1996. In the decision, the judge cited contradictory evidence given by two children. The human rights group B'Tselem condemned the acquittal.

Threat Against Peace Now

JERUSALEM — The mayor of a Jewish settlement on the West Bank threatened to "break the heads, the arms and the legs" of Peace Now activists if they returned to the West Bank to tour settlements. Ron Nachman made his comments following a verbal confrontation between Peace Now activists and residents of an enclave near the Jewish settlement of Itamar. A Peace Now official said he would file a complaint against Nachman.

World

Shuls Vandalized

LOS ANGELES — Vandals desecrated a synagogue in Los Angeles just days after white supremacist Buford O'Neal Furrow shot five victims at a Los Angeles Jewish community centre. Police said the attack on Temple Knesset Israel in Hollywood, which included a spray-painted swastika and the words "Jews die," appeared to be a copycat crime. And in New York, police are calling a synagogue arson on Aug. 15 in Long Island a hate crime. No one was injured, but some damage to the building was reported in the attack on Temple Beth Chai in Hauppage, N.Y. There are no suspects.

Vandal to be Sued

BERLIN — The Central Council of Jews in Germany plans to sue the Israeli man who poured black paint into the open grave of former council president Ignatz Bubis in Tel Aviv this month. The lawsuit against Meir Mendelssohn was expected to have been filed in a Frankfurt court this week. According to a Reuters report, Mendelssohn, whose act was barely noticed during the funeral, said Bubis used sympathy for his Jewishness in post-Holocaust Germany to make real estate deals.

No To Yom Kippur Request

UNITED NATIONS — The UN has refused a request to move the start of the General Assembly from Yom Kippur. In a response to the American Jewish Congress, UN Secretary General Kofi Annan said that only the General Assembly itself could revise the Sept. 20 date. Annan also apologized for any "discomfort that the decision of the General Assembly may have caused you and members of the Jewish faith around the world."

Canadians Graduate

NEW YORK — Thirty Canadians were among the more than 2,000 members of the class of 1999 who graduated this past May from Yeshiva University. The Canadians hailed from Toronto, Brampton, Ottawa, Hamilton, Montreal, Edmonton, Calgary and Vancouver.

Jewish Teen to Sue Over Star of David

JACKSON, Mississippi — A Jewish teenager plans to sue a Mississippi school board that declared a Star of David a gang symbol and order him to remove it.

The state branch of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) will file the suit on behalf of 15-year-old Ryan Green.

The boy, a student at Harrison Central High School in southern Mississippi, wore a Star of David pendant to class earlier this year, but school officials said it was a gang symbol and made him remove it.

The policy forbids students from wearing anything that could be construed as a gang symbol. The Harrison County School Board voted this month to uphold the policy.

The board's argument is that some gang members use six-pointed stars, with other elements attached, as gang symbols. At least one gang, the non-Jewish Black Hebrew Israelites, uses the Star of David.

David Ingebretsen, director of the state ACLU, said there had been talk of banning crosses, but no action was taken. He said the board has singled out the Star of David for special attention.

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Police seek leads in attack on seniors

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Police are appealing to anyone who may have information about the August 13 beating of two senior citizens on their way to Friday evening services at Torath Emeth Jewish Centre, to contact 13 Division.

"I don't care how small the tip may be," said Staff Inspector Ed Stewart, the division's commanding officer, last week. "We're appealing to anybody who saw anything suspicious at that time on that day."

(The public can contact the police division at 808-1300, or call Detective Joe Stubbs directly at 808-1306. Callers are requested to leave a name and phone number. Those who don't feel comfortable calling the police can call Crime Stoppers at 222-TIPS.)

Last week, police recovered an object "similar to a steel pipe," which they believe to be a weapon used in the attack. It was being examined by forensic experts.

The two suspects have been described as white males, age 19 to 20, about 5 feet 11 inches tall, of normal build, approximately 160 pounds. One was described as wearing a blue bandana with a pattern; the other, a black baseball cap.

There was nothing in their appearance to indicate a link with any hate group, said Stewart.

The incident is being treated as a hate crime and the police Hate Crimes Unit is assisting on the case.

"We're pulling out all the stops," said Stewart, adding that "this appears to be a very isolated incident.

"The main thing right now is to take our time to make sure we dot our i's and cross our t's and catch these guys, and prevent it from happening again."

The crowbar attack on Silvain Miller, 66, and Jacob Lazar, a 79-year-old Holocaust survivor, followed by three days Buford Furrow Jr.'s shooting spree at a Los Angeles Jewish Community Centre, which injured five people, among them three small children.

In Toronto, Jewish organizations, government representatives and the community at large expressed shock and outrage.

A non-Jewish woman called Miller long-distance to "apologize...for the ignoramuses in this society" and express her hope that the perpetrators would be caught.

Miller is "shocked and angry that it happened here in Toronto," he said last week in an at-home interview five days after the beating. "It was so unexpected."

Despite his words, his voice was calm and steady. He was resolute about his decision to talk to the media. "I think people should know," he said.

A native of Zurich, Switzerland, Miller recalls anti-Semitic incidents that took place when he was a schoolboy during World War II. But the recent attack is "worse than whatever I remember," he said. "I never saw anybody roughed up."

Miller, a grandfather whose avocation (Judaic artwork and calligraphy) provides an ironic contrast to the ugly incident, can't fathom what would cause a young person to brutally attack a senior citizen from behind. "They're sick in the head," he said.

It was like a scene from a movie, Miller recalled. He and Lazar were heading north on Bathurst Street toward Viewmount Avenue and were hit from behind after they turned the corner to attend evening services at the Orthodox synagogue.

Miller believes the younger men waited on the other side of Viewmount Avenue until nobody else was in sight and the cars on Bathurst were proceeding through a green light.

The perpetrators said nothing during the attack. All Miller heard was heavy grunting as they beat him and Lazar.

He remembers seeing his friend covered in blood, and screaming for help once a car appeared.

The attackers fled as soon as witnesses arrived, and the incident was over in less than 30 seconds, Miller estimates.

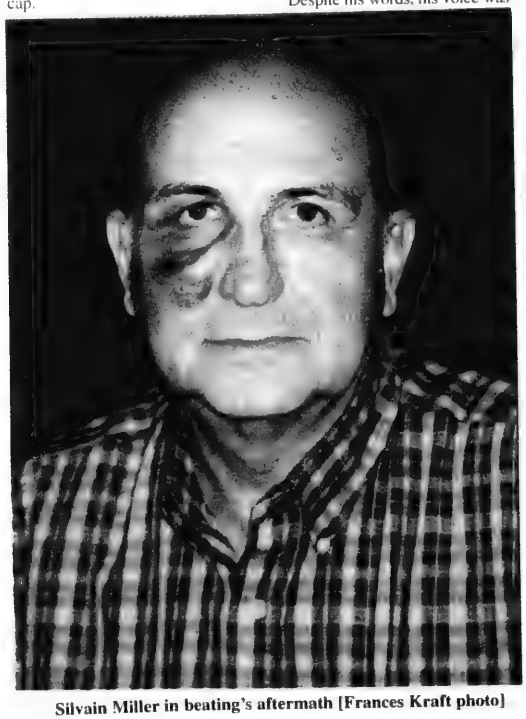
But the aftermath lingers. Lazar suffered facial and knee injuries. Miller has a bruise across his back, and his right cheek is a deep purple, with discoloration extending upward around his eye

Although Miller was aware of a few anti-Semitic incidents, he has always felt safe in the neighborhood, where he has lived for about eight years, he said.

"I guess you have to be a little bit careful," he conceded, "but it shouldn't change your lifestyle."

Karen Mock, director of B'nai

Continued on page 22



Silvain Miller in beating's aftermath [Frances Kraft photo]

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From the editor's desk

When evil laughs

Two inter-related news items crossed my desk last week. Because they are reminders that democratic values require protection, I have decided to share them with *CJN* readers.

* * *

On Aug. 18, the *New York Times* reported the following story: "Students returning to Columbine High School for the first time since a shooting rampage in April left 15 people dead there, were met by swastikas scratched on restroom walls and a brick wall outside the school.

"The two students responsible for the killings...had openly admired Adolf Hitler, and they opened fire on Hitler's birthday...

"Tammy Theus, the mother of one of 15 black students at Columbine High, and other parents patrolling the school before the start of classes, discovered the graffiti... They covered the symbols with duct tape until school officials could have them removed.

"'It's like they are laughing in our faces,' Ms. Theus said."

The "*they*" to whom Theus was referring, are, of course, the thugs and ignoramuses who shared a supremacist, hateful ideology with Dylan Klebold and Eric Harris, the students who cravenly carried out the Littleton murders.

It was indeed a severely unfeeling and sadistic person who would scrawl those swastikas.

Theus used a very powerful image to describe her indignation at this recent sinister behavior: evil's icy, sneering, malevolent taunt, "laughing in our faces."

It sends a chill down our spines.

Our sorrow is their entertainment; our grief is their cause; our democratic values are their call to anarchy, to arms and to murder.

With such people there can be no accommodation or compromise, for they attack the very foundations of democratic life.

The law, which is democracy's purpose and proof, must always reach against them with punches unpulled.

* * *

Could there be a more tangibly grotesque embodiment of evil's taunting sneer than the sight of Buford O. Furrow smiling to the media as he was taken into custody by the police two weeks ago in California?

On Aug. 20, the *New York Times* reported the following story:

"A federal grand jury indicted the white supremacist Buford O. Furrow Jr. on three felony counts in the killing of a Filipino-American letter carrier last week, as the government focused its prosecution on charges that could result in the death penalty.

"Mr. Furrow, 37, has been held without bail since he turned himself in and confessed to the killing and the shooting of five people at a Jewish community centre last week. He was charged with the murder of a federal employee, Joseph Santos Ileto; with the use of a firearm in the murder; and with the illegal possession of a firearm by a felon. Mr. Furrow has a previous felony assault conviction in his native Washington state."

The article made no mention of any charges that will arise or may have already arisen from the shooting spree at the North Valley Jewish Community Centre. But they will undoubtedly form part of the proceedings against Furrow.

Oddly, Furrow's "laughing at us" was not only in the thin, sickly, jeering line across his lips when he faced the cameras. It was also in the unusually calm, almost cavalier comportment after he killed and had attempted to kill.

"Mr. Furrow, for years a member of the Aryan Nations, a hate group based in Idaho, turned himself in to the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Las Vegas the next morning, after slipping through a massive police dragnet. He told the police that after the shootings, he had wandered around the streets of Hollywood, reportedly getting a haircut, shopping for a baseball cap and drinking a few beers before taking an $800 taxi ride across the desert and spending a night in Las Vegas.

"He was casual enough after the shootings, that he made his way about 20 miles to Hollywood and then went to...a sporting goods store...and tried on baseball caps."

Furrow's plan obviously included his capture. That is clear from the fact that, like all cowards, he only attacked people who could not fight back. Presumably, he intended his own capture for the possibility of either a propaganda pulpit from his trial or martyrdom from a death penalty, or both.

* * *

When evil "laughs at us," we cringe. Then, we must find our resolve, summon our strength and protect our democracy.

MBD

SEE JN

ROSA PARKS VISITS WINDSOR

Morley S. Wolfe, chair of the Toronto Committee on Community, Race and Ethnic Relations (North York Division) and co-chair of Inter-Cultural Dialogue of the League for Human Rights, sits beside Rosa Parks last week in Windsor at the John Freeman Walls Historic Museum, in Windsor.

Benjamin Noy returns to Canada as trade envoy

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — There was a change of guard at Israel's consulate last week.

Yael Varsano-Barzilay, the consul for economic affairs, bid adieu to colleagues and friends as her successor, Benjamin Noy, was welcomed back to his old post.

At a reception in a downtown tower under the auspices of PricewaterhouseCoopers and State of Israel Bonds, Varsano-Barzilay described her four years in Canada as a "beautiful" experience, and acknowledged that she had learned to appreciate Israel even more while living and working abroad.

Noy, who held the position from 1989 until 1995, said that Canada has begun to attract Israeli investors, primarily in real estate and software.

David Sultan, Israel's ambassador to Canada, complimented Varsano-Barzilay, saying she had done "a great job" explaining Israel to the Canadian business community.

Pointing out that Israel and Canada had signed a free trade agreement while she was here, Sultan said that the volume of bilateral trade has increased by more than 60 percent since then.

Benjamin Noy

Eric Slavens, a PricewaterhouseCoopers official, said that she had diligently assisted in hammering out the final details of that agreement.

Calling her vivacious, charming, energetic and extremely capable, Slavens said she had led missions to Israel and had worked closely with Sergio Marchi, who recently resigned as Canada's trade minister.

Slavens said that the level of Canada-Israel trade has increased from about $300 million (US) in 1996 to over $500 million (US) last year.

And, he added, significant increases are expected in 1999.

Striking a cautionary note, Sultan said that, until recently, Israeli entrepreneurs focused on the United States rather than Canada when they thought of North America.

The reception attracted a fairly substantial crowd, including the consuls-general of Germany, Bulgaria and Mongolia.

Varsano-Barzilay's husband, his face wreathed in smiles, appeared bearing their rosy-cheeked infant in a hamper. During her four years here, she gave birth to two children.

Congregation revives obscure Jewish rite

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — An obscure Jewish rite is about to be revived next month at Kehillat Ahavat Hesed when rabbinical student Aubrey Glazer leads the egalitarian congregation for the High Holy Days.

The ancient mystical practice is known as Idra Zuta, an Aramaic term referring to a small teaching circle, believed to have been held on Yom Kippur, Lag B'Omer and Shavuot in 13th-century Castile.

Glazer, a 29-year-old Toronto native entering his final year of rabbinic studies at the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York, will conduct a Hacahana L'Idra Zuta (preparation for Idra Zuta), to take place on Sept. 8 at 8:30 p.m.

To the best of his knowledge, the custom has not been used anywhere else in recent years.

At Kehillat Ahavat Hesed, where Glazer has attended services on some of his trips back home, he will be building on a congregational Slichot tradition focusing on singing as a means of getting into the spirit of the High Holy Day services.

The congregation of approximately 70 families is "always interested in having a new experience," said board member Avi Rose of Glazer's suggestion for this year.

"Our group is very musically oriented," he added. "There's lots of singing and a very high level of participation at services."

Glazer and fellow members of Al-Kantarra, a Judeo-Arabic musical group in which he plays percussion, have led a similar, larger teaching circle – an Idra Raba – in New York for Lag B'Omer. Glazer has also held informal teaching circles in Paris, where he served as a rabbinic intern at a Masorti (Conservative) congregation last year.

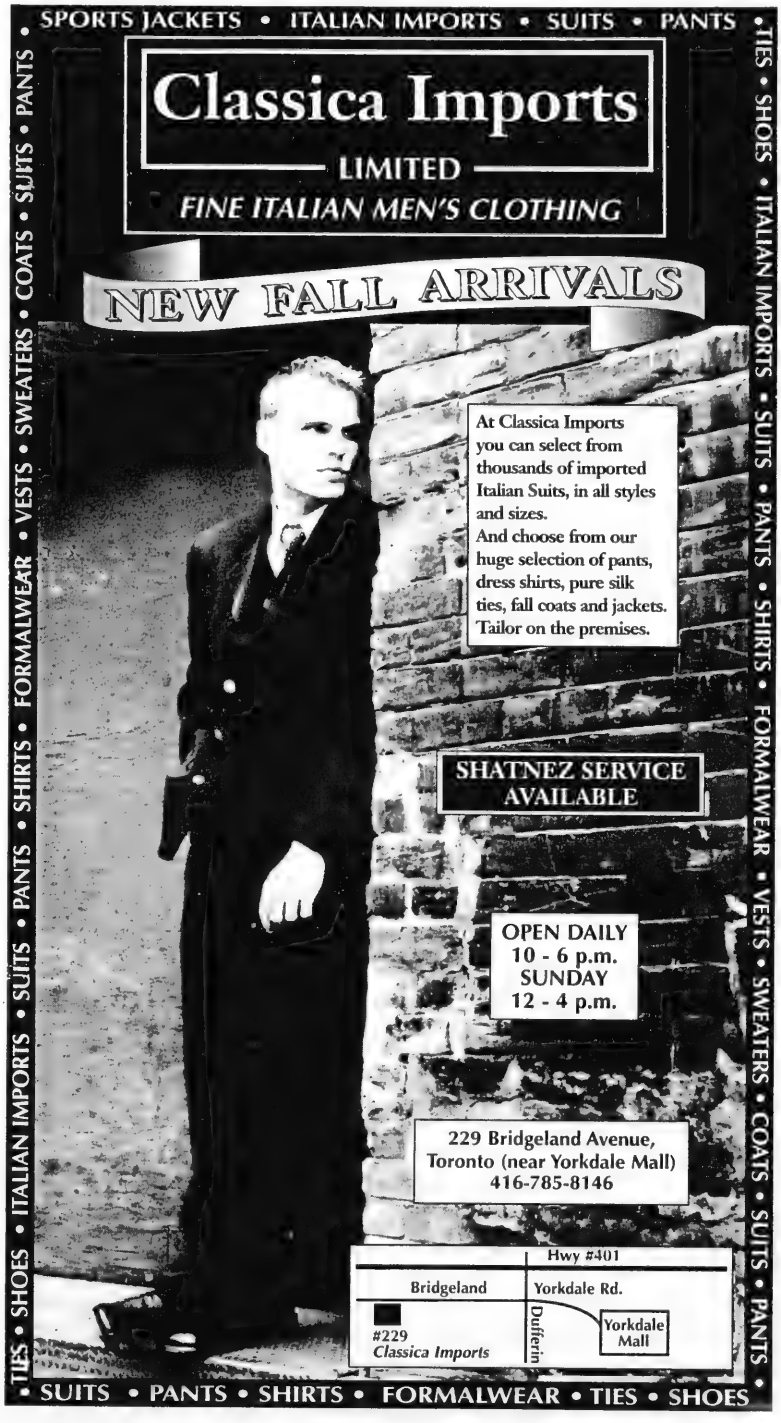
The Idra Zuta will include the study of text from the Zohar as well as piyyutim, or liturgical poems, mostly of Judeo-Iraqui provenance, "so that people can leave with a new appreciation of a culture that is actually theirs," said Glazer.

JTS cantorial student George Mordechai, also a member of Al-Kantarra, will run the Idra Zuta with Glazer. Mordechai will be leading High Holy Day services in Riverdale.

While in town, Glazer will also run a series of "self-transformation" or tshuvah workshops, to be held at the Yoga Studio in downtown Toronto. There will be four sessions, running from 9:30 to midnight, Sept. 13 through 16.

The sessions will incorporate Jewish meditation and "practical Kabbalah" using breathing exercises and chanting from the Book of Psalms to prepare participants spiritually for Yom Kippur. (Participation is by pre-registration only, through the Yoga Studio, 416-923-9366.)

Kabbalah means "transmission of a teaching," Glazer told *The CJN*. "What I'm teaching is a very grounded way of recharging yourself."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Rena Schochet (seated), executive director of the newly-renamed Jewish Counselling and Resource Centre, with Natalie Froom, the group's director of development. [Ron Csillag photo]

Counselling service changes name to better reflect purpose

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — One of the community's better kept secrets is undergoing a name change, but no alterations to its mandate.

From now on, Torah Life and Living, Canada will be known as the Jewish Counselling and Resource Centre (JCRC) to better convey its purpose as a communal referral and counselling service for Jews plagued by drugs, cults and family problems.

The spare office and three-person staff will remain in a strip mall at Bathurst and Finch.

The group's modest presence belies its workload. Since it began operations two years ago, the number of cases before it has mushroomed to nearly 150.

About one-third of those involve Jews in cults, says JCRC executive director Rena Schochet.

The rest involve illicit drug use and Jewish families in crisis.

Schochet, a trained mediator and Jewish marriage counsellor, stresses that her approach is two-pronged: she advises entire families, not affected individuals, or she can refer people to specialists.

"By coming through my door, people can get to social workers, psychologists, psychiatrists and other outreach specialists," she says.

The organization is a registered charity, and is supported by donations from the community. Clients are encouraged to contribute what they can.

Schochet has also noticed that she's getting referrals from strangers, and even some "off-the-street" trade.

Hers, she says, is a holistic approach.

Try to empower families to solve problem

"We take on, not just the individual, but the entire family, and try to empower and encourage them to solve the problem. I try to get parents, children, siblings and spouses to strengthen one another in order to help them carry out advice."

Schochet also works in tandem with Jews for Judaism and Jewish Family & Child Service to help Jews exit from cults.

American studies have consistently shown that a high number of Jews, out of proportion to their numbers, are drawn to cults. Schochet says there's no reason to believe it's different in Canada, and that often, it is adults who get sucked in.

Torah Life and Living is a Florida-based outreach group that has offered U.S. Jews drug and anti-cult counselling for over a decade.

Schochet, the wife of Rabbi Avi Schochet, principal at Eitz Chaim Day School, imbues her anti-cult counselling with a strong Jewish component, "because part of bringing a person out of a cult is not leaving them in a vacuum. My thrust is to give them back their own persona, and to give them a place in the community."

She also sees plenty of Jewish families with problems, as well as couples experiencing marriage woes. Serious concerns, such as abuse, are referred to specialists.

"I will always try to save the marriage. I'll work with the couple to keep the family unit strong."

While the need for such a service may seem unfortunate, Schochet says the Jewish community of Toronto and York Region have expanded rapidly, and Jews are not immune from social ills.

"We are to the mental health profession what alternative health care is to medicine," she offers. "We listen."

The JCRC may be reached at 250-6999.

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Greater Toronto Area

Youth, women priorities for new JVS director

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Asked to suggest a motto for Jewish Vocational Services of Greater Toronto (JVS), the agency's new executive director doesn't pause: "It's about work."

The energetic Karen Goldenberg has been working away for only a few months, having replaced Ed Segalowitz who is now at the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto, but already, she has big plans.

For one thing, Goldenberg, 55, wants to dispel the notion that JVS does nothing else than find people jobs.

The agency, which marked its 50th anniversary last year, has come a long way since the post-war years when it was preoccupied with finding work, chiefly in the needle trade, for war veterans and newly arrived Holocaust survivors.

These days, with a staff of 135, it offers a slew of programs, training seminars, counselling and other services aimed at getting people into – or returned to – an ever-changing workplace.

So over the years, JVS has had to do more at the same time as governments have slashed funding.

"We in this agency have had to be tremendously resilient," observes Goldenberg, a trained occupational therapist who comes to JVS with extensive experience in both private and public sector health care and social service delivery. "We've had to do more with less, and become more accountable for what we do."

That's been especially true, she notes, when it's come to funding for services for the disabled.

"The times when governments doled out block funding are over. We now have to think and act like a private company in a market-driven economy."

Karen Goldenberg

JVS still receives the lion's share of its funding from the public purse. Three levels of government contribute, as do the United Way and UJA Federation.

And because it receives public money, the agency cannot cater solely to Jewish clients. About one-third of the 10,000 people it served this past year were Jewish.

In the coming months, Goldenberg expects that JVS will begin doing something it's never done before: fundraise in the Jewish community.

"It seems paradoxical," she concedes. "I have mixed feelings about it. It may look like we're competing with the UJA. But we simply don't have enough dollars to do everything we need to do."

Everything it needs to do is a lot. At last count, JVS offered 33 programs and services, with more to come. These encompass traditional job searching; help for new immigrants, including those needing training and re-training; career planning; computer skills upgrading for foreign professionals; and skill evaluations. Some are offered in conjunction with other communal agencies, such as Jewish Family & Child Service, Reena, and Jewish Immigrant Aid Services.

Goldenberg has set her priorities on programming for youth, women and single mothers.

And her "burning passion" is support for children under six. She wants to begin an educational program in this area for parents and caregivers in the Jewish community.

In the meantime, the agency will continue offering the services for which it's become known.

Jewish education is still a cornerstone, and its importance is expressed through the educational counselling services program, in which assessments and counselling are delivered to 10 Jewish day schools on 18 campuses. Last year, JVS served 4,200 students through the service.

Another mainstay – the Psycho-educational and Vocational Program, or PAVE – assesses learning skills and other factors that influence education and learning in teenagers and young adults.

The popular Women in New Roles (WINR) program helps prepare women for new careers or entry into the job market.

Thousands of other clients are served yearly through rehabilitation services, career and employment counselling, on-site skills training and guidance with self-employment.

This past May, JVS became a partner in Youthinc., which provides support services and employer links for young people. Students can also avail themselves of a workshop on study skills.

It's a tall order, and Goldenberg knows she has her work cut out.

"We do a lot, but it boils down to this: we're here to remove barriers to successful employment."

She's also eager to shore up JVS's image. For years, the agency has kept a low profile, away from the Bathurst Street strip (it's housed in a nondescript, crackerbox building in the Dufferin-Lawrence area).

Already, the director isn't shy about singing her agency's praises: "We're the jewel in the crown of the Jewish community," she says.

Relief fund to aid Turkey

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A special relief fund to assist in the rescue efforts in Turkey has been set up by the Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC).

"The magnitude of this earthquake is enormous and the losses are staggering," said CJC president Moshe Ronen. "I am urging members of the Jewish community to be generous and contribute whatever they can to this important humanitarian cause."

The money will be distributed either directly in the areas hit by the disaster or through an international relief organization.

Cheques should be sent to the Turkish Earthquake Relief, c/o Canadian Jewish Congress Charities Committee, 1590 Docteur Penfield Ave., Montreal, Que. H3G 1C5. Tax receipts will be issued.

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Antonio Lamer

Even in his announcement, last weekend, of his intention to resign in January as chief justice of the Supreme Court of Canada, typically combining profound insight with profound humility, Mr. Justice Antonio Lamer showed Canadians how to reach for greatness.

He spoke of the "feu sacré," the sacred flame, "the necessary enthusiasm of spirit and intellect," that he now felt diminishing in his lifelong love for the law and for judging, a love that boldly and without flicker, lit his way from within the secret chamber of his soul.

For 20 years, he sat on the Supreme Court of Canada. For the last nine of those 20 years, he was the court's 16th chief justice.

Chief Justice Lamer solidified the court's transition from the quiet waters of 115 years of the British North America Act into the relatively untravelled and still-choppy waters of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, from pure parliamentary democracy to hybrid constitutional/parliamentary democracy.

It was, and is, difficult work, requiring a strong, firm hand on the the judiciary's schooner and a strong, clear eye on the horizon.

Critics from among the parliamentary supremacists assail the court as too interventionist, too willing to unseat the elected majority through unelected judicial activism. But, perhaps more than any other chief justice, Lamer has resolutely answered those critics.

With the precision and acuity of a ray of laser light cutting through a dark room, Chief Justice Lamer has articulately explained and staunchly defended the importance, indeed, the necessity, of reconciling the sometimes overbearing will of the majority with a sometimes irritating deference for the minority, of protecting the rights of the individual against the encroachments by the state.

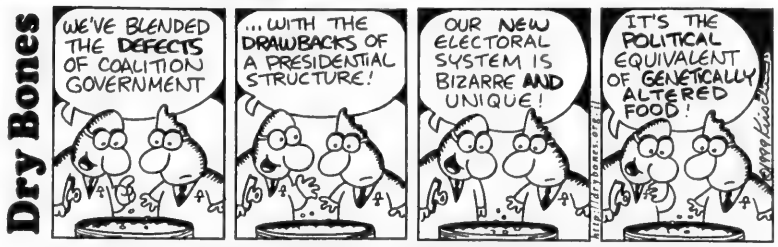
There was no finer example of the delicate and reasoned way in which the Lamer court balanced complex and competing interests than the reference last year, concerning Quebec's right to unilaterally secede from Canada.

The court ruled that a unilateral declaration of independence by Quebec would be illegal. However, it also ruled that the government of Canada would be obliged to negotiate the terms of secession if a clear majority of Quebecers expressed their desire to leave in response to a clear question regarding secession. The judgment, like the court itself, was a paean to order, to fairness and to democratic values.

"Feu sacré" is as much a prescription for us as it is a characteristic of the chief justice. It is the flame that fires our imagination, that stirs our soul, that guides us, that directs us. It isn't simply the momentary passion that soars but disappoints once spent. It is, in the chief justice's word, "sacré", set apart from the ordinary. It is part of the defining signature of who we can be, each one of us.

Each one of us can achieve, if we but find and light the "feu sacré" that is within us all, or can be within us. For his example, for his judging and for much more, Canadians owe Chief Justice Lamer a great debt.

We wish him good health and fulfilment in all his future pursuits.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Mistake to set time limits on Barak's goals

Your editorial (*CJN*, Aug. 12), and reports almost every day in the daily press express pessimism and skepticism that all of Israel's Ehud Barak's promises can be accomplished in 15 months. It is important to bear in mind that for all practical purposes, Israel is the only functioning democracy involved in the process. Barak must satisfy a diverse constituency in order to continue as prime minister.

That is not the case for Yasser Arafat for the Palestinians or Hafez al-Assad for the Syrians. There is no consultative process but merely the directed decisions of dictators from those countries. In Lebanon, the government must take its direction from Syria and to a lesser extent from Iran and even Saudi Arabia. That is not to say that peaceful solutions are impossible but recognition must be given for the complexities of a democratic society.

There are some wonderful signs that the Arab world is finally starting to acknowledge Israel's right to exist, among them the favorable comments in the Syrian press and the historic meeting between Barak and the president of Algeria.

There will be a settlement in the near future with the Palestinians and there will be a confirmation of their de facto presence in Jerusalem notwithstanding pronouncements to the contrary.

The withdrawal from Lebanon has already been assured and it needs only the power brokers controlling the terrorists north of Israel to be brought under control.

Israel will relinquish most of the Golan Heights and there will be peace with Syria.

All of these resolutions are attainable but it would be a mistake to set unreasonable time frames to reverse negative attitudes and mistrusts that have existed for more than 50 years.

Bert Raphael
President
Jewish Civil Rights Educational Foundation of Canada

Tagged along to Baron Byng High School choir

Your article about the reunion of the Baron Byng High School Class of '39 awakened some fond memories (*CJN*, July 29). My late father, Bernard Flexer (Class of '44) was a member of Dr. D.M. Herbert's choir and, along with other former members, convinced him to come out of retirement and preside over the Baron Byng Graduates Choir in the late '60s and early '70s. I always enjoyed tagging along to choir practice and would slip into the alto section. The Soldiers' Chorus from Faust was one of the first opera arrangements they sang.

The Baron Byng Graduates Choir actually made a number of recordings, (on vinyl discs), which were purchased by family and friends. My father always spoke highly of his former music teacher, and it was evident that Dr. Herbert was loved and respected by his students.

Riva Flexer
Shawinigan, Que.

Liked insightful essay on poet Eliezer Steinbarg

Please accept my belated sincere congratulation for the very insightful essay about Eliezer Steinbarg's "desire to mend the world." (*CJN*, June 10)

As a student in my native Cernovitz gymnasium, I studied Yiddish literature, and Eliezer Steinbarg's fables and poetry were my favorite subject.

My Yiddish library is home for several of Steinbarg's works. To this day, I go back, from time to time, relaxing by delighting myself reading his wonderful verses.

Sheba Honig
Hampstead, Que.

Few Canadian Jews in WWII were decorated

In his column, "Overlooked minorities" (*CJN*, Aug. 5), Rabbi Gunther Plaut writes about awarding of medals/decorations to American minority GIs during World War II.

Rabbi Plaut writes: "I suspect, that on the whole, Canada will not be greatly different from the United States; prejudice against minorities knows no borders."

A list compiled by David Rome and published by Canadian Jewish Congress in 1948, titled "Canadian Jews in WW2 — vol. 1 Decorations," shows the relatively few medals decorations awarded to some 16,000 Jews who served. Rabbi Plaut was right.

Willie Glazer
Montreal

Found anti-Semitic graffiti in Poland

Like Rabbi Dow Marmur, I too recently visited Poland. The rabbi describes (*CJN*, Aug. 19) how several thousand people celebrated a Jewish cultural festival in Krakow. I wonder if Rabbi Marmur also saw in Krakow *zydz kurwa* (Jewish whores) plastered on a wall in Kazimierz, the Jewish quarter housing the five ancient synagogues. I found anti-Semitic graffiti in many places I visited during my 10-day stay, especially in Warsaw.

My cousin and I kept a journal of our trip in Poland, and I will be glad to send it via e-mail at ssg25@sprint.ca to anyone requesting it.

Sol Goldberg
Toronto

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures. Letters sent by e-mail must also include the sender's municipal address.

Perspectives

Arab states must confront Palestinian 'refugees' as well

By DOUGLAS DAVIS
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

Prospects for peace between Israel and the Palestinians are bringing harsh facts of life into sharp focus for Arab leaders.

Not only will they be losing the Palestinian issue as a cornerstone of Arab unity and Pan-Arab ideology, but they will be gaining a demographic problem that is, to a very considerable extent, of their own making.

When some 600,000 Palestinians left areas that came under Israeli control in the 1948 and 1967 wars, they were settled in refugee camps, primarily in Jordan, Lebanon and Syria, but also in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

While Israel set a high priority on absorbing and integrating the 600,000 Jewish refugees who poured into the new Jewish state from surrounding Arab countries, the Arab hosts of the Palestinian refugees steadfastly refused to integrate or absorb their new arrivals.

Moreover, they consistently rejected entreaties – including offers of cash – from international refugee agencies and foreign governments to improve the living standards of the Palestinians.

The rationale was that refugees, impoverished in camps, would remain a blot on the world's conscience and a constant reminder that the conflict with Israel would not be resolved until all were permitted to return to their homes in Jaffa, Lod and Haifa.

But the crucial, unspoken subtext was that the refugees and their descendants would never feel sufficiently secure or comfortable in their transplanted homes to put down roots and decide to stay.

While conditions in the camps would remain grim enough to score the necessary propaganda points on the international stage, they would also keep the dreams of the refugees focused on returning to long-abandoned, real or imagined, olive groves and orchards.

Israeli leaders of all political hues have consistently rejected the notion of the Palestinian "right to return" and the issue was widely perceived as being one of the most intractable problems to be faced in final-status negotiations with the Palestinian Authority (PA).

Now, however, Jordan, Syria and Lebanon are apparently being persuaded to think again, and there are signs they are taking the first tentative steps toward accepting the new reality: the permanent absorption of their substantial refugee populations in the context of an Israeli-Palestinian deal.

But recognition that the Palestinians will, after all, be settled where they are, sends shivers down the collective spines of Arab host governments, according to a recent report in the respected Arabic weekly *al-Wasat*, which is published in Paris.

Writing from Beirut, Lebanese commentator Sarkis Naoum noted that nowhere is this unease more acutely felt than in Lebanon, which is still recovering from a devastating civil war, and where fragile ethnic and sectarian balances will be threatened by the settlement of up to 250,000 Palestinians.

"Whether as Lebanese citizens or as permanent residents with full rights, Palestinians are not wanted in Lebanon," Naoum said. "Many Lebanese, particularly Christians, gave vent to this fear by taking up arms against the Palestinians in 1975."

In a state where the top political posts are awarded on the basis of religious and ethnic numbers, the Lebanese have always had a phobia about converting the Palestinian refugee presence into a permanent fact of life.

The permanent incorporation of a large number of Palestinians not only challenges the Lebanese political system which is constructed on a precarious balance between Muslims and Christians, but also the very character of the country.

Moreover, Naoum pointed out, the predominantly Sunni Palestinians also threaten to upset the balance between Lebanon's two major Muslim sects – the Shi'ites are the other – "upsetting the equilibrium between them and rendering Lebanon more unstable."

The number of refugees who will be permanently resettled in Lebanon is expected to be restricted to some 267,000 who were displaced in 1948, of whom about 225,000 still live in refugee camps.

Some international organizations have calculated that the overall number will fall around 175,000 when the number of Palestinians who have emigrated and now hold third-country citizenship is taken into account.

Meanwhile, western diplomats are pointing to tangible signs that arrangements are already under way to facilitate the resettlement process.

In Jordan, Palestinians were once granted Jordanian passports valid for five years, but after the establishment of the PA the validity of the Jordanian passports was reduced to two years. The authorities in Amman have recently reverted to issuing five-year passports.

Both the Syrians and the Lebanese are now more receptive to proposals for improving living conditions in the refugee camps.

A large project to improve living conditions in one of Lebanon's major camps is nearing completion. However, the official Lebanese line is that the project was undertaken for environmental reasons.

In addition, Syria and Lebanon have recently relaxed restrictions on Palestinians traveling between the two countries, while Beirut has eased restrictions on Palestinians who seek to travel abroad.

Naoum recalls that after Jordan's late King Hussein expelled the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) in 1970, it moved to Lebanon, where members transformed the many Palestinian refugee camps into fortified strongholds.

"But the fear of rising Palestinian influence in Lebanon was not a strictly Christian affliction. When the Lebanese saw that the Palestinians were intent on creating a state within a state in Lebanon, another faction – the Shi'ites – also took up arms against them."

The Lebanese, he said, were driven by fear that the increasing power of the Palestinians might lead to their permanent resettlement in Lebanon, particularly if the Arab states and the PLO failed to defeat Israel, and if the Israelis refused to allow the Palestinians back as part of a peace agreement.

During the 1982 Israeli invasion of Lebanon, the third major Lebanese faction, the Sunnis, also came to realize the danger posed by the Palestinian armed presence in the country

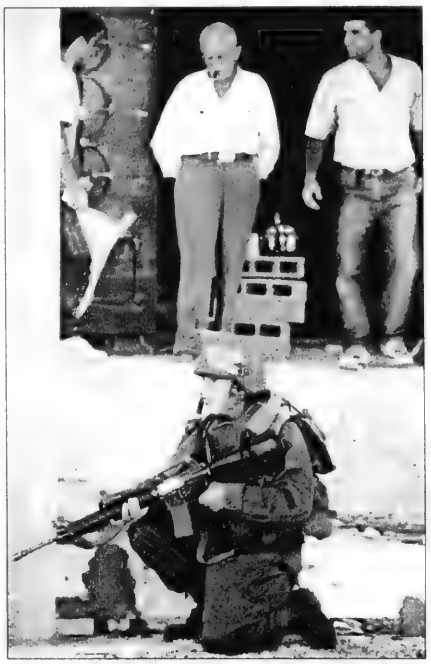
"After initially supporting the Palestinians as a force that would help to reverse the injustices they suffered under the Lebanese system," Naoum wrote, "the Sunnis changed tack after the siege of Beirut."

In 1982, Sunni leaders played an important part in persuading the Palestinian leadership to leave Beirut as Israel had demanded.

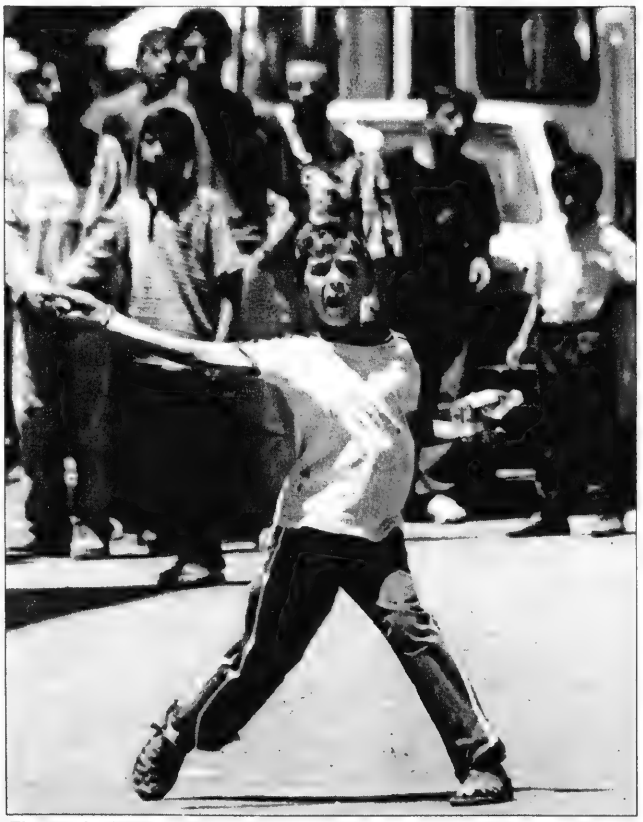
Fears of permanently resettling the Palestinian refugees in Lebanon have increased since the October 1991 Madrid peace conference.

This concern reached fever pitch in recent weeks, with the advent of Barak's more conciliatory government and the possibility of regaining momentum in the peace process.

"Since the Barak administration adamantly rejects the repatriation of Palestinian refugees to the land they fled in 1948 and 1967," noted Naoum, "and since the U.S. is sympathetic to the Israeli position, the Arab and international (particularly European) positions appear very shaky indeed."



The by-now "standard" photo of the Israeli soldier keeping order in the West Bank.



The popular image of the Palestinian: a young boy throwing stones, squaring off against the IDF. [RNS photos]

Opinions

The riot at Allan Gardens

Every day the *Globe and Mail* publishes the front page of one of its old issues that appeared on the same day of the month. The page, reproduced with its original typeface, sometimes goes back to the early part of the century and sometimes to more recent dates.

Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

When the paper reproduced its front page from June 9, 1965, I saw this headline: "Jewish Congress Blames Jews for Fomenting Mob Violence." Naturally, my eye was attracted to this item.

It started as follows: "In a hard-hitting statement issued yesterday, the Canadian Jewish Congress accuses unnamed individuals and groups of the Toronto Jewish community of creating a tense and inflamed atmosphere which erupted into the Allan Gardens Riot.

"The Congress, official spokesman for Jewry, adopted the unusual procedure of printing a circular for distribution to an estimated 20,000 Jewish homes in Toronto and Ontario. A small proportion of the mailing is in Yiddish."

The story continued on another page, which was not reproduced. But it was enough for me to recall an event in which I participated and which I remember very clearly indeed.

At the centre of the controversy was a certain William John Beattie, self-proclaimed fuhrer of the new Canadian Nazi party, which had announced a rally at Allan Gardens. This was a shock to the Jewish community, and especially to those of us who had personally experienced the effects of Nazi rule.

A fair number of us, especially members of a particularly activist group called N-3, were resolved to attend the announced rally and disrupt it if possible in as peaceable a manner as the circumstances permitted.

The rally made headlines; police on horseback cordoned off the area; and it was not long before jibes flew back and forth and a melee erupted. The result was that a few of the Nazis were beaten up and the rest fled. That was the end of the rally.

The event might not have made the news had some officers of Congress not decided to criticize us and let the media know that they were doing so on behalf of the organization, which up to this point had pursued a very conservative and low profile approach to most problems. I, in turn, approved thoroughly of the activism of N-3 and its allies. I always felt that, in the advocacy of genocide, the Nazis had placed themselves outside the protection of the law, and that to combat them with legal niceties was an error.

The interesting fact was that the leadership of Congress had read public opinion quite wrong. Veterans of World War II recalled what the Nazis stood for, and the resuscitation of such a philosophy in our midst met with wide public disgust. People generally were happy that the rally had ended as it did. One Jewish survivor was brought to court and was fined $1. The judge quite clearly agreed more with us than with our critics.

The most important effect of this whole episode, which after all lasted but a half-hour or so, was a change in the policy of Congress. Its previous low profile policies began to disappear. The leadership realized that the public criticism of our activities had been a mistake. It did not happen again.

Twelve years later, Rabbi Plaut was elected national president of Congress.

In search of family roots

Roots is a word that often pops up in my family's conversations. No, we are not obsessed with gardening or popular Canadian clothing, but with the past. Or rather my mother is obsessed with the past. She is searching for her roots, attempting the daunting task of tracing our family tree.

Jennifer Fox in Thornhill

Her project has lasted for many years. I've never asked why it's so important to know the name of her great-great-uncles and aunts. She says she does it for the stories – a sociological study of how her ancestors and mine lived.

As she progresses, she finds that the names and borders shift, making her task harder. Towns that were once in Belarus are in Russia, and then in Belarus again. Or they have disappeared completely off the map. It's like explaining to your grandkids that one day you woke up and no longer lived in Dartmouth but in the Halifax Regional Municipality.

Some families are lucky enough to trace their ancestral line back for generation after generation because their family was wealthy or had important rabbinical scholars. We stop at the mid-19th century. However, every time she finds another writer, my mother insists my penchant for journalism is part of my genetic code. Unfortunately, there is also a tendency to live in the "suburbs" of cities. Amazing, really. Even Imperial Russia had suburbs.

The search continues. E-mail after e-mail. Pile of paper after pile of paper. No goal in sight besides the need to know more about where we come from; yet I've always thought the answer was obvious. We are Canadians, or more specifically Montrealers, (except for me, the lone Ontario-born child) who uprooted themselves and took the long way to Toronto.

Why is it that I'm a Canadian everywhere but in Canada? When I travelled through Israel, the tour group was introduced as Canadians. Same thing happens when visiting the States. Where are you from? Oh, I'm from Canada (eh).

Here in Toronto, I'm not a Canadian at all. When asked, what I am, I instead reply that I'm Jewish and a long time ago, we were from eastern Europe.

But I'm not from eastern Europe. I've never been there; neither have my parents and neither have two out of four grandparents. I'm Russian the same way people who have never been to Ireland are Irish. I have a feeling that even when my family did live in Russia, they didn't consider themselves Russians.

The status of Judaism as a religion or as a culture is a never-ending debate. An overnight camp I attended used to ask us, are you a Canadian Jew or a Jewish Canadian?

The argument was always heated; people passionately pleaded both sides. I would always sit on the fence and ask why they couldn't have equal weight.

I believe that both my nationality and my religion/culture have an impact on the answer to the ever-present question of who I am. Being Jewish in Canada is vastly different than being Jewish in the United States. Over the past year of articles, I think I've proved that being Jewish in Toronto is not even the same experience as being Jewish in Halifax.

This all still leaves me with the puzzle of why people like my mother search for their roots. Are they yearning for a connection to something larger than a mere 100 years in our fair nation? To recall what was lost and what we left behind? If we know this, are we better people? Are we better Jews?

My mother continues to search, going to conferences and society meetings, sending out faxes and posting things on the newsgroup, looking for a link to someone or something else. I guess one day she'll stop. On that day I wonder if she will know herself any more than she did when she started.

Compiling lists as camp season ends

I lie on my top bunk-bed as the first rain of the summer makes a tapping sound on our roof. It is mid-August and we have just endured and survived the worst drought of the century.

Erica Horn in Montreal

Color war ended last night (my losing streak is finally over) and having been active in 110 degree weather for seven weeks the camp is exhausted.

We are rewarded for our endurance and motivation throughout the heat with "Bunk-O" – translated as "do whatever you want provided one counselor is alert at all times."

My 18 campers have shut the lights and are sleeping and my co-counselors have decided to join them. I lie here, listening to the pitter-patter of the rain, pondering the highlights of the past seven weeks and the events and the tribulations of the year ahead. I compile a Top 10 list for each and below I have decided to share some of it with you.

The top two things that make camp life different and therefore better than our home lives are:

1.The friends you make at camp are closer than family. The bonds of friendship formed throughout camp are unbreakable and must withstand the test of time.

My supervisor recently shared with our division some wisdom on the value of camp friends. There are friends of the road and friends of the heart. The friends you make at camp are friends of the heart. You can be physically apart from them 10 months of the year, but upon being reunited it is as though you never left each other's side.

When I peer outside my window in mid-February and am depressed by the feet of snow covering the ground, I know that if I look up into the sky, my friends of the heart are looking up at the same clouds, the same stars and the same sky. Mutual experiences and memories connect us. We are together even when we are apart.

Moreover, at camp you are alongside your friends 24 hours a day, seven days a week. I know that the moment I set foot off the plane, once I have finished my laundry and have showered barefoot for the first time in two months, I will turn on my computer, log onto the Internet to chat with my camp friends. I will attempt to recreate the splendor of being able to be around my friends all the time and whenever I need them. Where else is an individual granted such a luxury?

2. Camp is for the kids. While principals and teachers can try to convince me that school is also for children, they will not succeed. School prepares kids for the future and trains them to handle the world as it is handed over to them by the older generations. In camp, everything is done with the best interests of the campers in mind and aims to provide them with two months of fun and laughter beneath the protective rays of the scorching sun. For example, my camp's motto is "The place where happiness counts."

After completing that list, I realized the harsh reality that the end of the summer was drawing nearer. To ease myself into the upcoming year, I compiled another Top 10 list and the following are the top two upcoming events of the 1999-2000 school year (for now):

1. In May, I will be graduating from McGill University. I will either be setting foot into the "real world" or returning to the exciting land of academia. The uncertainties with which I will be faced are already overwhelming.

2. In 105 days from my deadline for this column the world will be celebrating the turn of the millennium. Wild parties, nervous air traffic controllers and others will attempt to usher in the new millennium with as a large a bang as this one is ending with. It remains unclear whether glitches in computer systems have been successfully repaired or what the future holds. I suppose we will have to wait and see.

The bugle has blown for lunch. My campers are stirring, tying their shoes and trying to locate their ponchos. Macaroni and cheese awaits us. So does a noisy dining hall, filled with 400 cheering voices. Those same voices will be celebrating the new millennium beneath the same bright sky. I wish everyone the best of luck with their sad summer goodbyes and in the new school year.

SUN AND FUN IN ISRAEL

Children from Chernobyl recently arrived in Israel for a vacation, courtesy of Chabad. [Israel Sun photo]

The Kirshner File

Does Syria want peace or a peace process?

There is finally movement on the Syrian diplomatic front, three years after Israel suspended bilateral negotiations with Syria.

Sheldon Kirshner in Toronto

The signals are unmistakable.

In line with Syria's demand, Israel has agreed to resume the talks from the point they broke off in February 1996. It is an important concession, since the previous Israeli government rejected that formula.

Urging Syria to seize a "historic opportunity," Israel has also stated that such negotiations can be based on United Nations Resolution 242, which calls for Israel's withdrawal from Arab territories.

The thorny, deal-breaking questions to be settled are twofold: where the talks ended, and the depth of Israel's pullout. These issues may yet scuttle talks, as Syria suggested last week in rejecting direct negotiations with Israel and likening Prime Minister Ehud Barak to his predecessor, Benjamin Netanyahu.

Prior to these chilling pronouncements, Syria let it be known that a resumption of negotiations was possible and indeed probable now that Netanyahu is gone.

President Hafez al-Assad, having described Barak as a "strong and honest" leader, said that his assumption of power provided "opportunities for constructive efforts toward a comprehensive and just" peace.

Confident that the climate has changed, Foreign Minister Farouk al-Shaara stated that Israel and Syria have already worked out 80 percent of the details. Walid Mualem, the Syrian ambassador to the United States, declared that Syria and Israel could come to terms in a matter of months by building on what had been achieved from 1992 to 1996.

Adding credence to the perception that Syria is ready to discuss peace seriously were unconfirmed reports suggesting that the Syrians had begun, or were planning, to rein in Hezbollah, as well as radical Palestinian factions in Damascus.

Yet a troubling question mark remains, these developments notwithstanding. Does Syria want *peace* or merely a *peace process*? There is evidence for both points of view.

Gen. Uri Saguy, the former director of Israeli military intelligence, believes that Assad took a "strategic decision" to make peace in 1991. As a result of this assessment, the late Yitzhak Rabin entered into direct talks with Syria in 1992.

Israel's current director of military intelligence, Gen. Amos Malka, concurs with his predecessor. In a recent visit to Washington, he told Clinton administration officials that Assad, whose health is at best uncertain, seeks a peace treaty with Israel so that his son, Bashar, can replace him without major jolts.

According to this theory, Assad, who was recently elected by acclamation to yet another term, wishes to defuse Syria's conflict with Israel so that his heir apparent, Bashar, an ophthalmologist, can concentrate on modernizing the anemic Syrian economy and updating its information and financial policies.

Syria's oil reserves, which generated some $2 billion in revenue last year, are fast being depleted. And Syria is also worried that its economic growth will not keep pace with its population increase.

The biggest problem turns on the nature of Syria's economy. Since it is largely state-controlled, Syria has no private banks and no stock exchange, and the legal and taxation systems are chaotic. The Internet, until recently, was illegal, and the use of cell phones is still subject to tight controls.

Syria, in short, has not joined the global economy, and now wants in.

This is reason enough for Syria to settle its long-running dispute with Israel. But the motive that ultimately underpins Syria's interest in reaching some kind of a rapprochement with Israel is national pride. Syria hungers for the return of the Golan Heights, captured by Israel in the 1967 Six Day War and formally annexed 14 years later.

Assad was commander of the air force when Syria lost the Golan, and he feels that he has a personal obligation to recover it. (Syria's position is that Israel must not only withdraw to the June 4, 1967 lines, but it must commit itself to that position before talks get under way.)

By making peace with Israel, Syria can, in addition, improve its strained relationship with the United States and thereby qualify for American aid.

Taking all these factors into account, Itamar Rabinovich, Israel's former chief negotiator on the Syrian track, takes issue with those who argue that Assad is only playing with the idea of peace.

"I do not share this interpretation," he wrote in *The Brink of Peace*, published in 1998. "I believe that when he agonized over George Bush's invitation to the (1991) Madrid conference, Assad did think through the full ramifications of a positive answer and made a decision to join a process that could very well lead him to sign a peace treaty with Israel."

Daniel Pipes, an American academic, leads the chorus of naysayers suspicious of Assad. "His goal," he has written, "is not peace but a peace process."

Ehud Barak

Sustaining a peace process, Pipes argues, confers upon his regime prestige and an implicit guarantee that Israel will not attack Syria.

By rejecting peace, he adds, Assad burnishes his credentials as an Arab nationalist and a defender of the Palestinian cause. He also deflects domestic attention away from the fact that his is a minority Alawite government.

"Bellicose relations with Israel help Assad stay in power and extend his influence," Pipes claims. "Refusing to accept the existence of the Jewish state provides him with a foreign enemy to unify the country, to strengthen the bond between the rulers and the ruled, and to mobilize the (majority) Sunni population."

He concludes: "The implication is clear: the Arab-Israeli conflict will continue so long as Assad rules Damascus."

In an echo of Pipes' theory, Shabtai Shavit, former head of the Mossad, said in 1996 that Assad hoped to use talks with Israel to win U.S. support and Western economic assistance without actually taking the steps to achieve peace.

Yossi Beilin, the deputy foreign minister under Shimon Peres and, currently, justice minister, contends that Assad fears a settlement. Writing two years ago, Beilin observed: "Assad (is) afraid that peace... would open Syria to the dangerous ideas of democracy and freedom and might jeopardize his tyranny."

Barry Rubin, an Israeli scholar, contends that Assad desires neither war nor peace, and is pleased with the existing situation. Peace, he wrote in 1998, would diminish Syria's influence in Lebanon and reduce Syria to a "fourth-rate power."

Uri Savir, who succeeded Rabinovich as Israel's Syrian negotiator and wrote a book about his experiences called *The Process*, says that Assad wants peace but is intimidated by it.

As he put it: "At our meetings it soon became clear that (the Syrians) ... sought American economic aid but wanted to block the penetration of any kind of Westernization that might come with it. They were interested in an accommodation with Israel but feared being overwhelmed by (Israel's) economic strength. The solution they were seeking was aid without influence and peace without engagement."

These are telling comments, yet Assad has gradually adjusted himself to coexistence with Israel, however difficult it may be to swallow. Assessing his options in light of Israel's peace agreements with Egypt, Jordan and the PLO, he has decided that the benefits of peace outweigh its disadvantages.

But, judging by a recent survey released by Tel Aviv University, Israelis are far from convinced that Israel should give up the Golan in exchange for peace.

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BETH DAVID B'NAI ISRAEL BETH AM 416-633-5500
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Guest speaker: **Prof. David Novak**
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"Are We the Chosen People?"
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Rabbi Philip Scheim, Cantor Yehuda Rottner and the
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Dedication of the Siyum Hatorah Plaque in honour of **Rabbi Joseph Kelman**
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The Festival String Quartet accompanies
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The gefilte fish line

By ZE'EV GLICENSTEIN

How do you like your gefilte fish, sweet or peppery? The answer may reveal more about yourself and your family history than you might think.

Believe it or not, social scientists have made a serious study of the gefilte fish preferences of Jews whose families originated in eastern Europe. The results need not be taken with a grain of salt – nor with a healthy dose of chrain (horseradish).

You've heard of the Mason-Dixon Line? The 49th parallel? Michael Steinlauf, an American professor of Jewish studies and author of the book *Bondage to the Dead*, recently told an audience of genealogists that a similar boundary can be drawn across the map of eastern Europe – the "gefilte fish line," he called it – separating the regions where Jewish palates once favored the sweet gefilte fish from those where the peppery varieties of this traditional dish was preferred.

Speaking earlier this month at a huge international gathering of Jewish genealogists in New York, Steinlauf explained that the Gefilte Fish Line roughly overlaps another important line, a linguistic divide between two major variants of Yiddish.

Do the European-born Yiddish speakers in your family carry a Litvak accent? A Galitzianer accent? Like Henry Higgins placing Londoners by their speech, Yiddish linguists can often precisely determine a person's native region by their pronunciation of certain Yiddish words, and have mapped out these regional dialects of the mameloshen or mother tongue. It should come as no surprise, therefore, that our taste buds likewise carry significant clues about where we came from.

Steinlauf wasn't the only speaker to urge family tree researchers to look around their own homes for telling clues about their family's past. Rafael Guber, an American genealogist, artist and curatorial designer, spoke on Using Documents and Ephemera to Retrace Your Ancestors' Footsteps.

Many items in your home, such as old prayer books, marriage contracts, ritual washing cups and phylacteries, may carry clues about how our ancestors lived, he said. Prayer books, for instance, may indicate whether our ancestors were Chassidim. Guber evoked more than a few gasps from the supposed expert family historians in the audience when he noted that roughly 80 percent of present-day Ashkenazi Jews have chassidic roots.

Displaying photographs of various types of shtreimls and koppels (head coverings) worn in the Old World, Guber indicated where each regional variant of the fashion could be found. Even a gravestone in an old photograph can offer a geographical clue, he explained, since only in central and western Galicia did tombstone carvers place clearly visible inset stones within larger monuments.

Guber ended his talk with a sort of Jewish *Antiques Road Show*, during which audience members came forward with documents, photographs and other ephemera for evaluation. The exercise was highly entertaining, even if no one learned anything new about their families. Still, the point was clear: genealogists can play detective right in their own living-rooms.

* * *

The 19th Annual Conference on Jewish Genealogy attracted some 1,200 people, almost double the number at last year's conference in Los Angeles, and inspired feature articles in both the *Forward* and the *New York Times*. Most observers agree that the continuing growth of the Jewish genealogical community is attributable to one factor above all others – the widespread use of the Internet.

As the New York gathering made clear, we're in the midst of an explosion of information and interest in Jewish genealogy. Each day, we're reconfirming the unity of the Jewish people by recovering more and more of our genealogy. Watch this space for more about this exciting conference.

Going on a klezmer hunt

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

This is an article about Tzimmes and Kugel. About Hot Latkes and Schnapps. And of course, about Raisins and Almonds.

No, it's not about Jewish cooking. But, how klezmer music is cooking around the world (thanks to groups like Tzimmes **[http://www2.portal.ca/~jsiegel/tzimmes.html]**, Kugel **[http://members.aol.com/shawnkugel/kugel.html]** and many, many other Klezmer groups).

There is no better place to start your hunt for just about anything klezmer than at Ari Davidow's Klezmer Shack **[http://www.klezmershack.com/]**. This massive site is dedicated to all aspects of contemporary klezmer music with sections devoted to KlezNews, KlezCalendar and Klez Links.

Davidow also provides a concise and readable history of the rebirth of klezmer music and defines what klezmer music is (and isn't). **[http://www.klezmershack.com/ articles/aboutklez. html]**.

"It's balkans and blues, ancient Jewish culture and prayer and history, spirit and jazz all mixed together. Good klezmer, and the music inspired by it, demands that one dance... Some of it lies with an approach to playing that I still don't know how to describe, but includes a lot of Central- and Eastern-European riffs and that mysterious 'krechts'... that soulful burst of intensity that the lead musician, often a clarinet, will play, almost like an instrumental complaint."

Leo Rosten continues from the *Joys of Yiddish*: "The word klezmer comes from two Hebrew words, clay and zimmer, meaning vessel of music or song.

"The idea is that the instrument i.e. the violin, clarinet, takes on human characteristics like laughing and crying. With a joyous exuberance or a soulful wailing" **[http://www.users.drew.edu/jbazewic/hst/klesmer.html]**.

Back at Klezmer Shack, there are dozens of articles on such topics as Klezmer Drumming, Klezmer Music Theory and a piece from the *San Francisco Chronicle* on a city where the music is surprisingly popular:

"In today's Berlin, It's hip to be klezmer. The playful Jewish music is the rage in Germany's biggest city, and a community once wiped out is getting back on its feet" **[http://www.klezmershack.com/contacts/klezwords. html]**.

Klezmer's popularity is an international phenomenon. This year alone, klezmer music has been celebrated at KlezFest in St. Petersburg, Mazltov! in Holland, and the Israeli Fest in Tzfat. But one of the largest parties starts Monday at Toronto's Harbourfront Centre with Ashkenaz: A Festival of New Yiddish Culture **[http://www.ashkenaz.org/]**.

Over 175 artists from 10 countries are scheduled to entertain longtime fans and introduce a new generation to Klezmer, with programs like OY VEY! Klezmer for Kids.

Do you want to track down a great Klezmer clarinetist you heard on a CD or maybe assemble your own Klezmer band? KlezContacts has e-mail addresses for everybody who's anybody in Klezmer music **[http://www.klezmershack.com/klezcontacts.html]**. And you can find almost 100 Klezmer links at the Klezmer Ring **[http://www.webring.org/cgi-bin/webring?ring=klezmer;list]**.

You don't have to be a genius to feel the power of these songs (but I guess it doesn't hurt). Zemerl's home page **[http://www.princeton.edu/zemerl/]** contains this fascinating quote from a famous observer: "The Yiddish folk songs, why they are the most sincere, the most heartfelt I have heard anywhere. They are the truest expression of the soul of a people."

Albert Einstein.

***

Mark Mietkiewicz is a Toronto-based television producer who writes, lectures and teaches about the Jewish Internet. He can be contacted at [highway@home.com].

Through A Sephardi Window

Healing the world

By AVI BENLOLO

Dr. Rachel Higgins aspires to find a cure for cancer. Her scientific arena – it encompasses molecular biology and molecular engineering – is one that few people are aware of, or comprehend. Yet her work will serve to benefit humankind.

The goal of her current research at the department of cancer research at Sunnybrook and Women's Health Science Centre, is to understand the development and progression of leukemia.

Backed by the Leukemia Research Funds of Canada, Higgins essentially tries to determine what happens after the cancer virus enters the organism. She believes figuring out this piece of the puzzle will bring scientists closer to finding a cure for cancer.

Soft spoken and modest about her numerous achievements, Higgins recently won the Governor General's Fellowship Award for her research paper titled *Gene Silencing Due to Integration of Friend Murine Leukemia Virus into an Origin of DNA Replication.* The award still sits neatly in its package waiting to be hung.

Born in Casablanca, Higgins moved to Israel with her family as a preschooler and was raised in Acre. Drafted into the Israel Defence Force when she was 18, Higgins chose to become a special needs teacher, a move that would have an impact on her future career choice.

As a young educator working with children with special needs, Higgins, at first, could not accept the fact they could not improve. She later learned that their disorders were genetic and decided she wanted to study genetic disorders.

As a result, she immigrated to Canada in 1976 for the purpose of going to university to study sciences, specifically in the area of genetics. While working on a bachelor degree, Higgins decided to get married and have children. The mother of two, she later graduated in 1986.

She received a master's degree in medical biophysics in 1989 and a Ph.D. in medical genetics in 1994. Both post graduate degrees are from the University of Toronto. Her doctoral work on the mechanism by which DNA is packaged into the shell of the virus, was published in the prestigious scientific journal, *Cell,* among many other publications.

Higgins said she recently had the opportunity to explore genetic replication, one of the more "sexy" areas in scientific research.

Working closely with world-renowned scientist Jerald Hurwitz in New York, she studied the mechanism of DNA replication in human cells.

Her background is as much a part of her life as her quest to find a cure for cancer. Hoping to pass on Jewish Moroccan values to her children, Higgins often cooks Moroccan food and celebrates holidays in the Moroccan tradition. She sent her children to Or Haemet Sephardic School in their early years and visits Israel periodically.

Talking about her drive and motivation to continue her difficult task, Higgins said, "Often when I wake up in the morning or while conducting experiments, I envisage a sea of people…and I remember that I am working on their behalf."

Life and the Times

Books
Bernard Baskin

***The Times of my Life and my Life with the Times*, by Max Frankel (Random House, $41.95).**

The *New York Times* is, arguably, the best known newspaper in the world. It is a giant mart stocked with information – more than 100,000 words on weekdays and half a million on Sundays. Unfailingly and efficiently, it packages the news and presents it daily to a huge and eager readership.

But what is newsworthy? The author of this diverting and informative memoir believes that "fear and anxiety are the most persistent stimulants of news – fears of war, crime and sickness will always attract a crowd: News by definition, therefore, is the unusual and the unaccustomed – what you rush to tell your neighbor."

As a child, Frankel fled with his mother from Germany on one of the last visas issued by the U.S. Embassy in Berlin after the outbreak of war. His father disappeared into Stalin's Russia for seven years, not to reappear and rejoin his family until 1946.

When Frankel graduated from Columbia University, he was hired by the *Times* where he spent the next 40 years. He held almost every important position on the paper: foreign correspondent in Moscow, Washington Bureau Chief, editorials editor and executive editor.

What is noteworthy about the honest and bracing book are Frankel's recounting of the *Times'* involvement in major events at which he had a ringside seat. These included: The Cold War, the Hungarian revolution, the Cuban missile crisis, the Pentagon Papers and Watergate.

Some of his disclosures are startling. "There was never much danger," he reveals, "in a nuclear exchange in the Cuban crisis, and those of us with some experience of Khrushchev felt sure of it throughout. We were wrong about his intentions in Cuba but not about his sanity. Khrushchev believed in nuclear diplomacy and bluff, never in nuclear war."

It is not widely known, he writes, that Kennedy promised Khrushchev secretly that he would soon scrap American missiles in Turkey provided no one in Moscow ever linked that withdrawal to the Cuban settlement.

Readers of *The CJN* will be especially interested in the author's considerable concern with Jewish matters. He admits that among his major mistakes was a 1981 editorial denouncing Israel for its "surgical" air strike against an Iraqi laboratory working on nuclear weapons. He concludes that it is folly to hold nations to a standard of "law" in an anarchic world. "Better to acknowledge the jungle until we reach a higher stage of civilization, or at least a world government."

Although he was widely criticized for his dovish views on Israeli policy, Frankel declares "The Torah, our Declaration and Constitution combined, urges a faith in law as the only reliable restraint on human behavior, the only alternative to violence and war. And the democratic codification of law requires debate and dissent. Instead of idols and passions, I worshiped words and argument, becoming part of an unashamedly Jewish verbal invasion of American culture."

Readers of this tough and scrupulous work will learn many things about how a great newspaper works: how it arrives at decisions, large and small; the relationship between editor and publisher, the journalistic codes of reportage and behavior and the foibles and eccentricities of well-known newspaper personalities and the behavior of assorted newspeople.

Not forgotten in this long and absorbing account are Frankel's description of his close relations with members of his family – the sad decline of his wife into depression and early death, and his romance and happy marriage to Joyce Purnick who was the *Times* City Hall bureau chief – and their influence on his career and principles.

Across the pages of this book march a galaxy of well-known personalities including five presidents of the United States and figures involved in politics, government, diplomacy and the arts.

At the book's end, looking back reflectively on four decades of change and turbulence, the author concludes, "Those who would truly stop the presses and seal the frontiers of nations and knowledge reappear in every generation, with tempting philosophies and contempt to humanity. By their press shall ye know them. They will cause new floods. But I have flown, like Noah's dove, with the spirit of the ark."

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would like to thank all well wishers for their thoughtful and generous donations on behalf of our father.

It has been a difficult year. May the new one bring us all good health and much happiness.

Michael, Marla, JoAnne, Morry, Jordanna, Brian, Justin, Marlee & Simmie

Kol Yisroel Congregation
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Special needs kids get program

By NICOLE SALAMA
Student Intern

TORONTO — For the first time ever, Reena, Zareinu, the Bathurst Jewish Centre (BJC) and Jewish Family and Child Service (JF&CS) are joining to create a new program: The Kids Club.

According to Arlene Margolese, the manager of volunteer services and Judaic programming at Reena, The Kids Club is a "unique social and recreational program for children with special needs."

The Kids Club's aim is to "enable people with developmental disabilities to realize [their] full potential by forming lifelong partnerships with individuals and their families within a framework of Jewish culture and values," Margolese says.

The program will have three sessions, the first starting in October. They are structured "to enable children with special needs to access quality social, recreational programs which do not currently exist within the Jewish community," said Margolese.

The program is available for two age groups: from three to six and from seven to 12. A "play and learn" program focusing on the arts, drama, music, fitness and Judaica, it will be held on Sunday mornings at the BJC.

Not only will The Kids Club "enhance [the children's] participation, enjoyment and social opportunities," but it will "give their families respite," says Margolese.

The families feel there is a real need for such programs. They believe that until now, their children have not had the same opportunities as other children, she says.

Because one of Reena's fundamental principles is their "obligation to advocate for appropriate programming for children," they, along with Zareinu, the BJC and JF&CS, decided to start the program.

The joint initiative has numerous advantages, Margolese says. It fills a need for the children and families who participate. It also "provides an opportunity for agencies with diverse mandates to work together to answer [that] need in the community."

The program is funded by UJA Federation, but there is still a cost of $100 per child per session.

Each session can take 20 children, Margolese says, and the staff-child ratio is excellent at one staff for two children.

She also stresses the need for volunteers. They must be at least 16 years old, and, she adds, they will find it a "terrific opportunity" to help developmentally disabled children.

KRAKOWSKY FAMILY DONATES AMBULANCE TO ISRAEL

From left, Paula and Joe Krakowsky, seen with Gerald Berley, ambulance chair of the Toronto chapter of Canadian Magen David Adom for Israel, were honored by the chapter for their recent donation of a mobile intensive care unit/ambulance to Magen David Adom in Israel. The Krakowskys are Holocaust survivors who lived in Israel from 1949 to 1952, and have been active over the years in the Czestochowa society here. [Sybil Berley photo]

Notice to Visitors to Pardes Shalom Cemetery

Arrangements have been made by Pardes Shalom to provide transportation to the cemetery before Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, for those without transportation.

Bus service will be provided on the following 3 days: Sunday, August 29; Sunday, September 5; and Sunday, September 19.

On each of these days a bus, identified by a sign "**PARDES SHALOM**" will depart from the front entrance of the Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst Street, at 10:00 a.m. for Pardes Shalom Cemetery.

The bus will make a stop at the parking lot of Betel Centre, located on Steeles Ave. W., at 10:30, to pick up passengers before proceeding to the cemetery.

The bus will leave the cemetery at 12:30 p.m. for return to the Betel Centre and the Bathurst Jewish Centre.

For further information, and to register, please call the cemetery office (416) 635-2883, extension 211 - Trudy, or extension 224 - Esther.

MINYANIM IN THE GTA
WEEK OF AUG. 27-SEPT. 3/'99

Synagogue	Address & Tel.	Fri. Night	Shabbat	Sun. A.M.	Daily A.M.	Daily P.M.
Adath Israel (C)	37 Southbourne Ave. (416) 635-5340	7:00 PM	9:00 AM	8:00 & 9:00 AM	7:00 & 7:45 AM	8:20 PM
Agudath Israel/Anshei Kielce (O)	2194 Bathurst St. (416) 256-4470	7:00 PM	8:45 AM	8:00 AM	7:00 & 7:40 AM	7:40 PM
Beth Avraham Yoseph (O)	613 Clark Ave. W. (905) 886-3810	7:00 PM	8:45 AM	7:00, 8:00 & 7:45 AM	6:45 & 7:30 AM	7:40 PM
Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am (C)	55 Yeomans Rd. (416) 633-5500	7:00 PM	9:00 AM	8:30 AM	7:00 & 8:00 AM	6:00 PM
Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am (C)	55 Yeomans Rd. (416) 633-5500	7:00 PM	9:00 AM	8:30 AM	7:00 & 8:00 AM	6:00 PM
Lodzer Centre (C)	12 Heaton St. (416) 636-6665	7:15 PM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	----------
Ohr Somayach / JEP (south) (O)	2939 Bathurst St. (416) 785-5899	7:00 PM	8:30 AM	7:45 AM	Mon. Thurs. 6:35 Tues. Wed. Fri. 6:45	7:40 AM
Shaarei Shomayim (O)	470 Glencairn Ave. (416) 789-3213	7:00 PM	9:00 AM	8:30 AM	7:30 AM	7:40 PM
Temple Emanu-El (R)	120 Old Colony Rd. (416) 449-3880	7:30 PM	10:30 AM	8:30 AM	7:30 AM	----------
Temple Kol Ami (R)	36 Atkinson Ave. (905) 709-2620	7:30 PM	10:30 AM	----------	----------	----------

This is not a comprehensive listing of the synagogues in the Greater Toronto area. The information is provided by the Vaad Harabonim of Toronto and the Toronto Board of Rabbis. The Vaad and the Board will periodically revise the listings. For statutory holidays, please call the Synagogue for any changes in times.

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Former York U president maintains busy schedule

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

Although Harry William Arthurs can look back with satisfaction at an extraordinary career, retirement is hardly on his mind.

A teacher and a legal scholar, and once one of Canada's most notable labor arbitrators, he was York University's first Jewish president.

Looking considerably younger than 64, Arthurs is still very much on the go.

"I don't intend to retire, at least not tomorrow," he said. "That's the wonderful thing about being an academic. If your brain holds out, and your computer doesn't crash, you can continue."

True to his beliefs, Arthurs, the father of two grown sons, Joshua and Gideon, is as busy as ever.

At York, he teaches labor and administrative law, as well as a cutting-edge course on globalization, a topic he is studying thanks to a $249,000 grant from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada.

Totally engaged in this project, Arthurs is trying to understand the impact of globalization on democratic institutions. "This has turned out to be a wonderfully productive period for me."

Arthurs, whose wife Penny is a garden designer, is also a member of a team which evaluates the performance of universities. His most recent assignment took him to the University of Wisconsin.

And occasionally, he conducts inquiries for universities beset by various problems. He headed up an independent committee at Concordia University following an academic scandal, and he helped Trent University reconstitute its senior administration after a faculty strike.

A University of Toronto and Harvard Law School graduate, Arthurs is an accidental academic. In 1961, when he was practising labor law, he was asked to fill in for a lecturer at York's Osgoode Hall Law School. "That was 38 years ago, and I'm still doing it."

Arthurs, who was successively associate dean and dean of York's law faculty from 1968 to 1977, oversaw sweeping changes. "I helped bring about a pedagogic revolution in legal education at Osgoode Hall," he said.

He developed an interdisciplinary approach for Osgoode Hall, introduced new courses, increased and diversified the faculty and hired an unprecedented number of women. (One of them, Louise Arbour, the chief prosecutor of the International Criminal Tribunal in The Hague, was recently appointed to fill a vacancy on Canada's Supreme Court.)

Arthurs, in particular, worked to refine his specialty, labor law. "I tried to bring it out of the conceptual cul-de-sac of traditional legal scholarship by focusing on its social, economic and political dimensions. Almost 40 years later, I am still trying."

Harry William Arthurs

Arthurs was president of York from 1985 to 1992. His first goal was to enhance its academic quality and reputation, or, as he put it, "to get York to believe in itself as a serious intellectual community."

Beyond that, he sought to improve its administrative and academic planning processes and to transform its generally bleak campus.

"The experience was exhilarating and productive," he recalled. "We adopted short and long-term planning and budgeting procedures. We created and carried out a campus master plan and built $190 million worth of buildings. We went up market in terms of student intake and research grants."

In addition, Arthurs lobbied governments for a fairer share of financial support, pursued donors, presided over the establishment of the Jewish studies program, and encouraged student and faculty exchanges with the Hebrew University.

As he made his way in academia, Arthurs arbitrated labor disputes in Toronto's garment district and in the federal civil service.

"It was extremely interesting work," he observed. "I ended my involvement because the learning curve flattened out a bit. I became busy with other things – scholarship and the presidency of York."

From about 1965 to 1970, Arthurs sat on the Canadian Jewish Congress' legal committee, which focused on hate propaganda.

"I felt that criminal law was not the way to address issues pertaining to the dissemination of hate and free speech," he explained. "I was concerned that precedents would be used to prosecute other people. So on principle, Congress and I parted company."

If it had been up to him, he would not have prosecuted Toronto-based neo-Nazi publicist Ernst Zundel or James Keegstra, the Alberta high school teacher who was twice convicted of willfully promoting hatred against Jews.

"I prefer social action to legal action to deal with these cases," said Arthurs, who was president of the Canadian Civil Liberties Association in 1976.

Born and raised in Toronto, he is the son of Honey, a University of Toronto grad, and Leon, a patent attorney originally from Romania.

Arthurs' maternal grandparents, Harry and Dorothy Dworkin, came to Canada from Russia and Latvia, respectively.

Harry, a travel agent, was a socialist and a Workman's Circle stalwart. "He was very active in helping the needle trade and other unions to organize." And he was a founder of Toronto's Labor Lyceum, now a Chinese restaurant.

Dorothy was an exceedingly ambitious and accomplished woman: the treasurer of the bagel bakers' union and Toronto's first professionally trained Jewish midwife and nurse.

She was also publisher of *Kanada Nyes*, a Yiddish-English weekly which folded in 1965 after a three-decade run, and local distributor of the *Forward* and the *Day*, Yiddish newspapers printed in New York City.

Arthurs has fond memories of *Kanada Neyes*. As a 12-year-old budding reporter, he published his first story in his grandmother's newspaper, covering a massive fire aboard a ship anchored in Toronto harbor.

The author of numerous learned articles and studies on the legal profession, he is acutely aware that lawyers have less than a sterling public image.

"Lawyers intervene, typically, in moments of conflict. And conflict leaves scars. Unlike physicians, who can restore you to health, lawyers can't always produce a clear-cut outcome. Client satisfaction, as a result, is not easy to come by."

Furthermore, many lawyers are closely associated with wealth and privilege, and not with the everyday grievances of the masses. Consequently, the reputation of the profession has suffered, he acknowledged.

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There's an exciting, new Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto taking shape this year. CHAT and UJA Federation are building together on the existing Wilmington campus to accommodate record enrollment . The new Anne and Max Tanenbaum Education Centre will include, among other facilities, 21 new classrooms, an expanded school library and computer room, a new athletic wing and a Jewish studies resource centre. Phase One of this important project will be completed this September, with Phase Two scheduled for completion in the summer of 2000.

We invite you to participate in the expansion of this internationally acclaimed community school. A school which welcomes Jewish students of every affiliation, from every background. A school that is truly in a class by itself.

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

CANADIAN SOCIETY FOR YAD VASHEM
News Flash
ISRAEL MISSION
October 7 - 21
Watch for details
Please call (416) 785-1333

DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines:

Monday, Aug. 30, is deadline for Sept. 9 issue.

Tuesday, Sept. 7, is deadline for Sept. 16.

Monday, Sept. 13, is deadline for Sept. 23.

Tuesday, Sept. 21 is deadline for Sept. 30.

I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Thursday, Aug. 26

END OF SUMMER BBQ

Aish HaTorah and Jewish Campus Services invite all university students to an End of Summer Bonfire and Barbecue, from 6:30 p.m., Earl Bales Park. **Jos** 785-1465 or **Marni** 905-764-1818, ext. 225.

Sunday, Aug. 29

KIDSHOW

My Discovery Place Children's Museum presents Anna Schmanna!, an afternoon of clowning, clapping, leaping, laughing, entertaining fun, 1 p.m., Bathurst Jewish Centre. Free with $2 museum admission. 636-1880, ext. 456.

BOND BREAKFAST

Beth Sholom Brotherhood and Sisterhood Bond breakfast meeting 9:30 a.m. honoring **Howard** and **Cindy Orfus**. Entertainment by Nei'mot Singers. To reserve, 783-6103.

BALLET OPEN HOUSE

The National Ballet of Canada Esso Kids Open House. Tour the facilities, watch a rehearsal, meet the dancers, enjoy lectures, demonstrations, special Kids Studio – all free of charge. 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Walter Carsen Centre, 470 Queens Quay W. 345-9686, ext. 317.

DYNAMIC SINGLES

Dynamic Singles of Adath Israel features **Susan Jackson** speaking on To Be Single and Be a Mensch! at brunch for singles 35 plus, 11:30 a.m. $10 if prepaid by 3 p.m., Friday, Aug. 27, or $15 at door. Dress code – elegant casual. 635-5340.

GARDEN TOUR

A full day garden tour, breakfast, lunch, silent auction, gardening gift bags, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Max Tanenbaum Garden, Princess Margaret Hospital, 16th floor, luxury coach to Hedgerow Farm. $200 (portion is tax deductible). Proceeds to Princess Margaret Hospital's Psychosocial Oncology Program. For tickets, **Andie Lindsay** 946-4574.

Monday, Aug. 30

B'YACHAD GROUP

Together B'Yachad Group for single adults ages 55 plus, interactive games evening focused on connecting and networking and fun. Program led by **Sheila Arkin**, psychotherapist. Cover charge $5. **David** 781-7947.

Tuesday, Aug. 31

NFJA EVENING

New Fraternal Jewish Association evening devoted to the poetry of **Mordechai Gebirtig** with **Simcha Simchovitch** followed by recitations by **David Newman**. 8 p.m., Lodzer Centre, 12 Heaton St.

Wednesday, Sept. 1

BAYCREST ANNUAL SALE

Baycrest's annual September sale, quality items at reasonable prices – plants, knitting needles, crochet hooks, wool, fabric, handcrafts made by residents (afghans, baby items, pottery, ceramics, stained glass pieces). 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. 785-2500, ext. 3574 or 2549.

And What Else Is New

CHILDREN'S SERVICE

Shaarei Tefillah Congregation will inaugurate on Rosh Hashanah and continuing every Shabbat, an educational, interactive service for 6-9-year-olds and 10-13-year-olds. This is an opportunity to learn about Jewish laws, customs and rituals through discussions, questions and stories, led by **Harvey Mincer**, educator and teacher who has been involved with teaching young people for more than 10 years. 787-1631.

Continued on page 19

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What's New

Continued from page 18

ASHKENAZ

Ashkenaz: A Festival of New Yiddish Culture returns to Harbourfront Centre, Aug. 30-Sept. 6, featuring Yiddish music, theatre, film, dance, visual art, literature, children's events. For information 973-3000. Box office 973-4000.

HIGH HOLY DAY LEARNING

Free High Holy Day Learning non-service, led by **Rabbi Michael Skobac,** Rosh Hashanah: Saturday, Sept. 11, 10 a.m. and Sunday, Sept. 12, 10 a.m. Yom Kippur: Sunday, Sept. 19, Kol Nidre, 7:30 p.m. and Monday, Sept. 20, 10 a.m. Stories, meditations, teachings at Markham Street Shul, 397 Markham St., 2nd floor. For information, Jews for Judaism, 905-761-0040.

GENETIC TESTING

Researchers at Mount Sinai Hospital are looking for volunteers from the Ashkenazi Jewish population (eastern European descent) who are interested in sharing their thoughts and/or opinions on Genetic Screening and Testing for medical disorders in the Jewish community. Needed are men and women, aged 18 and over, to participate in confidential interviews or focus groups with members of the research team. **Melyssa Aronson** 586-5112 or **Kate Butler** 586-4800, ext. 2641.

VILLAGE SHUL

Programs at the Village Shul, 1072 Eglinton Ave. W. For information, **Susan Zehavi** 785-1107.

Don't Walk Into the High Holy Days Unprepared. **Zale Newman** will help you understand the deeper meaning and significance of each holiday from Rosh Hashanah to Simchat Torah, five-week series Tuesdays 8 p.m. starting Aug. 31.

Introductory Kabbalah class with **Rabbi Shmuel Veffer** to help persons struggling to grasp the meaning of life using **Moshe Chaim Luzzato's** text *The Way of God,* Wednesdays 9-10 p.m.

Rebbitzen Lori Palatnik series on the 48 Ways to Wisdom for Self-Growth, Wednesdays 9:30-11 a.m. For women only.

HEBREW CLASSES

Keren Hatarbut Institute of Hebrew Studies, 788 Marlee Ave., fall courses for adults, teenagers, preteens in conversational Hebrew, all levels. Morning classes Tuesdays Sept. 14-Dec. 14 (Intermediate I), Wednesdays Sept. 15-Dec. 15 (Intermediate II), Thursdays Sept. 16-Dec. 16 (Beginners), Fridays Sept. 17-Dec. 17 (Intermediate I) and Thursday evenings (all levels). Register. **Joseph Klinger** 787-0197.

CAKE DECORATING

Cake decorating event presented by Emunah Women of Toronto, Tuesday, Sept. 7, 8 p.m., Earl Bales Community Centre. Reservations only 636-0036.

COUNSELLING CENTRE

Jewish Counselling and Resource Centre (JCRC), a division of Torah Life & Living, Canada, welcomes **Natalie Froom,** director of development, to the organization, located at Finchurst Plaza, 305 Finch Ave. W. 250-6999 or 905-709-6183.

FOR SENIORS

SINGERS TAKE NOTE!

The Choralairs of North York, a volunteer choir singing for seniors and disabled persons, welcomes singers of all ages and all voice ranges – younger members especially welcome. Rehearsals are Tuesdays 8:15-10:30 p.m. at Earl Bales Community Centre, Room 2, starting Sept. 7. **Fay Cohen** 633-7233 or **Judy Gordon** 221-3161. To book a concert for your facility **Rose Terrance** 633-0433.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Aug. 26 is bingo. **Jerry Bengall,** president, 905-707-7334 or **Malka Colla.** chair of social committee 630-5771.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: Oct. 12, *West Side Story* at Stratford; a trip to Israel in the fall is in the planning. **Lena** 785-5773. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: trip to Leelanau Sands Casino, Michigan, Oct. 4-7, $469 (Cdn); Sunday dance Sept. 5. 395-7881.

Young at Heart Seniors trip to Florida at the Glatt kosher Saxony Hotel, one, two or three months, entertainment, efficiency, with or without meals. **Helen** 635-6343.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Kosher meals for the High Holy Days, $7.50 for each meal. These meals may be ordered for as many days as desired. Orders must be received by Sept. 3. **Sonia Krass,** ext. 114.

Frank Gould's Big Band Sound, dance to the favorites of the past and present, Sunday, Aug. 29, 7:30 p.m. Tickets at door.

Osteoporosis Support Group meeting with **Chris Lavender** of X-tron Imaging Inc., discussing Understanding Bone Densitometry, Tuesday, Aug. 31, 1:15-2:30 p.m. **Joan Turner** ext. 126.

Arthritis Management Clinic with **Bev Tobe** Thursday, Sept. 2, 1-4 p.m. Make appointment at Wellness Desk, ext. 131.

Wellness lecture, Coping Techniques for Daily Living, **Judy Radvanyi,** Thursday, Sept. 2, 1:15 p.m.

High Holy Day tickets on sale at Ticket Sales Desk. Conservative service with mixed seating. ext. 113.

Israeli Club Etrog: Do you speak Hebrew? Join club members every Tuesday at 7 p.m. for movies, lectures, dances, sing-alongs, bingo, picnics. Aug. 31, sing-along with **Itzak Argeman.** Co-ordinator **Anna** ext. 110.

Movie, *Maverick,* Sunday, Aug. 29, 2:30 p.m.

BATHURST JC

Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. 636-1880.

World Issues/Current Events with **Doug Haddow** starts Sept. 16, 1-2:30 p.m., Room 211. Non-members $1.

Folkdancing for seniors starts Wednesday, Sept. 29, 10 a.m. to noon, free for BJC members. **Teme,** ext. 364, Fifty-Five Plus Department of Adult Services

ABOUT PEOPLE

CARING AWARD

Monty Mazin is a recipient of the Governor General's Caring Canadian Award presented to those whose unpaid voluntary contributions provide extraordinary help or care to people in the community. Active in Toronto's Jewish community, he has served in numerous leadership roles in B'nai Brith, including four years as mayor and chair of the Jerusalem Pavilion during Metro's Caravan. He is also an ardent supporter of the Jewish National Fund, Rotary International and GEMS of Hope, an organization that assists people in the developing world.

Monty Mazin

ISRAELI VETERANS VISIT TORONTO

A group of 10 disabled Israeli veterans enjoyed a two-week stay hosted by the Toronto Jewish community. Pictured with the veterans are Toby Feldberg (seated far right), president of Beit Halochem Canada, Aid to Disabled Veterans of Israel (Canada); and standing are Berny Weinstein (far right), founder; Saul Feldberg (second from right); Belle Weinstein (third from right), founder; and entertainer Dudu Fisher (fifth from right).

COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

At a recent fundraising dinner for the Jewish Youth Library of Deputy Prime Minister Herb Gray presented historian Atti Rodal with the Community Service Award for her outstanding contribution to Jewish life in Canada. The funds raised from the the dinner will go to support a myriad of educational programs at the library. [Sylvia Klein photo]

SINGLES EVENTS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 22

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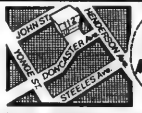

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Rabbi Rhodes steps in as Pride's new spiritual leader

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — He's only been on the job a couple of weeks, but Rabbi Robert Rhodes is already fielding requests to organize discussion groups and other types of programs.

The new spiritual leader at the Pride of Israel Synagogue stepped into the position vacated last year when Rabbi Aaron Flanzraich became spiritual leader of Beth Sholom Synagogue.

Meanwhile, Pride of Israel ritual director Steven Schonblum and Cantor Chuck Weinberg "have kept the place afloat very nicely," said Rabbi Rhodes last week.

The 40-year-old rabbi was the spiritual leader of Temple Beth El in Syracuse, N.Y., where he was involved in interfaith work, and he served as president of the Syracuse Rabbinical Council.

A native of Dublin, Ireland, Rabbi Rhodes grew up in a traditional Jewish home and attended Jewish day schools.

An interest in Jewish Studies led him to Jews' College in London, England and later to Yeshiva University in New York City, where he received a master's degree in Jewish education and administration as well as his rabbinic ordination.

There are "a good handful" of rabbis who have come from Dublin, Rabbi Rhodes said. When he was growing up, the city "easily" had a Jewish population of 6,000 and a very strong Bnei Akiva group, of which he was an active member.

Rabbi Robert Rhodes

He sees no conflict between his Orthodox background and his position at Pride of Israel, a non-affiliated synagogue with a traditional Conservative bent.

In fact, Rabbi Rhodes said, the congregation is very similar to the one he just left, which is affiliated with the Union for Traditional Judaism (of which the rabbi is a member) and was previously affiliated with the Orthodox Union.

"It's okay to acknowledge the other branches of Judaism," the rabbi said in his farewell sermon in Syracuse.

"Millions of our fellow Jews are guided in different ways by their approach to the whole system of Torah. We would like them to think and act otherwise, but it can be helpful for us to see things through their eyes once in a while. And they are our fellow Jews. We must act accordingly," he added.

Rabbi Rhodes left Syracuse, and its Jewish population of 8,000, with mixed feelings. He wasn't happy being part of the "exodus" of young observant families leaving the city. "We all cried buckets," he said.

At the same time, he is pleased to have the opportunity to serve a larger congregation (about 750 families) and to enjoy more Jewish amenities like kosher shopping and a choice of day schools. He and his wife Blima have two school-age children.

Among the programs the rabbi would like to offer his new congregants is a project of the New York-based National Jewish Outreach Program called (for use here) Read Hebrew Canada. He also looks forward to establishing learning groups for adults.

Based on congregational requests, it seems people are "eager to sit and talk about Torah subjects or current events in the light of Jewish tradition," Rabbi Rhodes said.

A Shabbat morning story-time established by his predecessor is on hiatus for the summer, but the shul's kosher food bank remains open. People use it every day, said the rabbi.

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Services are held at the Scott Religious Centre, York University. Kiddush will be provided. For more information, please call Tobi at 905-764-0212.

Greater Toronto Area

Pardes Shalom planned for community's future

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Pardes Shalom, owned by UJA Federation of Greater Toronto, is the only Jewish community-owned cemetery in North America.

The far-seeing pioneers who established the cemetery feel they have made a contribution to future generations of Jews.

In 1965, developer Sid Freedman, now 70, got the idea that led to what is now a beautiful, flower-filled park that provincial government officials have said is the best managed cemetery in Ontario.

Now the location for 500 Jewish burials a year (compared with an overall total of 1,400 annual Jewish burials in the city), Pardes Shalom is expected to handle two-thirds of all Jewish burials within 10 to 15 years.

With its acquisition of 200 acres a mile north of the current site, at a cost of $4 million, it should be able to accommodate Jewish burials for 75 years to come and bring lots of revenue to the community as well.

"It will be a gold mine for the federation," said Ben Schneider, former director of the United Jewish Welfare Fund (UJWF), who has just retired as director of Toronto Hebrew Memorial Park (THMP), which operates Pardes Shalom.

The issues that will arise more and more for Pardes Shalom in the the future, according to Freedman, are the attitude of Jews to cremation, the burial of non-Jewish spouses, and the definition of what constitutes halachic burial procedure.

"Pardes Shalom will always have half of its property as parkland as long as I'm alive," said Freedman, now honorary life president of THMP. (In Hebrew the word pardes means orchard.)

A past president of Temple Sinai, Freedman was referred by Rabbi Jordan Pearlson to Schneider, who was also searching for a way to make Jewish burials less costly, while at the same time benefitting the community.

"Unattached people had no place to go," said Schneider.

There are now 2,800 to 3,000 flower beds planted at the cemetery on Dufferin Street north in Maple. Before Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, thousands of people pay their respects to the 7,000 interred there.

Schneider says it was no simple task to get the community onside with the Pardes Shalom concept.

Ben Schneider

"At the first meeting we called, about 20 organizations showed up and there was fighting over who would get the profits from the cemetery's operation," he said.

He gives credit to the late Phil Granovsky, then president of the UJWF, for giving him quiet encouragement, and to the five organizations which advanced a loan of $25,000 each: Temple Emanu-El, Canadian Judean Benevolent Society, Adath Israel Congregation, Temple Sinai and Beth Tikvah Synagogue.

The Maple property, at Freedman's behest, was bought for $250,000. Pardes Shalom borrowed $550,000 from the Welfare Fund at the time and quickly paid back $850,000, with interest.

"He did it all by eye; it would have cost us thousands of dollars to get it done by engineers," Schneider said, referring to the way Freedman, who also bought a gravel pit for the purpose, levelled out the property, eliminated some of the hills, and left the contours needed to make it easy on the eyes.

Opposition from established cemeteries

There was opposition to the concept from established cemeteries, which were making profits on their own, and from entrepreneurs who wanted to set up in the cemetery business, he said.

But the quiet diplomacy of Freedman, Schneider and their friends won out, and today they feel the Pardes Shalom operation will eventually fill the UJA Federation coffers. The Pardes Shalom revenue already supports the Toronto Hebrew Memorial Philanthropic Fund, which distributes the money to various organizations and individuals.

The financing was so shaky at the beginning that Freedman had to buy 21 plots at $375 each to keep the cash flowing. Now a plot at Pardes Shalom sells for $1,284, including tax.

"We had opposition to our policy of selling plots to individuals and organizations at the same price and to banning resales of plots at a profit," said Schneider.

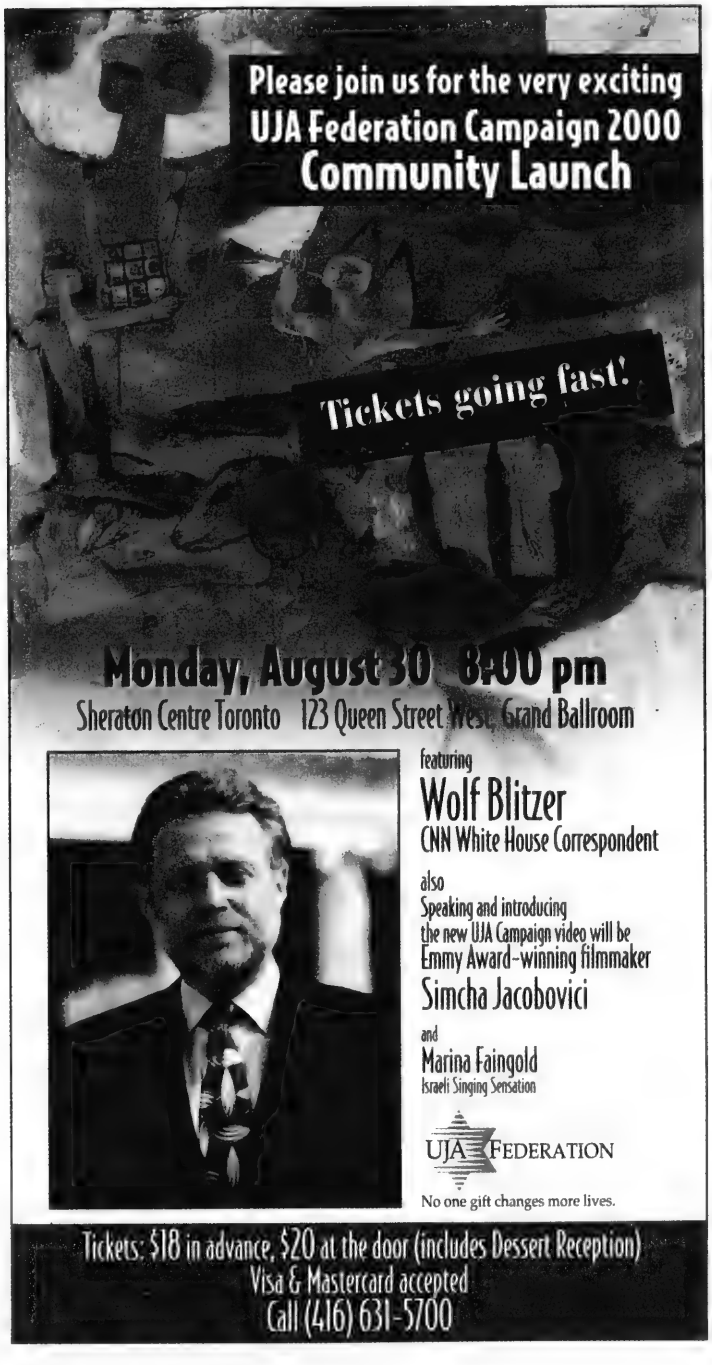
The portion of 88 acres of Pardes Shalom devoted to burials is divided into Orthodox, Conservative, Reform and community sections, with the latter proving so popular that it now represents 60 percent of the burials.

About half the 36,000 plots at Pardes Shalom are committed to specific sections, leading Freedman to believe that it will be 10 to 15 years before the new cemetery a mile north, as yet unnamed, is open for business.

Bill Draimin, president of THMP, recently wrote to Schneider, now 87, praising him. "You were my mentor, confidant and advisor," he said.

CORRECTION

The story, "Israeli highway opponents target finance company" (*CJN*, Aug. 5), contained some incorrect information. Environmental studies student Shai Spetgang in fact said the highway would affect 10 percent of the open spaces *outside of* the nature reserves and army bases. *The CJN* regrets the error.



Greater Toronto Area

The Family of Nardy Nathanson ז"ל

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Police seek leads in Toronto attack

Continued from page 3

Brith Canada's League for Human Rights – which has been documenting anti-Semitic incidents in Canada since 1982 – said the league encourages people to report hate crimes, even if they seem minor. (B'nai Brith's hotline number is 1-800-892-2624.)

"It appears that in our own community, people are reluctant to come forward unless they think it's really serious and police have no way of knowing if there is a pattern."

Canadian Jewish Congress chair Keith Landy noted that "attacks upon the elderly, and upon children, are acts of cowardice. These hate crimes should not merely offend the Canadian Jewish community, but all Canadians."

Ontario NDP leader Howard Hampton, and chair of the Canadian Race Relations Foundation Lincoln Alexander also called the attack cowardly.

Hampton called on Premier Mike Harris to "reverse his government's abandonment of anti-racism and equity initiatives." Among other complaints in an NDP news release were the Conservative government's disbanding of the anti-discrimination branch of the Ministry of Education, and deletion of violence prevention and anti-discrimination training from the new Grade 9/10 curriculum.

Alexander urged the federal government to proceed with a package of amendments to the Criminal Code – among them making possession of hate propaganda for the purpose of distribution a crime, and giving police the power to seize computer hard drives containing hate propaganda – that would toughen Canada's hate crime laws.

Jewish daytimer helps with planning

TORONTO — A new Jewish daytimer has been developed to bridge the gap between business diaries, day planners and the Jewish calendar.

Jewish environmentalist Shai Spetgang, the inventor of the Shanaton, says he wanted to find a way to integrate the Jewish calendar into a personal planning diary.

He, his brother Eli, Shanaton's layout designer and database programmer, and Rob Schaumer, marketing director, made the calendar a reality.

The calendar includes such features as Jewish holiday dates, candle lighting times for 12 cities across North America, Torah portions of the week, public and statutory holidays, and profound quotes for inspiration.

Initially, the Shanaton will be a week-at-a-glance insert, which will fit into a standard day planner binder. "Each year, we will enhance the Shanaton, based upon user comments and requests," says Schaumer.

The calendar, which retails for $16.95, is available at many Judaica stores across North America. Its Web site address is http://webhome.idirect.com/~sun18/shanaton. For more information call Schaumer at 905-669-8277

CASH FOR CANCER RESEARCH

Earlier this month, Laury Hollend held the grand re-opening of his Baskin-Robbins/Dunkin' Donuts store at York Mills and Bayview Avenue. He served free products all day, and raised $5,000 for the Toronto Sunnybrook Regional Cancer Centre.

jewish toronto

UJA Campaign 2000 Ready to Launch

With the official launch of UJA Federation's Campaign 2000 only a few days away, thousands of volunteers and supporters are eager to get started.

Even before the celebration of last year's record-breaking $40.5 million campaign subsided, UJA Federation began to plan for the second year of the Campaign for Fifty with a fundraising objective of $50 million annually by 2001.

Strengthening Jewish identity, increasing assistance for the vulnerable and rescuing Jews from danger remain the central planks of Campaign 2000, which will officially start on August 30 with a Community Launch at the Sheraton Centre Hotel.

Hundreds of volunteers have participated in programs to hear updates about worldwide Jewish needs and to help develop strategies for the upcoming campaign.

"The Young Leadership Retreat gave us tremendous insight into what needs are out there and provided us with the tools to be effective campaigners," notes David Beron, Chair of UJA Federation's Young Leadership Cabinet. "The retreat was a wonderful opportunity for me to meet people who are as deeply committed to the cause as I am," adds Lauren Cohen. "We all felt re-energized and ready to get to work."

"We're already off to a great start," notes Mike Rosenberg, who co-chairs UJA Federation's Societies Campaign with Ralph Snow. At the recent Societies Campaign kick-off, March of the Living alumni Amy Shore and Teddy Feferman thanked the group of supporters, many of whom are Holocaust survivors, for supporting the program through UJA Federation's March of the Living Endowment Fund. "Their messages were truly inspirational," said Rosenberg.

In July, more than 100 UJA Federation leaders gathered for a full-day of briefings on Jewish issues led by local and international experts.

Campaign 2000 Co-Chairs David Engel and Mel Wolfond, along with Women's Campaign Chair Carole Sterling and others, recently traveled to the former Soviet Union and Israel to see first hand how UJA Federation dollars change lives.

"Whether it's helping vulnerable Jews here in Toronto or thousands of miles away, UJA Federation covers all the needs of Jewish life," says Engel. "Now more than ever we have to be ready to respond."

Twenty-two year old Sigal Hobbey is eager to express her gratitude for being rescued by the UJA Federation funded Jewish Agency from Ethiopia 16 years ago. Next week she will be in Toronto to tell Campaign Launch participants how their support saved her family during the Jewish Agency's Operation Solomon. "I want people to know how they have changed the lives of so many Jews through their commitment to UJA Federation."

A new chapter in the history of Ethiopian Jewry is being written at this time as the Jewish Agency rescues the Jews of Quara – far removed from the country's capital of Addis Ababa. Over 1,500 Quara Jews have arrived in Israel so far, with several hundred more scheduled on flights in October.

The August 30 Campaign 2000 Launch will also feature CNN White House correspondent Wolf Blitzer and Emmy Award-winning filmmaker Simcha Jacobovici. A limited number of tickets are available by calling UJA Federation at (416) 631-5700.

Jewish Agency Sends Mission to Turkey

The Jewish Agency for Israel (JAFI) launched into action shortly after news of Turkey's devastating earthquake broke, sending a fact-finding mission to the country to determine the impact of the earthquake on the Jewish community.

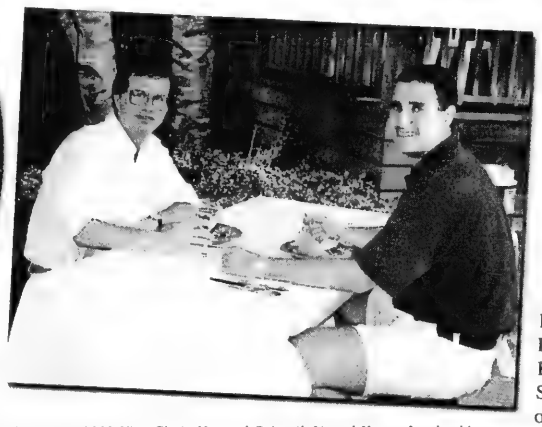
The mission will assess the needs of the Jewish community and JAFI's role in providing the necessary aid to Jews affected by the quake.

Turkey's Jewish population, at 23,000, is one of the largest of any Moslem country. The great majority of Jews live in Istanbul, while Izmir has the second largest Jewish community.

UJA Federation has established a relief fund for the Turkish disaster. Please make cheques payable to UJA Federation Turkish Relief Fund and mail to: 4600 Bathurst St., Toronto, Ont. M2R 3V2.

Sigal Hobbey will continue working with Quara children while entering her second year at Hebrew University.

Eric Kirsh (left) of Jewish Family and Child Service and Chaim Feingold, a founder of Israel's Orr Shalom group homes, at the UJA Federation Leadership Retreat.



Campaign 2000 Vice Chair Howard Price (left) and Young Leadership Chair David Beron discuss the upcoming campaign.

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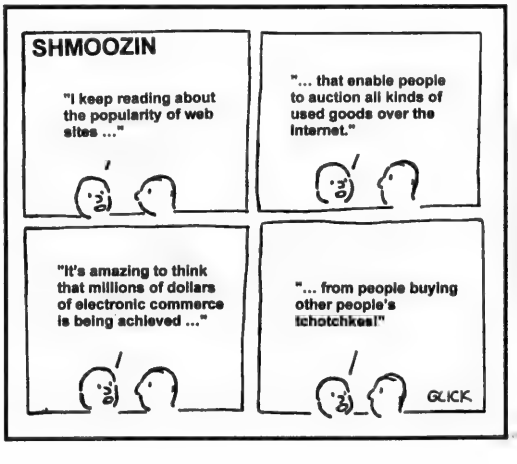
כחודש לפני הבחירות בישראל ביקרתי בארץ והוזמנתי על ידי אחי, דני, לטקס שבו הוא קיבל את פרס היבואן המצטיין מלשכת המסחר ישראל-ארה"ב. אורח הכבוד בטקס היה בנימין נתניהו, והוא, יחד עם שגריר ארה"ב בישראל העניקו את הפרסים. בנאום המרכזי, תיאר שגריר ארה"ב את התפתחות היחסים המסחריים בין שתי המדינות. אבל, הוא אמר, יש מעל היחסים האלה ענן כבד: ישראל היא אחת הפיראטיות הכי רציניות בעולם ו"מצטיינת" בזיוף של אלקטרוניקה, העתקת תוכנות מחשב. ושאר תכאים מסוג זה. עד כדי כך חמור העניין, אמר השגריר, שיש בארה"ב לחצים חזקים להחרים ולהעניש את ישראל. בהחלט דברים קשים. ואז עלה לדבר העילוי נתניהו. הייתי בטוח שהוא הולך להגיד שישראל עושה כל מה שביכולתה לשפר את המצב או משהו כזה. איפה! עמד שם נתניהו, זחוח ומנחך ואמר: " אחד העוזרים שלי מציע שאנחנו נשלם זכויות על אלקטרוניקה אמריקאית ברגע שהאמריקאים ישלמו זכויות על השימוש בתנ"ך, הא הא הא". הייתי המום. אני חושב שרבים בקהל, תעשיינים ואנשי עסקים- היו המומים כמוני. והנה לאחרונה בישרו הכותרות שארה"ב אכן מתכננת להחרים ולהעניש את ישראל בצורה רצינית ששוויה מאות מליוני דולאר בשנה. לא אתפלא אם שגריר ארה"ב בישראל הציע את זה לאור התנהגותו של נתניהו. בינתיים יש ממשלה חדשה, ושר המשפטים יוסי ביילין דהר לוושינגטון להתחנן ולהבטיח שהוא יחוקק חוקים חמורים ויקים משטרה מיוחדת לתפוס זייפנים. סביר להניח שממשלתו של קלינטון תיתן לישראל צ'אנס לשיפור, בעיקר לאור שאט הנפש שהיתה להם מגישתו של נתניהו. לכל מיני עניינים.

עליהום של העיתונות:

ממרחק של חמישת אלפים ק"מ, ממש מדהים איך העיתונות הכתובה והאלקטרונית בישראל מתנהגת אל ברק ואל ממשלתו. לא עברו חודשיים מאז שהוא הרכיב ממשלה במצב מאוד מסובך, וכבר מדברים עליו כנתניהו השני. ומה סה"כ הספיק האיש לעשות! חרפו אותו על שאין נשים בממשלתו - וראה זה פלא - הוא מינה שתיים. קיללו אותו שאין ייצוג ערבי בממשלתו - והפלא ופלא - יש סגן שר חוץ ערבי, וחבר כנסת ערבי ראשון בהסטוריה יושב בוועדת חוץ וביטחון. לגלגו עליו שהוא ייכנע לעראפת וסוריה תוך יום - ומסתבר שהוא תקיף וזהיר. אין מה להגיד, זוהי ארץ אוכלת יושביה. לא מפרגנים לבן אדם, והזמן היחיד שבו יש לאדם צ'אנס לשמוע דברים טובים על עצמו- זה בדברי ההספד בהלוויה שלו. רק שאז הוא כבר לא כל כך יכול לשמוע.

איפה יש אנטישמיות?

מטורף נאצי נכנס למרכז קהילתי בלוס אנגלס וירה בילדים יהודים, פצע אותם אנושות, ואחר כך רצח אמריקני ממוצא פיליפיני. וקראתי מישהוא שאמר שזו הסיבה מדוע כל היהודים צריכים לחיות בישראל, כי שם אין אנטישמיות. תיקון קל: בישראל נרצחים כל שנה יותר יהודים על היותם יהודים, מאשר בכל מקום אחר בעולם. כמעט כל מעשי הטרור בישראל על ידי מוסלמים קיצוניים הם אנטישמיות ברורה וגלויה. זו כמובן איננה סיבה שיהודים אינם צריכים לחיות בישראל. אבל צריך להיות מאוד זהיר בדמגוגיה של "ישראל מגינה על היהודים מפני אנטישמיות". לישראל יש צבא חזק מאוד שרוב פעולתו היא למנוע התקפה אנטישמית וזריקת יהודים לים. אבל שישאר בינינו.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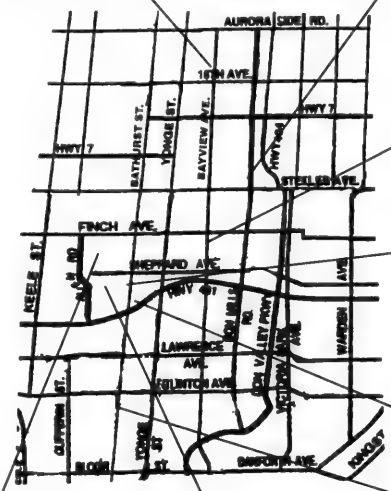

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Features

Montreal rabbi visits Shanghai Jewish community

By RABBI MOISHE NEW
Special to The CJN

For reasons that are still unclear, for a brief moment my wife Nechama and I became the attraction in one of Shanghai's teeming markets. In a matter of seconds, hundreds of Chinese gathered to see "the show," as windows from the surrounding buildings flung open and hundreds more peered down into the square.

We had innocently decided to take a ride in a palanquin, a covered litter for two carried by four ceremoniously dressed Chinese men. Whilst we were borne aloft and paraded around the square, a fifth man repeatedly sounded a shofar-like instrument, blowing with all his might.

Nechama had no idea we were going to be carried. She assumed it was a kind of rickshaw and that it had wheels. The look of surprise on her face and her vocal response may, in the estimation of some, explain the reaction of the populace. Others believe that my black hat, black frock coat and full beard may have had something to do with it as well. Who knows?

When we descended, still in gales of laughter at the spectacle we had become, I turned to the crowd, and clapping my hands, indicated to them that they should join me, which they did with obvious amusement and gusto.

Fortunately, for posterity's sake, the whole incident was duly recorded on our video camera.

Our "camera-man" was Rabbi Sholom Greenberg. He, a native Israeli, together with his wife Dini who was born in Cleveland, both in their mid-20s, had arrived in Shanghai six months earlier. They had been sent, sponsored by Lubavitch World Headquarters, as Chabad emissaries to serve the local Jewish community. Together, they had already managed to create Shanghai's only active synagogue and Jewish community centre.

I had been invited on a speaking tour of Asia and Australia. Shanghai was our final destination before coming home and I had the privilege of being the guest speaker at their first Shabbaton.

The Shanghai Jewish community numbers approximately 200. Almost half this number regularly participate in the programs organized by the Greenbergs. Many of those who at present remain unaffiliated attended Yom Kippur services, if only for a short while.

Shanghai has a long Jewish history. Archeological evidence points to a Jewish presence in China as early as the eighth century, the Jews having arrived, most likely, from Persia along the Silk Road.

The Shanghai Jewish community flourished during the late 1800s and early 1900s. During the last war, thousands of Jews found refuge there, thanks to the fact that Shanghai required no entry visas and had no quota.

Today, Shanghai's 200 Jews come from all over the world, the majority from the United States. Only a small number of them have made Shanghai their permanent home. Most live there for business reasons — either their company has temporarily posted them to Shanghai, or they are establishing an import/export business. The remainder are either professors, lecturing in the local universities, or students, some of whom might spend only several months there.

Most Jews live there for business reasons

The shul and the Greenbergs' apartment are located in the Ritz Carlton Portman Hotel Complex, one of the most elegant hotels in town.

This came about in the following manner: Rabbi Mordechai Avtzon, head Chabad shaliach to China, is based in Hong Kong and is the architect of Chabad's involvement with the Jewish community in Shanghai. The Ritz Carlton Portman Hotel was built by a company in Atlanta. Knowing this, and realizing that the hotel would be an ideal location for Chabad, Rabbi Avtzon turned to my brother, Rabbi Yossi New, head Chabad shaliach to Georgia, inquiring of him as to whether he had any contacts with this company.

My brother replied that one of their chief executives, A.J. Robinson, was a member of his shul. Even more encouraging was the fact that Robinson actually oversaw the Shanghai project. Rabbi Avtzon flew to Atlanta to meet Robinson, and was able to arrange that Chabad be given an apartment and use of the hotel's recreation rooms for their shul, Shabbat dinners and programs, free of charge.

Looking at the Chabad publications, I was somewhat mystified to read in fine but clearly legible print: This program is open to non-residents only: Shalom's response only added to the mystery. "This is communist China you know," he said with a hint of a smile, and proceeded to explain.

"The day after Simchat Torah, we were visited by officers from the Chinese Internal Police and escorted to one of their head bureaus. The officials there proceeded to tell us of every event, purchase and excursion we had made since arriving in Shanghai. It seems that our Simchat Torah celebrations were the last straw.

"You see, there are only three recognized religions in China and Judaism is not one of them. So we explained to them that we were Jews and that these events were part of our religious observance. They were still not satisfied.

"The Chinese were concerned that we had come to Shanghai to proselytize. We assured them that this was not the case. Thus, it was agreed that from now on all our publications include that line..."

The Greenbergs live in the residence tower of the Ritz Carlton. Their abode however, does not exceed 400 square feet. When we walked into their apartment, Dini greeted us from her tiny kitchenette as she was preparing for the evening's Shabbaton.

Later that evening the food would be carried down three flights of stairs to the recreation room. After the meal, the leftover food and drinks, serving pieces, dishes, cutlery and glasses would be carried back up to their apartment.

We had contributed somewhat to the menu by bringing a box of chickens, a case of wine and 50 challahs from Hong Kong.

Dini explained that aside from having to prepare all their food from scratch, the fruits and vegetables have to be disinfected before consumption. All kosher products have to be imported.

The Greenbergs consider themselves lucky to be living in a place where they can at least bathe and wash using tap water. In most of Shanghai, the tap water is unsuitable even for that.

Every Friday night, the Greenbergs host a Shabbat dinner which, following services, is attended by some 25 guests. For this, their first Shabbaton, 40 people participated.

The Shabbaton was truly an international affair. We met Jews, families and singles, from the United States, Israel, Brazil, England and Canada (one young man from Cote St. Luc). One man had been living in China for 18 years and spoke the language fluently. Several men had married Chinese women.

Shabbaton was truly an international affair

My topic for Friday night was Intimacy and Sexuality in Judaism, arguably one of the reasons for the strong turnout. Rabbi Greenberg had informed me that there would probably not be a minyan on Saturday morning. The last occasion that there was a morning service with a minyan was Simchat Torah. That evening a lively discussion ensued as I endeavored to share the beauty, depth and relevance of Torah. The next morning 25 people showed up.

Shabbat was a memorable experience. We had a real farbrengen in addition to my talks, which were intense and spirited dialogues. I taught them chassidic melodies and together we toasted l'chaim. It was an outpouring of souls as we connected to one another and to God.

Particularly moving were the sentiments expressed by one young man who is married to a Chinese woman in the process of conversion. Seeing his Jewish soul stir and the inner turmoil, and questions created, was a poignant moment for all of us.

The farbrengen went on till 4 p.m., after which several people stayed on and Rabbi Greenberg studied the weekly Torah portion with them.

That evening after Shabbat, the Greenbergs were working on a Tu b'Shvat program for children, which was to take place the following day. Dini had e-mailed her sisters, all of whom are Chabad shiluchim in different parts of the world, for ideas. As a consequence, Dini had put together a multi-faceted package that was both highly entertaining and educational. Her sisters, in turn, now became the beneficiaries of the new program package.

One of Dini's sisters has been on shlichut with her husband and family in Bahia Blanca, Argentina, since the early '80s. "Before e-mail, my family would speak to them only several times a year," said Dini. "Later on, even faxing was far too costly. Now, that was sacrifice. Today, thank God, we can all keep in touch," she concluded happily.

The next morning, flying back home, Nechama and I mulled over our visit. We do not know the extent to which, if at all, I had affected my listeners over the course of the Shabbaton. We do know how deeply moved we were.

The people we had met, the soul connection that we had felt, and the stories of the spiritual journeys that we had heard – all of this touched and inspired us. This is the experience though of every Chabad shaliach everywhere. After all, this is what Chabad is all about – reaching out to fellow Jews. Beyond the labels and the affiliations or the lack thereof. And yes, it was especially inspiring to see Jews in Shanghai discover their Jewish roots and grow in their study of and commitment to Judaism. One young couple with two children had recently begun to observe Shabbat and kashruth.

But it was the shiluchim themselves, Sholom and Dini, who had had the greatest impact on us. To have seen firsthand their self-sacrifice, both physical and spiritual and, notwithstanding this, their attitude of joy and privilege of being Chabad emissaries, carrying out the Rebbe's work – this memory is their lasting gift to us.

Rabbi Moishe New is spiritual leader of the Montreal Torah Centre, Congregation Bais Menachem of Chabad Lubavitch.

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Ottawa couple mark 60th by donating ambulance

By DIANE KOVEN
Ottawa Correspondent

OTTAWA — Joseph and Betty Feller recently celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary by donating an ambulance to Magen David Adom.

They made the presentation in Israel at the organization's headquarters in Ramat Gan.

The Fellers celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary by gathering their family in Israel, as well. "At that particular time," said Joseph, "I began to think about donating an ambulance."

The Fellers have been active in the local Jewish community and ardent supporters of Israel. "When I approached my wife and told her what I wanted to do, she said of all the things I have done, this is probably the most important," said Joseph.

Having noted the shortage of ambulances in Israel and the fact that many are old and need to be replaced, he considered the gift a priority.

Joseph credits Sam Litwack, the Ottawa representative of Magen David Adom, for facilitating the arrangements for the gift, liaising with the Canadian and Israeli representatives to co-ordinate the presentation.

The presentation took place on June 20 with the Fellers, their children and family members from Russia, Romania and Hawaii in attendance.

From left: Betty and Joseph Feller, Donna Lee Kauffman, W. Ian Feller and Connie Gail Salomon.

Wendy Kauffman Treitel, the Fellers' granddaughter who works for CTV in Israel, provided "a delicious cake, an exact replica of our ambulance, with lights and actual photographs of Bubbie and Zayde in the front seat" said Feller.

"I can't tell you how touching it was when we walked up to the building in Ramat Gan and saw our names on the ambulance," said Feller. He and his wife were proud to learn that their children had donated additional apparatus for the ambulance to honor their parents.

"When this ambulance saves one life," said Feller, "it will have paid for itself."

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By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

PARRY SOUND — The young people at Canada's first Reform summer camp are doing their part to fulfil the responsibility of tikkun olam (healing the world).

At Camp George, some campers were recently off painting the outside of a rebuilt Catholic church at Shawanaga First Nation Reserve, 32 kilometres away. Others were grooming and bathing animals at the Parry Sound Humane Society and working at different good neighbor projects.

Tikkun olam is an essential part of Camp George, as are the daily tfillot (prayers) led by the campers and one-hour shiurim (study periods).

This beautiful 250-acre site on Maple Lake, 20 kilometres from Parry Sound, is the former resort and camp property owned by the Jewish Camp Council and purchased by Camp George for $1.6 million.

A $500,000 upgrading has turned the camp into a summer jewel with state of the art facilities, where 275 campers (175 in the first session, 100 in the second) enjoyed swimming, canoeing, sailing, water skiing, surfboarding, mountain biking, wall climbing and manoeuvring their way though a rope course that cost $55,000 to install and which has the fun of bungee jumping, but is a lot safer.

Camp George is the culmination of 15 years of dreaming and planning by leaders of the Reform movement. A major impetus came from Sam Riseman of Toronto whose lead gift of $100,000 a year for 10 years helped set things on their way.

The camp is named after his late father, George Riseman who died in 1993 at age 70.

In the main camp square, a dedication board in memory of Riseman carries the heading: "Be Good to Each Other."

A plaque also thanks UJA Federation of Toronto for its contribution.

Camp George is the first of 11 Reform summer camps in North American to be located right on a lake, and it is the first such camp to be kosher.

"The Reform membership in Canada is much more conservative than in the United States and we wanted the camp to be open to everyone who wanted to come," said camp director Jack Feldman, 41, a Toronto native, explaining the decision to get the kosher designation.

In fact, a few of the campers came because it was kosher, he said.

The camp's own rabbis (it has a faculty of 18 rabbis and educators) supervise kashrut.

Feldman's face lights up when he says that Camp George's fees at $1,725 for three weeks and $3,100 for six weeks are lower than those at private camps ($2,600 to $2,900 for 3½ weeks, he said) and that many of the campers are aided by scholarships from their own congregations or the camp.

"Our goal is that no Jewish child will be denied a camp outing because of a lack of money," Feldman said.

This camper is climbing the new rope course.

There are no parents' visiting days at Camp George, because it disrupts the schedule and is hard on the parents and the kids, he said.

Since it was the first season, however, about half the parents drove their children to camp to see the grounds for themselves, and they were encouraged to do so, he said.

Twenty-four Reform congregations, the Union of American Hebrew Congregations (the central body of Reform Jewry in North America) and the Canadian Council of Reform Judaism, all combined to make Camp George a reality.

Plans are underway for the development of its 198 unused acres go ahead. For starters, eight new cabins at a cost of $225,000 will be built next year, the beginning of a three-year program which proposes to build eight new cabins each year to bring the camp's enrolment to 325.

A waterproof Aron Kodesh for the rebuilt chapel is also planned.

The site will continue to be rented to other organizations when the camping season ends Aug. 15, and it is used as a retreat by some Reform congregations and by York University, B'nai Brith and Bialik school.

For information about Camp George, phone 905-760-1482 or fax 905-760-1484.

Camp George is nestled 25 kilometres from Parry Sound.

The rope course is said to be safer than bungee jumping.

Greater Toronto Area

A police dog was part of the response team at Bobov early Monday. [Stephen Epstein photo]

Police make arrest after break-in at Bobov centre

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A 37-year-old man was to appear in court Aug. 23 following a break-in at Congregation Chassidei Bobov, on Bathurst Street north of Carmichael Avenue.

Raphael Yelin, of no fixed address, was charged with break, enter and theft. He was arrested early Monday after a Carmichael Avenue resident alerted police that a man had entered the Bobov building through a classroom window around 11:50 p.m. Sunday night.

The suspect was arrested as he was leaving the building, Det.-Sgt. Jim Sproxton of Metropolitan Toronto Police, 32 division, told *The CJN*.

Nothing appears to have been broken and there was no indication that anyone else was involved in the incident, said Sproxton.

About $80 in cash was stolen, and later recovered, he added.

A Bobov representative, who asked not to be named, said the suspect was known to people at the synagogue, which also houses a school, and had been on the premises more than once, seeking charity.

He also said a pushke was left open following the break-in.

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Winnipeg police charge five in cemetery desecration

By MYRON LOVE
Prairies Correspondent

WINNIPEG — Winnipeg police have charged five individuals with mischief over $5,000 as a result of the worst desecration of a Jewish cemetery here in memory.

All indications are that the attack on the the 90-year-old Hebrew Sick Benefit Association Cemetery in the early morning hours of Tuesday, August 10, was a senseless crime of convenience rather than an act of anti-Semitism.

The individuals charged, Shawna Lehr and Chris Diamond, both 18, Russel Martens and Clayton Parker, both 21, and a 15-year-old, were having a party at Lehr's home near the north Winnipeg cemetery. The party, police believed involved alcohol and drugs. The Winnipeg police hate crimes unit is still investigating and hasn't entirely ruled out anti-Semitic motives.

The vandals however left no anti-Jewish graffiti nor issued any statements.

In their spree, the vandals overturned or uprooted close to 300 headstones. The damage is estimated to be over $100,000. The cemetery committee and synagogue will pay for repair of damaged stones if there are no surviving relatives. For the other stones, the families will have to pay, although Beth Israel acting executive director Estelle Raber reports that there have been several calls to the office from other community organizations offering some financial support.

As well, Yehudi Kinar, Israel's consul-general to Toronto and Western Canada was scheduled to visit the cemetery on Monday, August 23 to convey the sympathy and concern of the Israeli government.

Round-the-clock security has been put in place at the cemetery and the police have increased their surveillance of this and the other Jewish cemeteries in the city. Security has also been tightened at other Jewish institutions in the city.

OKANAGAN GOLF TOURNEY

The Okanagan Jewish community recently hosted its second annual golf tournament with 92 golfers participating from across Canada and the United States. The weekend included a reception Friday evening, followed by a Saturday morning Shabbat service at the Okanagan Jewish Community Centre Chapel. Prizes were handed out to the first eight teams competing. The proceeds from this event are targeted for the Jewish education of the children of the Okanagan Jewish community. Predator Ridge, where the tournament was held, has invited the Okanagan Jewish Community's Golf Tournament back for a third year on July 15-17, 2000.

Scene in Ottawa

By G.K. SIMCOE

I was asked to forward this to your attention: The natural governing party of Canada just wrapped up its national caucus meetings in Halifax.

In policy terms, nobody won (tax cuts versus new social spending) and nobody lost. In fact, on the surface, it appeared to be one big yawn. But people have been known to talk in their sleep, so here goes with some choice bits of wit and wisdom from the participants.

On the cabinet shuffle: "The Prime Minister should remember that the leadership race took place a decade ago...and he won!"

On the ministers unceremoniously dumped from the cabinet: "But they promised me that I would be protected!"

On ministerial wannabes: "I don't understand it. I'm Italian, I didn't support Martin and I've been around here way longer than what's-her-name..."

On the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) staff (I): "I really wish a few of them would be shuffled out..."

On PMO staff (II): "If that's a formal motion I'll second that."

On opposition to the government: "Can't Preston do anything right?"

Dear Readers:

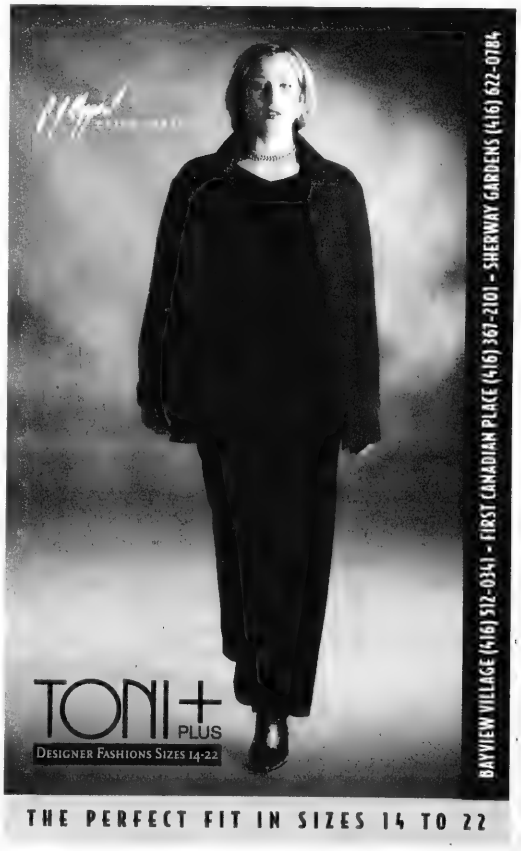
These genuine snippets from the mouths of various MPs may seem disjointed. And to some of you who may not understand the full context, even a bit confusing. But they reflect something very serious and the prime minister would do well to pay close attention.

There is mutiny in the ranks. Liberals are profoundly discouraged and offended by the arrogance exhibited by Chrétien and those around him. Look no further than the glib manner in which the prime minister assured journalists that he would sign Paul Martin's nomination papers if Martin chooses to run again.

The subtext was clear to all: "I am in charge; there is nothing anyone can do without my approval; and I alone will dictate the Liberal party script for as long as I choose."

The image of the "little guy from Shawinigan" has taken a number of hits over the past 18 months. This one will leave a bruise – at least within the rank and file of the Liberal party.

Put differently by yet another passive participant in the Halifax meeting: "Obviously our leader has confused himself with someone else with the same initials!"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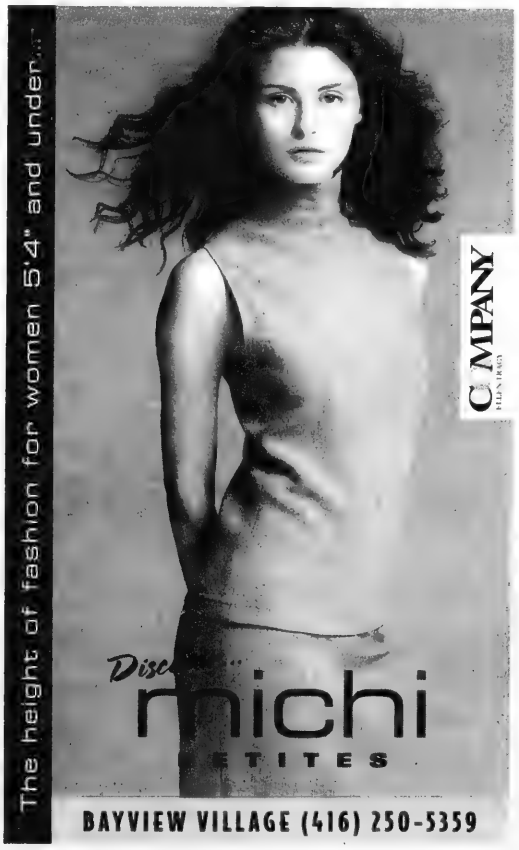

Israel preparing for terrorist acts in 2000: expert

By WENDY GOLDBLATT SCHNEIDER
Special to The CJN

HAMILTON — Israeli authorities are maintaining a high state of vigilance as they prepare themselves for expected terrorist incidents in 2000, says a leading Israeli expert on disaster management.

Jay Levinson, a former CIA employee who made aliyah from the United States in the early 1980s, said that there are many groups in the country that pose a threat to public safety.

He was among the presenters at the ninth World Conference on Disaster Management, held here last month.

Levinson, a training officer for the Israeli police in the division of forensic science, said that experts are predicting that the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, which Christian tradition ascribes as the site of the crucifixion, will be a likely target of extreme messianic sects.

The leader of one particular sect, said Levinson, who was urging his followers to come to Jerusalem to commit mass suicide, was apprehended last year and deported.

Police are concerned, he said, with maintaining good community relations with the various religious communities that inhabit Jerusalem's old city.

The ministries of religion and tourism are also involved in preparing for the expected onslaught of tourists during the millennium.

In addition to his domestic responsibilities, Levinson has been summoned abroad on a number of occasions to oversee the identification of Israeli and Jewish victims of aircraft disasters.

After last year's Swissair disaster, the Union of Orthodox Jewish congregations from New York sent him to Halifax to help identify one of their members.

When an employee of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and a nephew of Shimon Peres were killed in an airplane crash in Nepal, Levinson flew into Bangkok to get sufficient evidence that enabled a religious court in Jerusalem to release their wives to remarry.

Much of his work involves obtaining information about the deceased from their families, and comparing it with evidence found at the crash scene.

An Orthodox Jew, his investigative practices conform to the requirements of Halachah. While Halachah allows fingerprints and dental work as permissible means of identification, a person cannot be identified based on a seat assignment or by business cards bearing his or her name that were found in a pocket.

In the Nepal incident, a credit card and checkbook were recovered, but there were no human remains that could be associated with the two victims.

Levinson was able to retrieve the boarding passes and get testimony from a variety of sources that said there were no intermediate stops, that no one could possibly have survived the crash given the physics of the impact, and that even if someone had survived, he could not have survived the elements of the area. The victim's wives were subsequently released to remarry.

Levinson said that haredi volunteers who often appear on the scene of terrorist attacks in Israel, play a vital role. They are police-registered volunteers, he said, who move in after personnel have completed the task of victim identification, to clean up the site.

According to Halachah, every remains of a person must be buried, including the blood.

"It's not a police function to clean up the scene in these terms," said Levinson. "In the past, there were cases where the blood was washed down. It's unacceptable halachically, and I'm proud to say that today it is absolutely not done."

Levinson said he knows of no other country that has such a group of volunteers, and that the volunteers have also received acclaim from all segments of Israeli society.

"To their credit, [the volunteers] make absolutely no distinction if the person is religious, non religious or a non-Jew."

Shul sponsors Kosovo family

By MYRON LOVE
Prairies Correspondent

WINNIPEG — It was a hectic couple of weeks, but Murray Knazen, chair of the Shaarey Zedek Synagogue's tikkun olam committee, feels it was well worth it.

Earlier this summer, in response to an appeal from Evelyn Hecht, director of community relations for the Winnipeg Jewish Community Council, the tikkun olam committee of Winnipeg's largest synagogue volunteered to sponsor a refugee family from Kosovo. About a dozen synagogue members pitched in to help.

"We thought that we had a month to get ready," Knazen says. "It turned out that we had just five days. The government decided to close the refugee camps."

The Bytyqi family, who has since returned to Kosovo because their mother is ill, consisted of a husband and wife, three young children and two nephews.

They had been housed in a refugee camp in New Brunswick. The government flew them into Winnipeg on July 27 and put them up in a village south of the city.

With the help of the Jewish Child and Family Service (JC&FS) and Rina Roytburg, the JC&FS Russian translator – she speaks some Serbian also – the Shaarey Zedek volunteers swung into action. They filed the necessary papers, found apartments for the family, and took them shopping for basic supplies.

They also arranged dental and medical appointments, English classes and schooling for the children.

With a trial run behind them though, the Shaarey Zedek tikkun olam committee has let it be known that they are ready to take on another refugee family should the need arise.

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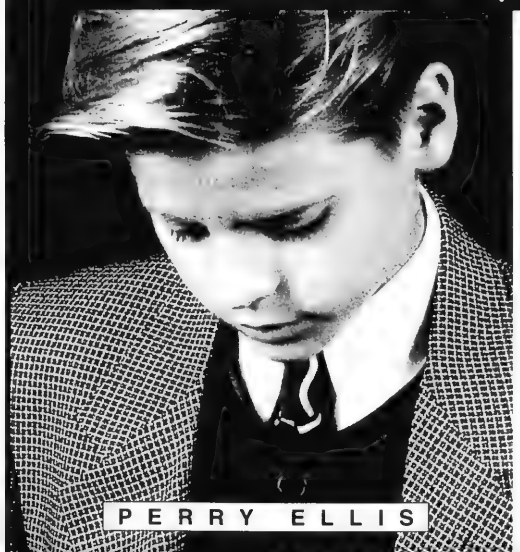

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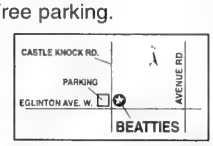

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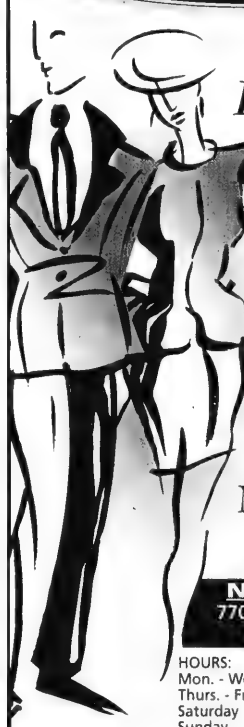

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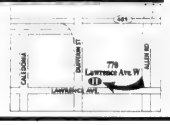

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On Campus

McGill student completes year in Ghana

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Now that Aden Seaton is back in Canada, she can enjoy being anonymous.

The 22-year-old native of Perth, Ont., recently returned home after a year in Ghana, where she volunteered on a farm for eight months, germinating cashews, citrus fruits and mango.

She also learned to balance a basket on her head, pound starchy food into "fufu" (eaten with puréed soup for a traditional Ghanaian dinner), and to communicate basic ideas in the Twi language.

As the only white person on the farm, she was the constant centre of attention.

Although the interest was benevolent, "it became a huge expenditure of energy all the time to interact with people," Seaton said recently at her grandparents' Toronto home.

"One thing I missed was effortless friendships."

Her Christian friends in Ghana "really were concerned" because she is Jewish. "I had people tell me they believe they're going to heaven, and they want me to be with them," she said.

"In the western culture, we tiptoe around religious subjects, and very common things in Ghana, here, would be considered outrageous. It's perfectly acceptable for someone to get on your car and start reciting from the Bible."

An anthropology and religious studies major, Seaton spent two years at the University of King's College in Halifax. Last year, she transferred her credits to McGill University, where she is about to resume her studies.

Seaton's day-to-day experiences in Ghana provided fascinating reading for her family and friends back home, as well as for readers of the *Perth Courier*, where she had an article published earlier this year.

Originally, she had considered teaching English in Africa while she took a year off school.

But when she heard by chance about Willing Workers on Organic Farms, an international organization providing room and board to foreign volunteers in exchange for labor, she changed her plans.

Seaton's appetite for adventure had been whetted reading "incredible" letters from a family friend spending time in Ghana.

"I'd never heard anything bad about Ghana," said Seaton of the West African nation. "All I heard was how friendly and hospitable, how nice, the people were – and it's also peaceful."

Seaton's parents, Joni Seligman and Jack Seaton, were completely supportive of her plans. "I was very excited for her," said her father, although he admitted to worrying a bit when weeks would go by without mail.

Mankwadaf Farm, where Seaton was based, was about 90 minutes from the nearest phone or post office, and lacked electricity.

Her work day began at 6:30 a.m. and ended before noon, when the heat became oppressive.

Sometimes in the afternoon Seaton would help cook dinner, having struck up a friendship with the cook, a woman her own age named Monica.

For a weekend visit to Monica's home in Kumasi, over two hours away, Seaton arose at 3 a.m. to catch a tro-tro (public transportation) to the city.

In Kumasi, Ghana's second-largest city, Seaton found she was "a minor roadside attraction, even at 6:30 in the morning," she wrote. "I try to have a sense of humor about the whole situation."

Seaton said she hasn't found it difficult to re-adjust to being in Canada, because she spent a month in Israel before returning home.

Being in a developed country again proved to be "a tough transition."

She found it "a little troubling" to see a large hotel in Eilat, each room furnished with a flush toilet, whereas in Ghana, villagers walk for over two hours to collect water, and wait another 2½ hours for one bucketful.

"There's a completely different set of problems [in Israel]," Seaton said. "It took a little while for my mind to shift from the problems in Ghana to the problems people are facing in Israel.

"You can tell the difference between a place that has peace and one that doesn't. People in Ghana are very aware that they're free, and proud to be Ghanaian. They laugh a lot more than they would if they live in Israel."

Ghanaians don't have our amenities, Seaton noted. "But they certainly have peace of mind, and a lot of that comes from their very strong faith."

Aden Seaton demonstrates Ghanain food preparation technique, using pottery she bought in Ghana. [Frances Kraft photo]

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Concordia names Jewish studies chair

MONTREAL — Concordia University's faculty of arts and science has appointed Norman Ravvin as the first chair in Quebec and Canadian Jewish studies.

A native of Calgary, Ravvin joins Concordia's department of religion from the University of New Brunswick where he taught in the English department. He has an extensive background in Jewish studies, focused primarily on Jewish literature and literature of the Holocaust.

He has published a book, *House of Words*, which deals with Canadian Jewish literature, and is currently at work on a second book, *The Hidden Canada*, which will include chapters on the Jewish farming colonies of the Prairies.

In addition to his teaching and research duties, Ravvin will be responsible for outreach, with particular attention paid to Montreal's Jewish community.

"The field of Canadian Jewish studies is just emerging into prominence, as students and scholars seek to explore the Jewish community's 300-year history in Canada. While Judaic studies have long been a strength at Concordia's religion department, the push to create a chair in Canadian Jewish studies was given a big boost with a recent grant from the Canadian government, under the aegis of its multicultural program," said Leslie Orr, chair of the department.

Last year, an Institute for Canadian Jewish Studies was established at the university with a grant from Andrea and Charles Bronfman and the Seagram Co. Ltd. The Institute provides fellowships to master's and PhD students exploring Canadian Jewish topics.

The religion department currently offers a wide variety of courses, looking at the social, political and cultural aspects of religion. In addition to a strong Judaic stream, the department focuses on the comparative aspect of religion and offers a series of courses looking at the role of women in religion.

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Israeli girl recovering after dramatic rescue

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — In a rescue operation that defied shrinking odds, Israeli rescue teams have saved a 9-year-old girl who had been trapped for four days in earthquake rubble in Turkey.

Doctors said Shiran Franco was dehydrated but in good condition when they reached her early last Saturday morning. Her mother, Iris, who was rescued from the ruins the previous Thursday, said the first thing her daughter asked for was a soft drink. Shiran also asked her mother why it had taken so long to reach her.

"They worked very hard," Iris Franco responded.

On Saturday, Israeli teams also recovered the bodies of Shiran's twin brother, her father and her grandparents. The bodies of another Israeli couple who had been vacationing in the resort town of Cinarcik were also found.

Rescue units reached Shiran around 4 a.m. on Saturday morning in the wreckage of an apartment building where she had been staying with her family.

Maj. Eran Magen, who first spotted Shiran, said he decided to drill a hole in what he believed was the room in which the children had been sleeping.

"I drilled a hole and looked inside, and thought I saw a hand," Magen said. "I yelled down, and I think was answered. I ordered everyone to turn off the [drilling] equipment. From there, everything started moving quickly."

The reunited mother and daughter were flown to Israel on Saturday, where the girl was hospitalized at Sheba hospital in Tel Hashomer.

Doctors marvelled at her condition in light of the circumstances. They said she would remain hospitalized until she was fully rehydrated, and until doctors could determine whether there is damage to internal organs or muscles.

Family members said Shiran has no recollection of the earthquake. Iris Franco said her daughter thought she had been in a car accident.

Israeli aid efforts, including a field hospital, continue to operate in Turkey. Some of the several tons of food, clothing and blankets collected in Israel for the earthquake victims were due to be sent to Turkey on Monday.

Group has saved nine lives

By AMOS HAREL
Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

GULACUK, Turkey — Israeli rescue teams will continue working in the Turkish towns of Cinarcik and Gulacuk despite the Turkish government's declaration that there are no chances of finding any more survivors in the earthquake rubble.

After the Turkish government made this announcement Sunday, an Israeli team, assisted by Bulgarian and Turkish teams, rescued a Turkish woman from under a destroyed building in Cinarcik, not far from where the Israeli team had rescued Shiran Franco, a nine-year-old girl, on Saturday. The 50-year-old woman was taken by helicopter to the nearest hospital.

Until now, the delegation of the IDF home front command has rescued nine people who survived the quake and has pulled 132 bodies out from the rubble.

On Sunday Col. Shalom Ben-Aryeh, commander of the IDF's rescue mission training school, who is in Turkey with the mission, said there were still chances of saving lives. He said experience from the earthquake in Armenia proved that survivors could still be found even after eight days.

Ben-Aryeh estimated that the team would start returning to Israel within several days. The team will gradually reduce its numbers, leaving mainly medical personnel to help treat the injured and fight epidemics.

The IDF's rescue forces in Turkey are made up of 385 people, who arrived in three teams. The medical delegation in the city of Adapazari, which was severely damaged in the quake, has reactivated the city's hospital.

A delegation of about 100 doctors and medical workers established the largest field hospital in the area, with about 100 beds, in the hospital's yard.

"The Israelis resumed the activities of the operating room inside the hospital, and 10 operations are being held there a day," said Dr. Giora Martinovitch, a delegation member.

He added that a tent was erected for each ward, and said the field hospital is equipped with the most efficient communications centre.

Nine-year-old Shiran Franco is seen with her mother Iris, at Tel Hashomer hospital in Israel. Shiran was rescued by an IDF team after being trapped for 98 hours in the earthquake rubble in Turkey. Shiran's twin brother, father and both paternal grandparents died in the earthquake. [Israel Sun photo]

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Memorial held for victims of road accidents in Israel

This photo shows some of the several hundred people who demonstrated last week in Tel Aviv to protest the terrible toll of accidents on Israel's roads. In the last two weeks alone, 36 people have been killed in road accidents. [Israel photo]

By VIVA PRESS
CJN Israel Bureau

JERUSALEM — "Don't let the summer kill you on the roads," a jingle put out by Israel's Road Safety Authority, has been dominating the airwaves during recent months.

But it doesn't seem to be working. In the past two weeks alone, there have been more than 25 people killed on the country's roads. And that seems to be the new norm.

Every day, newspapers here run headlines similar to "One killed, three injured on roads," or "Seven killed on roads over the weekend." There are more than 500 deaths each year on Israel's roads.

Thousands more people are maimed, paralyzed and crippled. Such numbers prompted Nurit Grossman, whose son Gal was killed in a car accident in 1996, to start the road-safety advocacy group, Anashim Be'adom (People in Red). Anashim Be'adom is one of over a dozen organizations that took part in the August 17 Memorial Day for Traffic Victims – its first time being marked in Israel.

The first such memorial day was organized in 1992 in England by a group called Road Peace. Since then, groups in other European countries have held ceremonies on August 17, believed to be the day in 1896 that Bridget Driscoll became the first person to die in a car accident.

"We want to pass on the message that we must end the slaughter on the roads and [prevent] additional accidents," said Tzippy Newman, an Anashim Be'adom member.

Last week in Tel Aviv, pedestrians and bicyclists participated in a candle-lit procession from the train station to Kikar Rabin to commemorate those killed on the country's roads. In Jerusalem, an all-night vigil memorializing victims was held at Kikar Safra, outside City Hall.

Anashim Be'adom sponsors road safety education programs at community centres, demonstrates whenever traffic accidents occur, and lobbies Knesset members to legislate more effective punishments for traffic offenders, Grossman said.

But Yakov Ganot, head of the National Road Safety Authority, said all of the recent accidents were caused by human error and therefore "police enforcement" won't help. Unlike on Canada's highways, where one knows that speed cameras are installed, Israeli drivers know that there are no speed cameras, and the likelihood of being pulled over for speeding really isn't a factor.

Only when the government imposed a NIS 750 fine for talking on the phone while driving, did Israelis take note. Before the fine, people ignored the many costly advertisements declaring it unsafe to drive while talking on the phone.

Still, the National Road Safety Authority (RSA) thinks advertisements calling for safer driving will help overcome the high rates of accidents on the roads. The radio jingles call for people to drink lots of water to fend off dehydration, to pull over when they feel tired, and to have patience when in a traffic jam.

Shmuel Hershkovitz, director-general of the RSA, didn't take part in the memorial day. "The authority does not get involved in commemorations; we deal with prevention and saving lives," he said. "Gimmicks won't help lower the number of deaths on the roads." But Anashim Be'Adom, who looks to the North American group Mothers Against Drunk Driving for inspiration, thinks physical awareness of the problem – rather than just advertisements – is the first step to overcoming the high road-death rates plaguing Israelis today. That's why they helped sponsor the memorial day, which they hope will become an annual commemoration in Israel.

Since the beginning of the year, 309 people have died in 13,186 traffic accidents.

The Week in Israel

Aug. 16

• Two bombs that exploded in Netanya on Sunday may have been dropped by terrorists fleeing after being approached by police. There were no injuries in the explosions.

• According to media reports, Iranian intelligence recently transferred some $5 million (US) to Hamas to fund terrorist attacks on Israeli targets. The money, first in a series of monthly payments, was reportedly paid into the accounts of Hamas officials in Jordan in late July.

Aug. 17

• President Ezer Weizman phoned Turkish President Suleyman Demirel to express his condolences in the wake of the earthquake that struck Turkey. Israel mobilized to send supplies and rescuers to Turkey.

Aug. 18

• Border police defused three explosives discovered near the joint Israeli-Palestinian liaison offices north of Ramallah. The attempted bombings were the latest in what was seen by security officials as an increase in terrorist activities in the past two weeks.

Aug. 19

• Israeli and Palestinian talks on the implementation of the Wye accords collapsed over differences on the release of Palestinian prisoners. But no one called the situation a crisis.

• Israel is having contact with Syria via an unnamed Arab country, according to Israeli Deputy Foreign Minister Nawaf Masalha.

Aug. 20

• Prime Minister Ehud Barak voiced support for a project to offer Diaspora youth free first-time, 10-day trips to Israel. Barak will decide over the next month whether to uphold Benjamin Netanyahu's promise to contribute $100 million over the next five years to the Birthright Israel initiative by the Bronfman and Steinhardt groups in North America. The first group of 6,000 students is expected to come to Israel this winter as part of the program, half of whom will arrive on trips organized by Hillel.

Files from JTA

Progress possible for 13 Iranians

Continued from page 1

Earlier this summer, rallies on behalf of the detainees took place in Toronto, Montreal, Ottawa, Winnipeg and Vancouver.

Canada has informed Iran that "any adverse outcome" in the matter "would have serious consequences, not only with Canada's relations with Iran, but with all members of the international community," Foreign Affairs spokesperson Valerie Noftle told *The CJN* on Friday.

Ottawa "has made clear that the plight of these persons tops our agenda, but it is inconceivable to steer a course of normalization of relations until there is a resolution," Noftle added.

In June, Axworthy called in senior Iranian officials for an explanation, saying Canada was "disturbed" by the arrests. Canada also sought clarification from its embassy in Tehran.

Ottawa said it received assurances that the accused would receive fair treatment and due process under Iranian law.

The treatment of the accused has reportedly improved considerably since their arrest. They have been allowed family visits and kosher food, according to reports.

There were conflicting reports last week that the trial of the 13 was due to begin. An American Jewish leader stated that formal charges against them "will be brought on Thursday, [Aug. 19]."

The U.S. State Department last week urged Tehran to release the Jews. Spokesperson James Rubin said that to date, none of the 13 has had access to counsel.

He reaffirmed that none was involved in spying for the United States. Israel and Washington earlier said there was no truth to the allegation that any of the detainees had ever spied for the Jewish state.

Ronen said the French and German governments have been especially helpful in talks with Iran.

Iran has said the matter of the 13 Jews is a domestic affair.

The country has reportedly executed 17 Jews on espionage charges in the past 20 years, including two in 1997.

KILLED IN LEBANON, BURIED IN ISRAEL

A soldier is comforted by friends as he kneels beside the flower-covered grave of his comrade Sgt. Doron Hershkovitz at the funeral for the 20-year-old infantry soldier last week. Hershkovitz and Eyal Gueta, 21, both from the Golani Brigade, were killed in a firefight with the Hezbollah in south Lebanon. A third soldier was seriously wounded. Thirteen IDF soldiers have been killed in Lebanon this year. Israel's Prime Minister Ehud Barak repeated his commitment to pull the IDF out of Lebanon by June 2000. [RNS/ Reuters photo]

ISRAELIS RESPOND GENEROUSLY

Thousands of Israelis brought clothes and blankets to Kibbutz Ga'ash for the earthquake victims in Turkey. [Israel Sun]

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MA	MINIBUS 10 SEATS	518
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Israel & the Jewish World

Russian elections and 'the Jews'

By ELIYAHU SALPETER
Ha'aretz Daily Newspaper Ltd.

Concern is growing among the Jews of Russia that they will become an issue in the political battles expected ahead of the December elections for the Russian Parliament, and next year's presidential race.

Already, there are signs that President Boris Yeltsin's opposition, coming mainly from the nationalistic circles, will attempt to take advantage of the close contacts between Yeltsin's family and several Jewish millionaires, in order to arouse anti-Semitic sentiment.

Such a strategy is clearly visible in the Russian press. Former prime minister Victor Chernomyrdin, for example, was quoted earlier this month as saying, in reaction to the confrontation between media tycoons Boris Berezovsky and Vladimir Gusinski, "Apparently two Jews had a fight – and the whole country must witness this farce."

Rabbi Isaak Kogan walks with members of the Federal Security Service and his 12-year-old son, Josef, who found a bomb outside their synagogue in Moscow on July 25. [RNS/Reuters photos]

The popular nationalist extremist newspaper *Zavtra*, which habitually denies that the Holocaust took place, praised Chernomyrdin's statement. The prestigious economic daily *Komersant* noted that the comment was a signal of an impending "anti-Semitic plague."

Moscow's chief rabbi, Pinhas Goldschmidt, also predicts that "the Jewish issue will play prominently in the election campaign, whether we like it or not," and accuses the authorities of "not properly responding to the violent wave of anti-Semitism."

But Pavel Feldblum, a leader of the city's Jewish community, said in a recent interview with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency's Moscow reporter, that "there isn't much chance for a call [from the Jews] that the government should guarantee order and stability in the country, when there is no order and stability in the government itself."

Russian Jews are found on different sides of the political battle lines. On the one hand, it is no secret in Moscow that Jewish millionaires have business contacts with Yeltsin, his family and close associates, and that those same millionaires fear Yeltsin's rivals' victory in the upcoming elections.

Gennady Zyuganov, Communist leader

On the other hand, the president's rivals encompass a wide spectrum – including anti-Semites, fascists, communists and liberals. Thus, for example, Moscow Mayor Yuri Luzhkov, among those mentioned as possible rivals to Yeltsin's presidential candidate, attended the prayer service organized several weeks ago to give thanks for the failure of an attempted bomb attack on Chabad's Bolshaya Bronnaya synagogue.

Luzhkov told the crowd gathered at the event that he was flattered by the (mistaken) claim, made by extremist nationalist circles, that he was of Jewish descent. He came to the synagogue without advance notice, however, thus preventing the media from covering his visit. In addition, Luzhkov recently joined forces with former Prime Minister Yevgeny Primakov, who is known for being pro-Arab and who is not considered a big fan of the Jews.

Yeltsin's decision to fire Prime Minister Sergei Stepashin and appoint KGB veteran Vladimir Putin in his stead has increased feelings of insecurity among Russia's Jews.

Because of his past, Putin raises instinctive fears. Despite Yeltsin's backing, however, public-opinion polls show that Putin's chances of becoming Russia's next president are close to nil. In his last position, Putin served, among other things, as chair of the presidential committee on combating extremism, and he dealt with anti-Semitism, neo-Nazism and racism in that capacity.

He met several times with the heads of the Jewish community, mostly talking with them about security arrangements for safeguarding Jewish institutions. According to participants in those meetings, Putin "was sympathetic" to the issue, but there is no record of any public statement he has made on Jewish matters.

On other issues, Putin has acted fiercely against scientists and environmentalists who publicly condemned the government's transgressions in these fields – a fact that does not point to much tolerance on his part. On the other hand, in the early 1990s Putin helped local democratic officials in St. Petersburg prevent a takeover by the communists.

Vladimir Putin

But even in St. Petersburg, which views itself as Russia's "intellectual capital," tolerance is not shared by all. On a popular local television interview show, viewers were recently asked whether they would take part personally in carrying out an "ethnic cleansing."

There are 250,000 to 500,000 "foreigners" – Jews and other non-Slavs, in other words – in St. Petersburg. Forty-three percent of the participants in the survey answered affirmatively.

Even if one takes into account that the interviewer, and presumably many of his viewers as well, belong to the right wing's camp, the results are still surprising and frightening.

No less horrific is the fact that such a "survey" was conducted and aired on a television channel jointly owned by the St. Petersburg municipality and Balt Unexim Bank, one of the main sponsors of regional Governor Vladimir Yakovlev's election campaign.

The Russian Jewish Congress recently listed three main factors explaining the rise in anti-Semitic incidents in Russia: the growing number of politicians issuing anti-Semitic statements to win popularity; the Russian public's indifference to attacks on minorities; and the authorities' helplessness, "not wanting or not able" to prosecute those guilty of incitement and racism. The Congress's conclusion gives pause: "This attitude raises the question of whether Jews will be able to remain on Russian land."

Clinton promises to fight anti-Semitism

By DANIEL KURTZMAN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

WASHINGTON — President Bill Clinton is promising American Jewish leaders that he'll use his bully pulpit to denounce anti- Semitism.

With the specter of the shooting spree at a Los Angeles-area Jewish community centre hanging overhead, Clinton and roughly 30 Jewish leaders recently held a 90-minute free-for-all discussion originally set up to discuss the future of the Mideast peace process.

The Aug. 12 session at the White House, instead, focused largely on the recent spate of anti-Semitic attacks and possible legislative responses.

At the urging of the leaders, Clinton pledged to use his office to speak out forcefully against anti-Semitism and racism and to push Congress to enact stricter laws to combat hate crimes and control guns.

He did not sound upbeat, however, about the prospects for passing new gun control measures. One Jewish leader who attended the meeting said Clinton was "outraged by the unwillingness of the House to do anything about guns."

Not optimistic on gun control

The president made his own appeal to Jewish leaders, urging them to come together with other minority groups in a united front against anti-Semitism, racism and bigotry.

Following the meeting, many of the leaders said they came away believing Clinton was firmly and passionately committed to stamping out hate violence.

"He was empathizing with us,"said Rabbi Eric Yoffie, president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations. "He was feeling our pain.

"We really look to him to rally the nation, to arouse its moral conscience," Rabbi Yoffie added. "That's the task of the president, so this doesn't get lost in the headlines in a day or two."

On the Middle East front, Clinton said he was optimistic that Israel and the Palestinians will resolve differences in the coming weeks on implementing the Wye accord. He also said he was hopeful that Congress will approve the $1.2 billion in special aid for Israel, and $400 million for the Palestinians that Clinton promised in return for implementation of the Wye agreement. The money has not yet been included in foreign aid legislation.

Battle for Jerusalem fought slowly before final talks

By GIL SEDAN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — Tensions ran high here three weeks ago Friday.

According to Israeli intelligence reports, radical Muslims intended to stir up trouble during their noon prayers following an Israeli decision to seal off a window the Palestinians had carved out in the southern wall of the Old City.

Opinion

Police did not take any chances. A large number of officers were deployed around the Temple Mount to prevent a possible outburst. Potential troublemakers got the message, the majority of worshippers went home quietly and another mine had been removed in the battle over Jerusalem.

Although Israel and the Palestinians agreed to leave the sensitive issue of the city to the end of the negotiations, the fact is that both sides are engaged in a race for control on the ground.

Jerusalem, the most sensitive issue standing between Israel and the Palestinians, is also the destination of some four million pilgrims expected to visit the holy land at the turn of the millennium. This raises concerns about the possibility of renewed violence in the City of Peace.

Less than five months before the new millennium, all sorts of people with personal, religious and political agendas are converging on Jerusalem: Jewish extremists seeking to replace the mosques on the Temple Mount with the third Temple; Christians dreaming of Armageddon to speed up the second coming of Jesus; and Palestinians who insist that all of eastern Jerusalem should become the capital of an independent Palestinian state.

From Israel's point of view, it is in the nation's best interest to preserve the status quo in Jerusalem if it wants to overcome the obstacles and the challenges of this millennium year. The Israeli government realizes that it will be very difficult to make peace – and political concessions – if there is unrest in Jerusalem.

On the other hand, Palestinian Authority (PA) Chairman Yasser Arafat needs to prove to his supporters that regardless of the ups and downs in negotiations, his ultimate goal is the establishment of eastern Jerusalem as the capital of a future Palestinian state.

Recently, Arafat has made frequent statements that he will not rest until the Palestinians take over "the walls, the mosques and the churches" in eastern Jerusalem. As he bargains with Prime Minister Ehud Barak over a timetable for future Israeli withdrawals from portions of the West Bank, he is also preparing himself for final-status negotiations – in which Jerusalem will be the key issue.

So far, Israelis and Palestinians are maintaining a delicate balance of gains and losses in Jerusalem.

True, Israel has built a network of Jewish neighborhoods in eastern Jerusalem – the Palestinians call them settlements – where some 170,000 Israelis reside.

But the Palestinians have succeeded in preserving a clear division between the eastern and western parts of the city.

While the Palestinians had to acquiesce to the opening of the

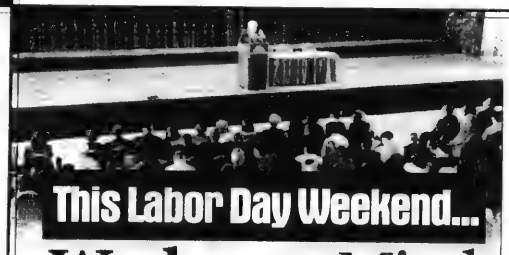
Tunnel

Western Wall tunnel, they have also conducted massive reconstruction work in the Al-Aksa Mosque. The opening carved out last week was, in fact, an opening to "ancient Al-Aksa," a reconstructed part of the mosque. It will soon be inaugurated as part of a festive ceremony.

The controversial construction at Har Choma, a Jewish neighborhood in eastern Jerusalem, has continued unimpeded – and the first apartments are being sold – even though the Palestinians previously threatened that it could lead to a renewed intifada, or uprising.

But the Palestinians, too, have continued, almost undisturbed, with large-scale private construction throughout the eastern part of the city. Most of the building is unlicensed, and despite the occasional demolition of illegal housing by Israeli authorities, by and large the construction cannot be stopped.

Israel had closed off a number of PA offices in eastern Jerusalem. But Orient House continues to operate as the PA's Jerusalem headquarters.



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PROGRAM SCHEDULE

9:30 am — Reception and Registration

10:30 am — Rabbi Eliezer Breitowitz
Topic: Assume No Responsibility: Free Will Or Destiny
Rabbi Eliezer Breitowitz is the Educational Director of Ohr Somayach in Toronto He received Rabbinical ordination from the Ner Israel Rabbinical College and a Bachelor's degree from John Hopkins University. His well attended talks range from technical analysis of contemporary medical and business ethics to Jewish mysticism, love and marriage, child raising and Jewish education. He is also rabbi of Thornhill Ohr Somayach Minyan

11:30 am — Rabbi Mordechai Becher
Topic: The Rabbi Made Me Do It: Accuracy Of The Oral Tradition
Rabbi Mordechai Becher is a world-renowned lecturer and author. He received Rabbinical ordination from Yeshivat Mishkan HaTorah and the Chief Rabbinate of Jerusalem and Israel. His expertise in history, philosophy and science make for extremely stimulating lectures. Presently, Rabbi Becher lectures at Ohr Somayach Jerusalem.

12:30 pm — New York only
Rabbi Yosef Kalatsky
Topic: The Role Model: When Will Our Accomplishments Be As Great As Our Patriarchs?
An outstanding Talmudic scholar with expertise in a wide range of fields, Rabbi Kalatsky has profoundly affected the lives of prominent businessmen as head of the Yad Avraham Institute of Manhattan

12:30 pm — Toronto only
Rabbi Yitzchak Breitowitz
Topic: Rekindling The Flame: How To Maintain passion and Enthusiasm in our Spiritual Lives
Rabbi Dr. Yitzchak Breitowitz is the rabbi of the Woodside Synagogue in Silver Springs, Maryland and an associate professor of law at University of Maryland and a visiting lecturer at Ohr Somayach Jerusalem. He received rabbinical ordination from Ner Israel Rabbinical College and his law degree from Harvard Law School.

1:15 pm — Lunch: Cafeteria Concession

2:30 pm — Rabbi Dovid Gottlieb
Topic: Bridging the Information Gap: Explanation and Refutation
Rabbi Dovid Gottlieb served on the graduate faculty at John Hopkins University and his books on secular and Jewish Philosophy have been published by Oxford and ArtScroll. The combination of years of study in Israeli yeshivos and a prior career as a professor of philosophy have enabled Rabbi Gottlieb to address the difficult philosophical issues of our generation.

3:30 pm — Rabbi Mendel Weinbach
Topic: Reaching Out And Reaching In: Strategies of Kiruv
A graduate of the famous Torah Vodaath Yeshiva in New York, Rabbi Weinbach, a founder and one of the deans of Ohr Somayach, has been mentor, father and leader to a generation of Ohr Somayach students around the world. A prolific author and international lecturer he is an inspiration and advisor to many Jewish leaders. Rabbi Weinbach offers brilliant insights into topics of Jewish thought and practice.

4:15 pm — Panel Discussion
This discussion will allow members of the audience to hear answers and discussion by Ohr Somayach's all-star staff in response to questions that have been asked throughout the day.

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FOOD IDEAS FOR

ROSH HASHANAH

Shortcuts help to create gourmet holiday feasts

By NORENE GILLETZ

I first met Ethel Hofman at a culinary conference about 15 years ago. I was intrigued when I heard her Scottish accent, and was surprised to learn that she was Jewish!

Ethel grew up in the only Jewish family living on the Shetland Islands, north of Scotland. She learned from her mother how to incorporate local ingredients and still stay within the laws of kashrut.

Ethel still believes that Jewish cuisine, instead of being limited, opens up a new world of food to savor with family and friends at any time. My husband Soly and I were fortunate enough to be guests at her Shabbat table in Philadelphia recently. We enjoyed a delicious meal that was truly prepared with loving hands in a warm, relaxed, heimish atmosphere.

Ethel is a past president of the International Association of Culinary Professionals. She is a nationally syndicated Jewish food columnist, a regular contributor to many culinary and Jewish publications, as well as a kosher culinary expert.

One of the purposes of her book, *Everyday Cooking for the Jewish Home*, is to simplify time consuming or complicated recipes. Ethel has developed excellent shortcuts to help her cope with a busy schedule. She enjoys sharing time saving tips with her readers. The 350 recipes included in this kosher book are delicious.

Ethel has collected recipes from Persia, Morocco and, of course, Scotland, as well as hotels in the Catskills and kibbutzim in Israel. Here is a sampling of her recipes, including some tasty dishes for your vegetarian guests. *B'tayavon.*

ROASTED POMEGRANATE CHICKEN

This is a favorite Rosh Hashanah dish with Moroccan Jews. Because of their many seeds, pomegranates symbolize the hope that in the year ahead, Jews will be able to perform many worthy deeds, or mitzvot.

¼ cup olive oil
1 tbsp. minced garlic
1 (3½ to 4 lbs.) chicken, quartered
1 pomegranate, halved
¼ cup dry white wine
juice of 1 lemon
1 tbsp. cinnamon-sugar
salt and pepper

Preheat oven to 375. In a cup, mix oil and garlic. Brush garlic oil over chicken.

Place chicken in a shallow baking dish. Drizzle any remaining oil over chicken. Bake in a preheated oven for 45 minutes, basting several times with pan juices, until skin is browned and juices run clear when a thigh is pierced at thickest part with a fork.

Remove 2 tbsp. seeds from pomegranate. Set aside for garnish. Squeeze juice from remaining pomegranate through a sieve into a small bowl.

In a small nonreactive saucepan, mix pomegranate juice, wine, lemon juice, and cinnamon-sugar. Bring to a boil over high heat. Reduce heat to low and cook 5 minutes. Season sauce with salt and pepper to taste.

Transfer roasted chicken to a serving platter and pierce each piece several times. Pour sauce over chicken. Garnish with pomegranate seeds and serve at room temperature. Serves 4.

ROASTED BEER BRISKET

This fine, robust dish, big enough for a holiday crowd, can conveniently be made ahead. Leftovers freeze beautifully.

2 tbsp. olive oil
5 to 6 lb. brisket
1 lb. small white boiling onions, peeled
1 medium rutabaga, cut into 1-inch chunks
1 (16-oz.) bag peeled baby carrots
3 bay leaves
1½ tsp. salt
½ tsp. black peppercorns
1 cup beer
1 lb. button mushrooms, halved or quartered

Preheat oven to 325. Heat oil in a large Dutch oven over high heat. Add brisket and cook, turning, until nicely browned on all sides, 6 to 8 minutes.

Remove from heat. Add onions, rutabaga, carrots, bay leaves, salt, and peppercorns. Pour beer over brisket and cover pot tightly. Bake in preheated oven 2 hours.

Stir in mushrooms. Cook 1 to 1½ hours longer, or until brisket and vegetables are tender. A fork should slide out easily when inserted in thickest part of brisket.

Let stand 10 minutes before

Continued on page 40

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Food Ideas for Rosh Hashanah

Serving up kishke and kugel for holiday meal

Continued from page 39

slicing. Serve on a warm platter with vegetables spooned around brisket. Skim fat off surface of gravy and pass in a sauceboat on the side. Serves 12-15.

VEGETABLE KISHKE

If you love kishke but think this traditional Jewish dish is heavy and complicated, try this version. Using ready-to-eat prepared baby carrots cuts preparation time in half. This dish is especially good with braised brisket.

12 baby carrots
1 medium onion, quartered
1 small red bell pepper, cut into 1-inch chunks
½ medium zucchini, cut into 1-inch chunks
¼ cup chopped fresh parsley
¼ cup vegetable oil
1 tbsp. schmaltz (or use congealed fat from chicken soup. For vegetarians, omit schmaltz)
1 tsp. paprika
1 tsp. salt
¼ tsp. pepper
1¼ cups matzah meal

Preheat oven to 350. Coat a sheet of foil, 12 x 10 inch, with nonstick vegetable spray.

In a food processor, place carrots, onion, pepper, zucchini, parsley, oil, and schmaltz. Pulse several times, then process 30 seconds to chop finely.

Add paprika, salt, pepper and matzah meal and process briefly to mix. Shape into a roll 10 inches long and 1 inch thick. Place on prepared foil. Fold foil over to cover tightly.

Place roll on a baking sheet and bake in preheated oven 1¼ hours. Unwrap and discard foil. Kishke will be nicely crusted outside and moist inside when sliced. Serve hot. Serves 4-6.

ROASTED PEPPER KUGEL

For Rosh Hashanah, make this with yellow and red bell peppers, and to boost flavor, use handfuls of fresh herbs. If you're not having a lot of people for dinner, make two small kugels and freeze one for the Yom Kippur breaking of the fast.

1 lb. rotini noodles
1 (14-oz.) jar all-natural spaghetti sauce
3 eggs, lightly beaten
2 cups coarsely chopped, loosely packed mixed fresh herbs, such as basil, parsley, and dill
2 tsp. lemon pepper seasoning
1½ tsp. coarse kosher salt
2 large red bell peppers, cut into 1½-inch pieces
1 large yellow bell pepper, cut into 1½-inch pieces
3 tbsp. olive oil

Preheat oven to 350. Coat a large baking dish with nonstick vegetable spray.

In a large pot of salted boiling water, cook the rotini until tender but still slightly firm, 10 to 12 minutes. Drain and transfer to a large bowl.

Add spaghetti sauce, eggs, fresh herbs, lemon pepper, and ½ tsp. salt to pasta. Turn into prepared baking dish.

Arrange peppers on top of pasta mixture to cover. Drizzle olive oil over top. Sprinkle with the remaining 1 tsp. salt. Cover loosely with aluminum foil.

Bake in preheated oven for 40 minutes. Remove foil and bake until centre is set and peppers are beginning to brown, about 20 minutes longer. Serve hot or at room temperature. Serves 12-15.

Lentil dishes served by Sephardi Jews

BABY BEETS

Naturally sweet beet roots are traditionally served at Rosh Hashanah as a symbol of an abundant and sweet year to come.

16 baby beets (about 1½ lbs.)
2 tbsp. margarine
salt and pepper

Rinse beets under cold running water. Cut off leafy tops to within ½ inch of beets (see note).

Place beets in a large saucepan. Pour in enough boiling water to cover by about 2 inches. Cover pan and cook over medium-high heat for 40 to 45 minutes, or until beets are tender. Test by lifting one out of water, let cool slightly, and press with your fingers. Don't pierce with a knife, or the color will bleed.

Drain and set aside until cool enough to handle, 5 to 10 minutes. Remove skins (they will slip off easily) and slice beets ¼ inch thick or leave whole.

Melt margarine in a saucepan over medium heat. Add beets and toss to coat. Season with salt and pepper to taste. Serve hot.

Note:

To use the beet greens, wash but do not dry. Shred and cook covered in a large skillet with a little salt and pepper for 5 minutes. Drizzle lightly with garlic-flavored oil. Serves 4.

LEBANESE LENTIL SALAD

Lentil dishes are served on festive occasions by Sephardi Jews. Canned chickpeas and a handful of minced dill were added to this luscious salad when we recently ate Shabbat dinner at the Hofman home. It will also be enjoyed by their guests for the Rosh Hashanah meal.

1½ cups dried lentils
1 medium sweet onion, chopped
¾ cup currants
½ cup sweet-and-sour salad dressing
2 tsp. brown sugar
1 tbsp. ground cumin
1 tsp. salt
¼ tsp. pepper
¼ cup chopped fresh cilantro

Rinse lentils and pick over to remove any grit. In a medium saucepan, bring 4 cups water to a boil. Add lentils, reduce heat to medium-low, and simmer, uncovered, stirring occasionally, until lentils are tender but still slightly chewy, 20 to 25 minutes; drain.

Transfer lentils to a bowl. Stir in onion, currants, salad dressing, brown sugar, cumin, salt, and pepper. Sprinkle cilantro on top. Serve at room temperature. Serves 6.

ROASTED FRUITS IN CIDER

Pan-roasted winter fruits and glazed dried fruits give a new twist to the traditional Jewish compote. This is delicious served either as a side dish or for dessert.

2 tbsp. walnut or canola oil
¼ cup maple syrup
2 tsp. balsamic vinegar
2 pears, cored and sliced ¼-inch thick
2 apples, cored and sliced ¼-inch thick
½ cup chopped glazed mixed dried fruits
½ cup apple cider
2 tbsp. chopped glazed pecans

Heat oil in a large skillet over medium heat. Stir in maple syrup and balsamic vinegar.

Add pears and apples. Partially cover and cook over medium-high heat until barely tender, 8 to 10 minutes.

Remove from heat. Stir in dried fruits and apple cider.

Transfer to a serving bowl. Sprinkle pecans over top. Serve at room temperature. Serves 4.

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Food Ideas for Rosh Hashanah

Natural ingredients help create tasty desserts

By LINDA MOREL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

To express joy at Rosh Hashanah, people usually serve their finest food.

Traditionally, the menu revolves around turkey, brisket and veal.

But people in kosher households can feel stress when they contemplate ending the meal with equal flourish. Without butter or cream, is it possible to create dazzling desserts?

In an attempt to have luscious cakes and meat dishes too, many kosher bakers substitute ingredients, often with disappointing results.

"The stuff never tastes right," says caterer and recipe developer Lynn Kutner, disparaging the use of margarine and artificial creams. Instead, she uses natural ingredients.

"I don't believe in phony baloney," says Kutner, claiming that the substitutions people pour into pareve cakes to fabricate dairy desserts contribute to the reputation that kosher baking is inferior, which it isn't. Kutner learned to cook from her Russian grandmother, who knew nothing about non-dairy creams or processed foods. She embraced kashrut with love, finding inspiration in its tenets.

"My grandmother was such a fabulous cook, in a way that this generation has lost," says Kutner. "It would have been bizarre for her to use fake cream, because cream doesn't belong with meat. It's almost like trying to fool God."

A teacher of Jewish cooking and baking at The New School's Culinary Arts program in Manhattan, Kutner tells students that if a recipe calls for cream, save that dish for dairy meals. If a recipe calls for butter, don't replace it with margarine, a fat made of refined vegetable oils processed to imitate the consistency of butter.

"The problem with cakes made from margarine and fake cream is that they taste dense and heavy," says Kutner, laughing because she's noticed how kids steer clear of them.

Instead of margarine, Kutner's shortening of choice is sunflower oil. During her frequent travels to France, where patisseries are renowned, she discovered that the French favor sunflower oil in baking.

Kutner also recommends corn, vegetable or soybean oils. Peanut oil is fine, if people don't mind its nutty taste.

Kutner discourages using canola oil in baking, because Canadian farmers fertilize canola with fishmeal, which imparts a fishy odor. She avoids cottonseed oil, too. Grown as a fiber crop, cotton is sprayed with pesticides that are not treated when the seeds are culled for food.

As a healthy alternative, she offers an apple cake that was an invention of her Grandma Fanny's. Instead of worrying about what foods kashrut forbade, her grandmother focused on the world of possibilities it offered. She infused this cake with frozen orange juice concentrate.

"You sense such strong flavor, you think it's loaded with butter," says Kutner, who learned to invent recipes too.

Moistened by coffee instead of milk, her honey chiffon spice cake floats off the fork.

Her recipes require separating eggs and saving some of the sugar for beating into egg whites, which gives them stability.

"When you throw the entire amount of sugar into the yolks, they become heavy," says Kutner, explaining why some pareve cakes rise poorly.

Reminiscing about helping her grandmother prepare for the High Holy Days, Kutner recalls getting off the bus in Brooklyn a block from her house and smelling the irresistible aroma from the oven.

Today when she teaches, Kutner always imparts her grandmother's advice: "Never try to trick kashrut. A good kosher cake can compete with the best baking in the world."

GRANDMA FANNY'S APPLE CAKE

2 cups unbleached, all-purpose flour, sifted
3 tsp. baking powder
pinch of salt
1 cup sugar
3 extra large eggs, separated
½ cup orange juice concentrate
½ cup oil
1 tsp. vanilla
1¼ pounds apples (about 2-3).
¼ cup sugar mixed with 2 tsp. cinnamon

Setting rack in middle position, preheat oven to 350. Grease a 9-inch springform pan with vegetable shortening, placing it on a cookie sheet.

Mix flour, baking powder, and salt. Reserve. Beat ¾ cup of sugar into yolks. Beat in juice, oil and vanilla. Reserve.

Peel, core and slice apples. Sprinkle with 1 tsp. of cinnamon sugar.

In a large bowl, beat egg whites until stiff. Continue beating while adding ¼ cup of sugar, until very stiff.

Stir flour mixture into juice mixture. Fold in one-quarter of the egg whites. Turn this batter into remaining egg whites, folding quickly but gently. Add one-third of batter to springform pan. Spread on one-third of apple slices. Sprinkle with one-third of cinnamon sugar. Continue layering.

Bake about 55-65 minutes. Lightly cover pan with foil after 30 minutes. Cool in pan.

HONEY CHIFFON SPICE CAKE

7 extra large eggs, separated
½ cup honey
½ cup hot coffee
¼ cup packed dark brown sugar
2 cups all-purpose flour, sifted
3 tsp. baking powder
½ tsp. baking soda
¼ tsp. salt
½ tsp. cinnamon
½ tsp. ground ginger
¼ tsp. allspice
¼ tsp. nutmeg
¼ cup sugar
½ cup oil

Preheat oven to 325. Beat egg yolks with honey. Slowly beat in coffee, followed by brown sugar. Cool.

Mix flour, baking powder, soda, salt and spices. Beat egg whites until soft peaks form. Gradually add sugar, beating until whites are very stiff.

Make a well in flour mixture. Pour in egg yolk mixture and oil. Blend with a whisk until smooth. Fold in one quarter of egg whites. Then turn this batter over rest of the egg whites. Gently fold for 45-60 seconds.

Turn into an ungreased 10-inch angel cake pan. Place pan on a cookie sheet.

Bake at 325 degrees for 50 minutes. Turn heat to 350 degrees, baking 10 minutes more. Invert pan and hang on glass bottle to cool.

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DRIED FRUITS • SAVOURIES

Time to get out those veggies

By EDITH ROTHSCHILD
Special to The CJN

What better time to turn to vegetarian dishes than on the High Holy Days? Rosh Hashanah is the time when we turn inward and, in preparation for Yom Kippur, take stock of our past deeds and misdeeds.

In our present culture of being overfed on animal proteins and undernourished on whole, natural foods, it is difficult to attain any kind of spirituality. The conventional S.A.D. diet (Standard American Diet) is refined and loaded with chemicals, robbing the food of its bio-energetic properties, its wholeness and wholesomeness. It is often also irradiated and genetically engineered. Such artificial and unnatural conditions do not promote whole health and longevity since they are not life-supporting.

Thus, neither on a physical level can an acid-alkaline balance be maintained, nor on an emotional and spiritual level can fragmented food allow for a balanced and integrated higher consciousness. The more we eat from the middle range of the food spectrum: fruits, vegetables, legumes, grains, nuts and seeds, the more centred will be our thoughts, our feelings and our behavior.

How are these recipes different from all other recipes? It is neither their quick and easy-to-prepare simplicity, nor their colorful eye appeal, and it is not their natural and wholesome flavors. It is their heart-and-immune-friendly, low-calorie, low-fat, health-promoting, life-enhancing and anti-aging properties. Food is a conductor of energy. Adding a generous amount of love to all your cooking will bring you, your family, friends and guests manifold rewards during this festive, introspective season.

On a practical level, I wish to stress that I use only flax seed oil in my salads for its medicinal properties. Its essential fatty acids help eliminate toxins and viral infections, and are generally anti-carcinogenic. It also has no taste. Once opened, it needs to be stored in the refrigerator. It can be found kosher in the refrigerator section of most health food stores.

I use only umeboshi and brown rice vinegar in my salads. They are less acidic than lemon juice, and impart to food a special flavor which salt and regular vinegar can never do. They can also be bought kosher in most health food stores.

The recipes are excerpted from my book in progress, with the working title: *Cooking For Wellness And Beyond.*

VIVALDI SOUP

This good-for-all-seasons, heart-friendly and comforting soup provides you with low-calorie plant protein. It is a nice way to start a yom tov dinner, after your family and guests have spent long hours at the synagogue.

1 cup yellow split peas
2 medium-large yams, peeled and cut into 1-inch pieces
¼ cup onion, chopped
3 cloves garlic, minced
2 bay leaves
4 inch piece wakame (a dried seaweed bought in a health food store), optional
¾ cup celery, sliced into ½-inch pieces (also the leaves)
6 cups water
1½ cups water, extra
4 tbsp. tamari
2 tbsp. umeboshi vinegar
½ tsp. cumin
½ tsp. turmeric (optional)
pepper to taste
chopped parsley for garnish

Wash peas until foam has disappeared.

Place into a large pot, add 6 cups water, cover and bring to a rolling boil.

Turn off heat and let stand for 1 hour. This is the quicksoak method.

Meanwhile, in a small bowl soak wakame for about 8 minutes, chop fine and reserve.

After 1 hour, add 1½ cups water to the peas, bring back to boil and add yams, onions, garlic, bay leaves, wakame and celery.

Cook on medium-low heat for 35-40 minutes, or until peas are soft.

Add tamari, umeboshi vinegar, cumin, turmeric, and pepper and continue to simmer for another 10 minutes.

Adjust seasoning and remove bay leaves.

When serving, garnish with fresh, chopped parsley. Serves 8.

Helpful Hints:

Alternatively, you can soak the peas overnight in twice as much water as peas and forego the quick-soak method.

SUPER RAINBOW SALAD

No veggie is safe from my passion for this vita-packed, mix 'n' match salad. The basics are green, but it ends up mostly coloring my world with antioxidant rainbow colors. It is specially good for those poor souls who don't like vegetables but need their immune-building properties.

Basic Ingredients:

romaine or any other leaf lettuce (except iceberg which has no nutritional value)
radicchio, shredded
Belgian endive, shredded
purple onion, chopped fine
cucumbers, sliced fine any way you like
carrots, peeled and shaved with a vegetable peeler
celery, shaved with a vegetable peeler

Dressing:

Equal parts of flaxseed oil, brown rice vinegar, umeboshi vinegar and fresh chopped dill. Add chopped salad onions and marjoram according to taste.

Variations:

Add any of the following according to your taste, imagination, and availability:

Steamed carrots, cut into ¼-inch rounds (instead of the raw); finely shredded celeriac (celery root), raw or steamed 30 seconds; raw mushrooms, sliced finely grated raw or cooked beets; yellow or red peppers, parboiled, peeled, and chopped fine; leftover steamed cauliflower or broccoli.

There is no law against adding anything else that is hanging out in your fridge as long as it fits in tastewise; your only limitation is the size of your bowl and your sense of daring.

Helpful Hint:

Radicchio and Belgian endive are added in a ratio of four to one to the salad greens.

Healthful Hint:

To mention just one of the many nutritious benefits of this raw-cooked salad: one cup of Belgian endive has 4,000 times more potassium than a banana.

YAM LATKES

Everyone loves these latkes; the young, the old, the sandwich generation and even the DINKS (double income no kids). The

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Food Ideas for Rosh Hashanah

Vegetarian dishes offer healthy alternative

Continued from page 42

perfect food for any yom tov meal, as it can be made in advance and complements any menu. When finished, hide them until serving time, or they'll never make it to the table.

8 medium-large yams
1/2 tsp. ginger powder
1/4 tsp. sea salt
1/2 tsp. onion powder
1/2 tsp. garlic powder
1 1/2-2 cups matzah meal for dredging
extra virgin olive oil

Wash yams and steam or boil until barely soft; do not overcook! Cool slightly and peel, then place in refrigerator until cold.

Slice each yam carefully into 1/4 inch rounds and place on a large tray or platter; do not overlap!

In a flat plate, mix the matzah meal with the salt, onion powder, garlic powder and ginger and dredge all the slices on both sides.

Fry in a minimum of oil over medium heat on both sides until brown, and drain on paper towels, or fry in a non-stick pan without oil. Serves eight to ten.

Helpful Hints:

These latkes can be prepared ahead of time, frozen and reheated in a 250 degree oven as needed. When reheating, keep them uncovered so they remain crisp. Or they can be prepared in advance, kept in the fridge and fried the following day.

Healthful Hints:

Low fat dieters can bake these latkes in a 425 degree oven for about 25 minutes or until brown and crisp.

I make my own matzah meal by processing whole wheat matzahs in the processor. This will not make it fine but adds a crunch.

Fruit cake

APPLE CAKE WITH A DIFFERENCE

This fruit cake can be served as a side dish to any Shabbat or yom tov meal, as a desert or an in-between snack. It satisfies a sweet tooth but is no sugar monster.

8 large cooking apples (Ontario spy), peeled, seeded and cut into 1 1/2 inch chunks
1/4 cup raisins
1/2 cup dried cranberries
1 orange, peeled and chopped fine
1/2 cup dried apricots (optional)
1 cup unsweetened fruit juice
1/2 cup water
2 tbsp. lemon juice
1 tsp. lemon zest
1 tsp. pure vanilla extract
3 cups oat flour
1 tsp. cinnamon
1/4 tsp. allspice
1 1/2 tsp. baking soda
1 1/2 tbsp. baking powder (aluminum-free)

Preheat oven to 350. Place the first 9 or 10 ingredients into a saucepan, mix well, cover and bring to a boil.

Turn down heat and simmer for 15-25 minutes until most of the liquid has been reduced. (The time will depend on the quality of your apples.) Then cool the apple mixture.

Meanwhile, in a large mixing bowl, toss together the flour, spices, baking soda and baking powder and mix well.

When the apple mixture has cooled, add it to the flour mixture and stir well.

Pour into a 10x13-inch baking pan or pyrex, cover tightly with foil paper and bake for 30 minutes.

Remove the foil and bake another 20-25 minutes uncovered.

Serve warm or cold. Will keep in the refrigerator forever.

Helpful Hints:

You can buy oat flour in a health food store, or make it yourself by processing rolled oats into flour in your processor or blender.

For a quickie snack, put a piece of cake under the broiler to heat and enjoy with a cup of grain coffee.

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Food Ideas for Rosh Hashanah

Careful planning essential to avoid overeating

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
CJN Staff

The calorie-laden festive meals of the High Holy Days can pose a serious challenge to the most disciplined dieters and health conscious eaters.

What's yom tov dinner without raisin challah, chicken soup and matzah balls, gefilte fish, lockshin and potato kugel, kishke, and tzimmes. And then there's the main course…and dessert. So how does one survive the holidays with one's dress size intact?

Well, according to a Toronto-area dietitian, you can have your chicken soup with matzah balls and eat it too.

Lisa Weinberg, *The CJN*'s nutrition columnist, and a consultant to a restaurant and gourmet food store says the key to avoid over indulging during the holidays is to pace yourself and plan ahead.

"The traditional Rosh Hashanah meal involves several courses. You can taste a little bit of everything – the soup, fish, etc., and thereby pace yourself for the whole meal." She says planning ahead is important because during the holidays people tend to be eating heavy meals at both lunch and dinner.

"I find that if you have a plan in your mind before you get to somewhere, you're more likely to stick to it than when you arrive and everything looks so good and smells so good. You might make a decision – no dessert at lunch and only one appetizer course – maybe the fish at lunch, and the soup at dinner. If you've decided that in advance chances are that you'll stick to it."

Weinberg advises people not to load up on extras like challah, and to avoid other temptations like nuts, chocolates or olives – food that may be out before people sit down for the meals.

"Those are the type of things you might not pay attention to when you're eating them."

Because the meals are heavier than usual, one should make a concerted effort not to be consuming beverages with extra calories, such as juice, pop and large amounts of alcohol, she says. "That's another thing that people forget about."

For those people who are cooking two weeks prior to the holidays she says, "Make sure you don't go overboard in the tasting department. Also, send leftovers home with your guests so [the food is] not left hanging around your house."

However, those people preparing the meal or bringing a dish to someone else's house can control the fat and caloric content of individual dishes, Weinberg says.

"You have the luxury of being in control of that item, so make the most of it. You can certainly be creative and develop new twists on old traditional favorites."

For example, she suggests reducing the caloric count of cakes by replacing an egg with two egg whites, and the fat and oil with apple sauce. Desserts made with these changes are tasty low fat alternatives to their richer cousins, she says. "You can't tell the difference. These substitutions work fabulously in cakes and muffins."

For dairy or vegetarian meals, sour cream and buttermilk in recipes can easily be substituted with low fat yogurt, and cheese kugel can be made with low fat or fat-free cottage cheese and topped with fat-free sour cream, yogurt and fruit, she adds.

As for the main course, Weinberg advises using leaner cuts of meat such as turkey or chicken in place of a roast. Cranberry sauce is fat free, but it has calories because there is a high sugar component, she says. "You want to use it sparingly."

And she has good news for chicken soup aficionados; it is low in fat and in calories. To keep it light, add carrots and celery and a little bit of noodles, she says, noting that matzah balls are heavy and starchy, and a meal in themselves.

Gefilte fish, usually made from whitefish, pike and pickerel with one egg to a pound of fish, is about 110 calories and three grams of fat for a three-ounce piece – about the size of a deck of cards – and a tablespoon of horseradish is six fat-free calories, she says.

"Go for the matzah ball or go for the fish."

She cautions that these festive meals tend to have a lot of starches – matzah balls, noodles, kugel, potatoes, cakes and challah.

As for salads such as Israeli salads with olive oil and lemon juice dressing, Weinberg says when preparing this salad "feel free to be generous with lemon juice and not to overdo the olive oil. Cut back on fat, but not flavor."

And while there are fat-cutting methods to pare down the calories in many recipes, there are certain holiday specialties that should be made the old fashioned way, Weinberg says.

"Choose a few of your very favorite traditional dishes, make them the way they're supposed to be made and enjoy them. Fill in the rest of the meal with lighter fare like vegetables and salad."

For example, she says, if you're pacing yourself, start with soup, a two-ounce piece of gefilte fish, followed by turkey with stuffing.

For those with a sweet tooth, drizzling honey on challah is a fat-free way to enjoy the holiday. Ices are another good choice for a low fat dessert, she adds. But "watch the portion size – they're low in fat, but they have calories."

Ultimately, you have to be mentally prepared for the festive meals, Weinberg says. "There's no reason not to enjoy the holidays."

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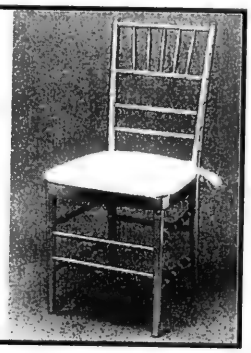

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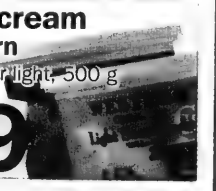

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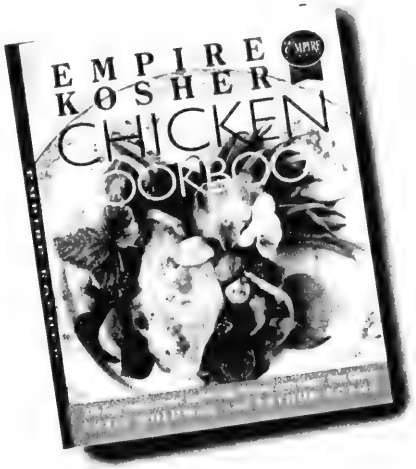
What to do with chicken?

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter



When we think of a festive yom tov meal, chicken is one of the first foods that come to mind. Chicken soup, roast chicken, chicken fricassee, stuffing – just the words are enough to make your mouth water.

On the other hand, how many times have you tossed your recipe box on the floor, glared at a hapless chicken and muttered, "What do I do with you *this* time?"

Empire Poultry has an answer – in fact, a whole cookbook of answers.

A major producer of kosher chicken, the Empire Kosher Poultry company is located in Mifflintown Pa. Not only do they ship chicken, turkey and duck, not to mention frozen prepared poultry products, all over the world, but they are a terrific source of recipes, that they supply in calendars, pamphlets, press releases, and even on the Internet.

This year they published a cookbook, called, not surprisingly, *Empire Kosher Chicken Cookbook; 225 easy and elegant recipes for poultry and great side dishes*, by Katja Goldman and Arthur Boehm (Clarkson Potter, 1999).

Make no mistake – this cookbook is a find. There are recipes for appetizers, soups, and main dishes, divided by whether they are cooked on top of the stove, in the oven or grilled. A liberal use of such ingredients as chili, coriander, peanuts and hoisin sauce, not usually thought of in connection with kosher cooking, adds a tantalizing touch to the recipes, which include ideas culled from Asian, African, French and Italian cuisine.

While many of the entries are rather involved, and use a great many ingredients, the instructions are clear enough so that following them is not onerous.

Chapters on side dishes, chutneys and salsas will help you create a complete meal that will dazzle your guests and be a real treat for the family.

Here are a few examples.

PUNGENT SHABBAT CHICKEN WITH DRIED FRUIT

Marinade:

1 cup dried apricots and prunes, or a combination including apricots, prunes, cherries or currants
½ cup orange juice
12 garlic cloves, peeled and minced
1 ½ x ½-inch piece fresh ginger, peeled and finely chopped
2 tbsp. dried oregano
1 tbsp. dried thyme
⅓ cup kosher red wine vinegar
2 tbsp. olive oil
juice of ½ a lemon
3 bay leaves

Chicken preparation:

2 3 ½ lb. chickens, visible fat and backbones removed, cut into eighths
salt and freshly ground black pepper
½ cup dark brown sugar
½ cup kosher dry white wine
¼ cup chopped Italian parsley

Continued on page 47

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Food Ideas for Rosh Hashanah

Empire offers suggestions for chicken dishes

Continued from page 46

To make the marinade, combine the dried fruit and orange juice in a bowl and allow fruit to plump for 15 minutes.

Combine plumped fruit, juice, garlic, ginger, oregano, thyme, vinegar, olive oil, lemon juice and bay leaves in a large bowl. Add the chicken and season to taste with salt and pepper. Toss to coat, cover, and marinate, refrigerated, from 4 hours to overnight.

Preheat oven to 375. Arrange chicken in a single layer in 2 large roasting pans, and spoon the marinade over. Sprinkle chicken with brown sugar, and drizzle over the wine. Bake until juices run clear when a joint is pierced with a fork, about 1 hour. Pour off the pan juices into a serving bowl and skim off the fat. Discard bay leaves. Sprinkle chicken with parsley and serve. Pass the pan juices separately. Serves 6 to 8.

HONEY GINGER CHICKEN

1 6-inch piece fresh ginger, peeled and coarsely chopped
12 garlic cloves, minced
16 medium scallions, white and green parts, coarsely chopped
¼ cup low-sodium soy sauce
⅓ cup honey
¼ tsp. five-spice powder
freshly ground black pepper
2 3-pound chickens, trimmed of all visible fat and cut into eighths, or 6 pounds chicken parts of your choice

Preheat oven to 350. Place ginger, garlic, scallions and half soy sauce in a food processor and process 2 minutes. Add remaining soy sauce, honey, and five-spice powder. Season to taste with pepper and process to blend.

In a large bowl, combine the chicken with the marinade and toss. Line a large 1½ to 2-inch deep baking dish with foil and add the chicken skin side down in a single layer. Spoon over the marinade and bake for 45 minutes. Turn the pieces over, baste with the sauce from the pan, and bake another 45 minutes. Serve hot or cold.

ROAST POTATOES WITH SELTZER

In this recipe, sprinkling seltzer over the potatoes before roasting makes them turn out particularly moist and crisp.

2 lbs. potatoes, scrubbed
1-2 tbsp. olive oil
salt
2 tsp. chopped fresh rosemary
1 tbsp. seltzer
freshly ground black pepper

Preheat oven to 500. Cut potatoes into 1-inch cubes, place in a large bowl, and toss with olive oil, salt and rosemary.

Turn potatoes onto a nonstick or foil-lined cookie sheet with sides. Spread the pieces for even browning. Sprinkle potatoes with the seltzer.

Roast the potatoes until brown and crispy, about 30 minutes. Grind pepper to taste over them and serve. Serves 6-8.

Note: The potatoes can be cubed in advance and held for one day, refrigerated, in a bowl of water. Drain and dry them well before proceeding.

TOASTED CHALLAH CHALISH

4 large thick slices challah, or 8 smaller slices
1 tbsp. kosher light mayonnaise
2 tbsp. kosher grainy mustard
1 tsp. kosher Dijon mustard
2 tbsp. chopped fresh dill
Juice of ½ lemon
3 cups cooked cubed skinless chicken
Four ½-inch-thick slices ripe beefsteak tomato
2 handfuls mesclun (mixed baby lettuce)

Toast the challah lightly. Meanwhile, in a large bowl, using a fork, combine mayonnaise, mustards, dill and lemon juice.

Add the chicken and toss to coat. Place half the chicken salad on each of 2 challah slices (or divide it equally among 4 pieces). Top with the tomato and mesclun. Cover with the remaining challah, press down gently, and slice the sandwiches in half. Serves 2.

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More holiday recipes in next week's issue

Food Ideas for Rosh Hashanah

Advance preparation is the real key to success

By EILEEN GOLTZ
Special to The CJN

The main courses for many holiday meals are set in stone.

Appetizers, soup and salads, however, can be as wild and crazy as we want them to be. The key to a great appetizer or first course is to serve something that can be made ahead of time and served quickly.

The following recipes are easy to make, can all be made at least one day in advance and are different enough to spice up any of your holiday meals.

CHICKEN ROLL IN PASTRY WITH MUSHROOM SAUCE

1 lb. package puff pastry
1 lb. ground chicken
1 small grated onion
2 eggs
bread crumbs
salt and pepper
1 tbsp. oil
dash poultry seasoning

In a bowl, mix together the ground chicken, grated onion, eggs, breadcrumbs, salt and pepper, oil, and poultry seasoning. The mixture should be soft so only use a small amount of the bread crumbs. Heat oil in a large frying pan and add mixture and stir until brown. Remove from heat and cool. Roll out the puff pastry to a 11x15 sheet. Place meat mixture along the long side of the pastry and roll up, tucking ends in. Place on an ungreased cookie sheet.

Can be prepared up to this point and baked later. Bake in a 425 oven for 12 to 15 minutes until browned. Cut into slices to serve and top with the following sauce.

Mushroom Sauce:
2 tbsp. margarine
2 tbsp. flour
1 tbsp. soy sauce
sprinkle of dry onion soup mix
1 cup water
2 tbsp. white wine
½ pound mushrooms, sliced

Melt the margarine in a saucepan. Add the flour and mix together until smooth. Add all other ingredients except the mushrooms. Heat and stir until thickened. Add mushrooms. Cook one minute and pour over meat roll when serving.

CASHEW SALAD

⅓ cup sugar
⅓ cup vinegar
1 tsp. dry mustard
1 clove garlic, finely chopped
1 tsp. celery seed
salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste
equal parts fresh raw spinach and leaf lettuce, enough to serve 6 to 8
½ cup whole or coarsely chopped cashews, or more to taste

Combine the sugar, vinegar, mustard, garlic, celery seed, salt, and pepper in a bowl and whisk until combined. Toss the greens in the dressing and place on individual serving plates. Sprinkle with the cashews and serve immediately. Serves 6 to 8.

ROASTED SWEET POTATOES AND ONIONS

4 medium peeled sweet potatoes, cut into 2-inch pieces (about 2-¼ lbs.)
2 medium vidalia or other sweet onions, cut into 1-inch pieces (about 1 lb.)
2 tbsp. extra-virgin olive oil
¼ tsp. garlic-pepper blend
½ tsp. salt

Preheat oven to 425. Combine all ingredients in a 13x9-inch baking dish, tossing to coat. Bake at 425 for 35 minutes or until tender, stirring occasionally. Serves 6.

TROUT APPETIZER WITH HORSERADISH SAUCE

1½ lb. smoked trout

Horseradish Sauce:
4 tbsp. horseradish mustard
½ cup tarragon vinegar
2 tbsp. ketchup
1 tbsp. paprika
½ tsp. cayenne pepper
1 tsp. salt
1 clove garlic
1 cup vegetable oil
½ cup shallots
½ cup chopped celery

Remove skin and bones from fish. Flake and place in cocktail glasses or iced bowls lined with lettuce. Place all ingredients for horseradish sauce in blender and blend thoroughly. Spoon the sauce over the fish and garnish with parsley and a lemon wedge. Chill well before serving. Serves 5 to 6.

HOT AND SOUR SOUP

4 cups chicken broth, skimmed very well
½ cup shredded cooked chicken
¼ cup diced tofu
¼ cup bamboo shoots sliced
6 Chinese dried mushrooms soaked and softened, sliced
2 eggs or just the whites
1 tbsp. white vinegar
3 tbsp. soy sauce
1 tbsp. cornstarch
cold water, to make a paste with cornstarch
1 tsp. or more Chinese hot sauce, to taste
sesame seed oil, to taste

Use homemade or canned chicken broth. Add to the broth the chicken, softened and sliced mushrooms, tofu and bamboo shoots. You can use more or less of the chicken and tofu if you like. Season with the vinegar and soy sauces and bring the mixture to a boil. Mix the cornstarch with a bit of cold water to make into a paste and whisk into the hot soup to thicken slightly. Fork beat the eggs (or just use the whites) and add and swirl and stir into the soup. Lastly, add the hot oil to taste. Oriental sesame oil may also be added with the hot oil for some extra flavor. Serves 6.

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HOLIDAY MEAL
An Israeli family celebrates Rosh Hashanah with some typical holiday foods. [WZPS photo]

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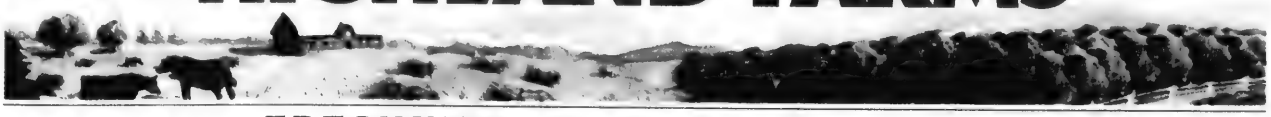

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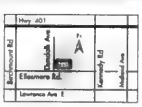

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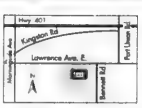

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Now entering our 8th season, **The Martha Hicks School of Ballet** has established itself as an exciting and creative dance school in North Toronto. We have 3 convenient locations in the Lawrence Park area. The school's main studio is centrally situated at Yonge & Eglinton. With bright studios, sprung floors and mirrors, dancers enjoy a professional atmosphere in a relaxed setting. The school year ended with a colourful production of The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe and was followed by 8 weeks of our popular Summer Theatrical Dance Camp.

In the '99-2000 season we offer daytime/evening classes, 7 days a week, in Ballet, Jazz and Creative Movement for children ages 3-18. Our dynamic adult program includes Yoga, Ballet, Swing, Salsa & cardiofunk. With highly trained staff from The National Ballet School's Teacher Training program, the school accommodates both the recreational and pre-professional dancer.

For more detailed information on Fall registration please call the School at **(416) 484-4731**.

Spring into Fall.

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Three convenient locations in North Toronto

To register call (416) 484-4731

The Martha Hicks School *of* Ballet
Fall Programs '99

Kids Who Study Music Have Greater Success in School

University of California-Irvine researchers have discovered that involving young children in music programs improves their spatial IQ — the kind of intelligence needed for math and science. The best news is that the improvement occurs whether a child is "musical" or not, and is maintained for long periods of time — perhaps permanently.

Researchers all agree on one thing: the younger the better. Four, three and even two years old is not too soon to begin teaching music to young children. It appears to strengthen important neural connections in the developing brain, giving the children an advantage in spatial reasoning.

The Yamaha Corporate Music School in the North York district has carefully researched programs tailored to the developmental levels of beginners of all ages from two years old and up! Private lessons are available for more advanced students. **Free preview lessons** in various courses are being offered to beginners during designated **Open House** days in August and September. The dates are: Saturday, August 28; Wednesday, September 1; and Sunday, September 12. Please call to reserve ***your*** free lesson: (416) 224-5590.

Success in music. Success in life. It's no coincidence.

The Yamaha Music School was the best place to help our daughter Laura develop her creativity. Although she is only 12 years old, she has performed her own compositions at Yamaha Junior Original Concerts in Boston, San Diego and Tokyo.

Angie Silberberg
Yamaha Parent

My seven-year-old son began his music studies at the age of 4. Through training in the Yamaha Junior Music Course, his musical ear has already developed to a level I find astounding.

Joaquin Valdepeñas
Principal Clarinet
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Back to School

Advertising Feature

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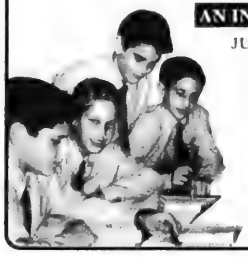
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Shoe store has loyal clientele

Since opening 20 years ago in 1979, Little Shoe Palace has built a loyal clientele. Customers come from all over Toronto and the environs, and recommend the store to friends and relations.

Little Shoe Palace spans the generations. Customers whose parents once brought them to the store, now bring their own children. Proprietor Joe Marmorstein plans to stay the course for many years.

Little Shoe Palace stands on 3 pillars: prices, selection and service. "The prices bring them in," Marmorstein smiles, "and the selection and service bring them back."

Customers can't get over how much money they save, compared to other retailers. And yet, they find the same merchandise here, and much better service. And what a huge selection! Little Shoe Palace carries footwear for kids of all ages from babies and toddlers right up to 'teens. Sizes include width variations and half sizes up to adult size 10's for fast-growing boys and girls.

With a huge variety of lines and a stock of several thousand pairs, you're sure to find what suits your son or daughter for sports, school or social events. "We always have enough inventory to satisfy every customer," says Marmorstein.

Athletic lines include Nike, Reebok and Adidas; and you'll find fashionable designer brands like Stride-Rite, Manniqui-Moda, Minibel, Superfit and Buster Brown. Little Shoe Palace also specializes in a wide range of first shoes for baby, from Bonni Stuart, Stride-Rite, Minibel and Dinella.

And except for Little Shoe Palace, no Canadian store carries the exclusive, enduringly popular Italian-crafted Dinella line.

Winter wear includes Sorel boots, the warmest in Canada, for at least $10-$15 less than at most retailers. There are also Robin jackets, snowsuits and coats, and Badge and SOS outerwear made by Robin, 20% lower than other stores.

Every kid receives individual attention; and each foot is measured, both left and right. No two kids are alike: neither are their feet. Little Shoe Palace provides everyone with custom fitting and full service. And yet, you enjoy discounts of at least 15-20% off what you'd pay elsewhere.

So bring your kids to Little Shoe Palace: 3189 Bathurst St., two lights north of Lawrence, phone **416-785-5290**; or 67 Doncaster Ave. north of Steeles, east off Yonge, phone **905-731-8520**. Hours are Sun. 10-5, Mon.-Wed. 10-6, Thurs. 10-7:30, Fri. 10-5; closed on Saturday (Shabbos).

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Advertising Feature

Back to School

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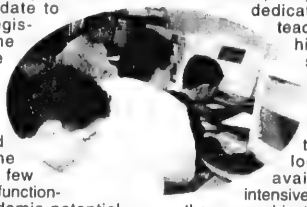

Under the ongoing direction of Principal/Director Merle Langbord Levine, B.A., M.Ed., and Vice Principal Yuwattee Persaud, B.A., B.Ed., M.A., a caring, dedicated and well-trained teaching staff develop a highly individual, student friendly educational plan for each student. Each plan embodies the best elements of both the traditional and technological pedagogies available to provide intensive remedial teaching in the core subjects, combined with the teaching of strategies for the transference and integration of these skills into the content subjects. Registration is now being accepted.

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You'll find a great selection for the kids at the Mattel Factory Outlet. It is the first Mattel retail store worldwide in an outlet mall and not part of a distribution centre. Mattel has opened this manufacturer's outlet to introduce you to their many brand names and products. All items in the store are value priced and carry the manufacturer's warranty. Mattel Factory Outlet offers a limited range of discontinued products, damaged boxes and closeout inventory, featuring Mattel, Fisher Price and Tyco products, including selective Barbie dolls and accessories, Hot Wheels, Matchbox, Sesame Street, Polly Pockets, Winnie The Pooh, and much more. Great savings on new, excess, obsolete and damaged box products add up to great savings.

Be sure to drop by and challenge yourself to climb the 3-storey high inflatable Mt. Fuji. Sponsored by Fujifilm, you'll receive a free photo of your climb to the summit as a reminder of your awesome experience. The Fuji Quicksnap Climbing Crew will also be giving away tons of prizes, including film, photo albums, camera, video cassettes and more! Mt. Fuji will be at Cookstown Manufacturer's Outlet Mall on Thurs., Sept. 2nd from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. and on Mon., Sept. 6th (Labour Day) from 9 a.m.-6 p.m.

While you're shopping, enter for a chance to win your back-to-school shopping. Draws for $100 shopping sprees will be made weekly until Labour Day, when 1 lucky shopper will also win a $1,000 shopping spree.

Don't miss out on the great fun and fabulous savings at Cookstown Manufacturer's Outlet Mall. Open Labour Day Mon. 9 a.m.-6 p.m. For more information you can call **(705) 458-1371** or surf the mall's website at **www.cookstownoutletmall.net**

Cookstown Manufacturer's Outlet Mall is conveniently located at the southeast corner of Hwy. 400 and Hwy. 89 in Cookstown, Ont. (just 35 minutes north of the 401), approx. 15 minutes south of Barrie.

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Back to School

Advertising Feature

A world of gymnastics is yours to discover

It has been over 3 years since Discovery School of Sport and Art opened its doors, but it has quickly grown to become a home away from home for children of all ages. At Discovery, you can find a toddler learning to do front rolls, to a college student/former gymnast, working out to keep in shape. Besides offering Gymnastics classes, the Centre also holds birthday parties, seasonal camps, PD fun days and community activity events such as gymathons, fundraising, etc. Discovery's 10,000 sq. ft. modern gym is filled with Olympic standard gymnastic equipment for boys and girls with a separate section for kindergym classes. Discovery's competitive athletes may have been seen on Rogers TV, at different competitions, community and school functions.

Besides children's programs, Discovery offers private instructions, school field trips and adult classes. Several private schools, which do not have their own gym facilities, are using Discovery's gym to run weekly physical education classes.

Registrations for recreational and competitive classes are now being accepted at the Discovery Centre, at 205 Champagne Dr., #5 (Finch & Dufferin). For more information please call: (416) 638-3033.

discovery School of Sport & Art

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Registration: Aug. 25-27, 5-8 p.m.; Aug. 28-29, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; Aug. 30-31, 5-8 p.m.

For information on registration call **416 - 638-3033**

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Computer training easy at KEYBOARDERS

Computer therapy?? KEYBOARDERS' specialty! KEYBOARDERS' graduates have coined a new phrase to describe what we do, as we gently prod people of all ages into being comfortable with technology!

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Registration at Bathurst Jewish Centre: Wed. & Thurs., Aug. 25 & 26, 6-8 p.m.; Sat., Aug. 28, 1-4 p.m.; Sun., Aug. 29, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. For more information and/or registration call **(905) 669-5663** or **(416) 242-6354**.

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Arts & Travel

It's Ashkenaz time

TORONTO — Come to Bellevue Park in the heart of Kensington Market at noon on Sept 5. Grab a handcrafted hat, costume or banner and join thousands of revellers in a jubilant display of community spirit, as they take to the streets of Toronto for the third biennial Ashkenaz parade.

The parade is one of the key events of Ashkenaz: a festival of new Yiddish culture, which runs from Aug. 30 to Sept. 6.

A procession of music, color and community celebration, the parade is the festival's largest participatory event. Participants can dance to the rhythms of klezmer and samba bands as the *Nayeh Velt* Angel leads the way from the heart of the Toronto Jewish community's roots in Kensington Market to Harbourfront Centre, the main venue of the Ashkenaz festival.

Anybody can take part in some aspect of the parade, be it as stilt-walker, costumed character, mask-maker or banner-holder.

Volunteers are urgently needed to make giant puppets, costumes and banners. Work alongside professional artists to build anything from Yiddish culture-inspired hats and festive schmattes, to giant puppets and banners.

Everyone in the family can help get costumes and props ready. Parade production continues until Sept. 3 at the Bloor JCC at 750 Spadina Ave. Production hours are 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., Sunday to Friday.

The 1999 parade team is led by Anne Barber, artistic co-director of the award-winning, Toronto Island-based Shadowland Theatre, specializing in the highly visual theatre of mask, puppetry and outdoor spectacle.

The team will be joined by international theatre artist from the United Kingdom, Peter Kiddle. Kiddle founded the Theatre of Public Works, which creates participatory theatre projects with communities all over the world.

For more information, call 203-0946 or the Ashkenaz volunteer hotline at 410-9851.

Ashkenaz will offer an array of Yiddish performances

By ERIC STEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — The third edition of the biennial Ashkenaz Festival of New Yiddish Culture promises to be the biggest and most spectacular yet, with over 175 artists from 10 countries converging on Toronto's Harbourfront Centre between Aug. 30 and Sept. 6.

With the vast array of artistic offerings and jam-packed performance schedule (most events are free), it will take some shrewd decisions to figure out which concerts to attend. The following are some recommendations to assist your festival planning.

If you see only one act at this year's festival, it ought to be the internationally renowned ensemble Brave Old World. For a decade now, BOW has led the pack in defining the direction of contemporary Yiddish music.

Their virtuosic musicianship, spectacular dynamics and inventive arrangements of traditional Yiddish melodies are incomparable. They bring a profound sense of innovation to the music, mixing in jazz and classical elements while remaining firmly rooted in a Yiddish sound.

On Sept. 4, they will showcase their regular concert repertoire, featuring music from their most recent CD, the groundbreaking *Blood Oranges*.

On Sept. 5, the group will present their awe-inspiring *Songs of the Lodz Ghetto, 1940-1993*, a brilliant program featuring music created in the Nazi ghetto of Lodz, Poland, as well as a few of their own contemporary compositions. A moving, soulful, and incredibly uplifting performance, this is not to be missed. It is a ticketed event so buy early.

One of the musical highlights of this year's festival will be the specially commissioned Ashkenaz Orchestra Project, a 20-piece ensemble featuring the top klezmer musicians in the world. This supergroup will present six new compositions created specifically for the event. Combining klezmer, jazz, middle eastern, and Roma styles, the group is sure to shatter boundaries and excite audiences with a huge sound and scintillating virtuosity. (Sept. 1 and 2 – a ticketed event)

Klezmer Conservatory Band.

Renowned New York jazz trumpeter Dave Douglas and his group, Charms of the Midnight Sky, will perform a specially commissioned tribute to the late clarinetist Dave Tarras, the "father of Yiddish-American Klezmer music." This concert promises an exciting marriage of traditional American klezmer styling with contemporary avant-garde arrangements and stunning musicianship. (Sept. 1 and 2 – a ticketed event)

Boston's 12-piece Klezmer Conservatory Band has been at the heart of the klezmer revival since it began two decades ago. The favored choice among the older set, their big-band sound draws mostly from the style and repertoire of the great American-Jewish klezmorim of the interwar period. If you want to hear standards like *Rumania, Rumania*, this

Continued on page 58

LifeStyle

Advertising Feature

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In Canada, Party City has also met with great customer response. Party City President Michael Shneer identifies three reasons for this success: variety of merchandise, deep discounted prices and great service.

Shneer stated "the response from the Jewish community to our Woodbridge and North York superstores has been outstanding, but many Jewish customers in Thornhill and Richmond Hill areas have been asking us to open a superstore." In response, Party City has just opened, a new, conveniently located superstore at 7171 Yonge Street (just North of Steeles, beside Hy & Zels).

With over 20,000 items in every superstore, Party City offers Canada's largest selection of party merchandise, and a constant inflow of new products. No matter what you're planning, gala event or informal get-together, everything you need is here.

Looking forward to Fall? There are fall and back to school supplies. Thinking ahead to your next big occasion — maybe even next Chanukah or Pesach? There's a huge range of plates, cups, napkins, table covers and other items with Chanukah or Pesach designs.

Everyday catering supplies include steam and roaster pans, platters, foil containers, trays, serving bowls, and cake decorating products. (You can take cake decorating lessons, too!). Paperware, plastic dishes, cutlery and accessories come in hundreds of patterns and colours.

There are thousands of items and accessories for weddings, showers, and anniversaries from the 1st to the 50th, including customized invitations and thank you cards. Bridal accessories range from confetti to place cards, car pompoms to garter belts.

Here's everything you need for Bar/Bat Mitzvahs, birthdays, sweet 16's and graduations, including a humungous loot bag and favour selection. There's a vast variety of hats, horns, banners, pinatas, candles, giftwrap, ribbons, bows, bags, centrepieces, balloon sandweights, inflatable guitars and glowsticks, along with many new party ideas.

Costumes, masks, wigs, makeup and accessories are in stock year-round, for every season, religious or secular. For example, Party City carries Canada's biggest Hallowe'en selection, much of which is suitable for Purim.

You can rent helium tanks to fill balloons, or have Party City fill them. "We sell a dozen helium-filled latex balloons for only $8.99," Shneer points out, "while others charge more than $13 per dozen."

By operating large-scale, Party City earns huge purchasing discounts which it passes on to it's customers in the form of everyday low prices. With its lowest price guarantee policy, Party City promises to beat any competitor's prices by 15%.

Party City has become a destination point for buying greeting cards because they sell Carlton cards at 40% off the suggested retail price — lower than anywhere else in Canada. And while Party City stocks many of the same wedding or Bar/Bat Mitzvah invitation books as other stores, they discount the book prices by 25%.

Staff are party mavens, eager to give you all the time and assistance you need. Free checklists help you choose and plan; shelves are kept fully stocked; every store carries the same huge inventory, and is constantly replenished through computerized tracking.

Party City's superstores are bright, clean and spacious, exuding a festive atmosphere. You'll enjoy shopping here. Shneer promises "You won't find a bigger selection at the guaranteed lowest prices anywhere else in Canada."

There are 15 Southern Ontario area locations. For the new 7171 Yonge Street store, call 905-771-9438. For the Woodbridge store, at 156 Chrislea Rd. at Hwys. #400 & #7, call 905-856-2125. For the North York store at Lawrence and Victoria Park call 416–755–2552. For information on all other stores, call 905-761-1249 ext. 21.

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Jewish writers being showcased at Ashkenaz

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Ashkenaz, at Harbourfront from Aug. 30 to Sept. 6, is known primarily as a musical celebration offering a profusion of fusion jazz, klezmer and other toe-tapping musical forms in performance.

In counterpoint to the music, this third biennial festival of new Yiddish culture also features a handful of intriguing literary events involving some of Canada's most talented writers on Jewish themes. (A few American writers have been added for good measure.)

On Aug. 31 at 7 p.m. in the Brigantine Room, three Toronto writers read from their work in a free event called Reading the Diaspora. Novelist Cary Fagan, poet Libby (Liebe) Scheier and playwright Jason Sherman are among the city's best-known scribes, Jewish or not. Given their respective talents, they would probably each be famous by now if they were living in the United States.

Re-Imagining the Shtetl (Premiere Dance Theatre, Sept. 1, 7 p.m.) brings together the acclaimed Montreal Yiddish novelist Yehuda Elberg (*Ship of the Hunted, The Empire of Kalman the Cripple*) with Toronto-based novelist Lilian Nattel (*The River Midnight*) and the American scholar Yaffa Eliach, author of a recent monumental study of the Polish shtetl Eishyshok (*There Once Was A World*).

After working with a translator to render two of his books into English, Elberg sent the pair of manuscripts to Syracuse University Press two years ago for consideration. Both were promptly accepted, and have been greeted with exultant critical acclaim. In a feature review, the *Globe and Mail* hailed Elberg as a literary master.

Lillian Nattel

Although some 45 years Elberg's junior, the 40-something Nattel has also produced raves from the likes of the *New York Times*, *Time* magazine and other international publications for her first novel, *The River Midnight*. Focusing on life in a 19th-century Polish shtetl, the award-winning book is due for a third printing in Canada. It has also been published in the United States, England, and in Germany, Italy and Holland in translation.

Nattel, who visited Poland for the first time last spring, plans to talk about her trip as well as read from her book during Re-Imagining the Shtetl, one of the relatively few events at Ashkenaz to charge admission ($8).

In addition to his involvement with Re-Imagining the Shtetl, Elberg is giving a free lecture entitled The Music of a Jewish Sigh (Urban Square Tent, Sept. 6, 4 p.m.) Eliach, too, is lecturing on Restoring a Vanished Past: Its Life, Time and Humor (Urban Square Tent, Sept. 2, 8:30 p.m., free).

Justin Lewis, a writer, storyteller and Judaic scholar who divides his time between Toronto and New York, has unearthed an amazing 500-year-old manuscript by an unknown author who describes the bitter and bawdy lives of Jewish women in both contemporaneous and biblical times, in "a juicy, rhyming Yiddish." In Smart, Strong, Sexy and Frum: Women of the Bible in a Medieval Yiddish Manuscript, Lewis discusses the recently rediscovered manuscript, and reads from his own translation-in-progress. (Urban Square Tent, Tues. Aug. 31, 6 p.m., free)

Ashkenaz's Finf-Un-Tsen (5 & 10) Literary Cabaret assembles more than a dozen Canadian writers for three free readings.

The talent includes Donia B. Clenman, Ann Decter, Diane Flacks, Jonathan Garfinkle, Susan Glickman, Joseph Kertes, Shel Krakofsky, Hal Niedzviecki, Emily Pohl-Weary, Michael Redhill, Karen Shenfeld, Ken Sherman, Simcha Simchovitch, Nathalie Stephens and Martin Waxman (Urban Square Tent, Sept 1 at 9:30 p.m.; Sept. 5 at 6 p.m.; and Sept. 6 at 2:30 p.m.)

San Francisco writers Marcia Falk and Max Apple are also giving readings. For information on these and other Ashkenaz events, call Harbourfront information at 973-3000 or the box office at 973-4000.

Yaffa Eliach

A 'reel' treat for film lovers

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Ashkenaz, the festival of new Yiddish culture, which starts on Aug. 30, has a film festival in store for movie fans.

Called the Reel Ashkenaz Film Series, and curated by Marc Glassman, it gets under way on Aug. 30 at 6:30 p.m. with a screening of *Great Cantors of the Golden Age* (United States).

Murray Simon's 1990 documentary celebrates chazzanut, the cantorial art. By his estimation, chazzanut flourished in Europe in the decades before World War II, when cantors like David Roitman, Yosele Rosenblatt, Adolph Katchko and Mordechai Hershman were considered stars.

They were famous for the pitch of their voices, the clarity of their diction and the pathos of their sobs and sighs.

As Simon says, among the best of the best were Rosenblatt, who was renowned for his baritone and his falsettos, and Hershman, whose purity of voice could have enabled him to be an opera singer.

This documentary is based, in part, on Joseph Seiden's 1931 film, *The Voice of Yiddish*.

In addition, the following films will be shown.

Aug. 31, 5:30 p.m. *Chants of Sand and Stars* (France, Holland and Israel) traces the history of the Diaspora through music.

Aug. 31, 9:30 p.m. *The Golem* (Germany), a silent film classic, is accompanied by Justin Haymes.

Sept. 1, 6:30 p.m. A showcase of American, German and Canadian shorts address issues of their time. *Cantor on Trial* (United States), *The Legend of Mrs. Goldman and Almighty God* (Germany), *Punim* (Germany), *The Cowboy* (United States), *Gimpel the Fool* (United States), *White* (Canada), *In November, 1943* (Canada) and *How I learned to Relax and Love the Golem* (Canada).

Sept. 1, 10 p.m. *The Purim Jester* (Poland). Joseph Green's 1937 Yiddish drama, starring Miriam Kressyn and Hymie Jacobson, is set in a Galician shtetl.

Sept. 2, 5 p.m. *Sabbath in Paradise* (Germany) theorizes that cultural expression is at the core of contemporary Jewish life.

Sept. 2, 9:30 p.m. *Children Must Laugh* (Poland). Directed by the legendary Aleksander Ford in 1935, and banned because of its outspokenness concerning anti-Semitism, this is a blend of fact and fiction.

Sept. 4, 8 p.m. *The South: Alice Never Lived Here* (Israel) explores the roots of a Sephardi woman who holds that Sephardim are second class citizens in Israel.

Sept. 5, 1:30 p.m. *Our Children* (Poland). The acclaimed Yiddish comedians, Shimon Dzigan and Yisroel Shumacher, return to their homes in the wake of the Holocaust.

Sept. 6, 11:30 a.m. A selection of animated shorts for children of all ages. *Almonds and Wine, The Man Who Stole Dreams, Pies, I'm Your Man, Tender Tale of Cinderella Penguin* and *Onions and Garlic*.

All films will be screened at the Studio Theatre.

For further information, call 416-973-3000.

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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

BOOK DELIVERS LITHUANIAN LORE

New York's YIVO Institute has partnered with the Wayne State University Press in Detroit to produce an English-language version of a book by Jewish educator and essayist **Hirsz Abramowicz** (1881-1960) that illuminates cultural and social life in Lithuania and neighboring territories before 1939.

Profiles of A Lost World: Memoirs of East European Jewish Life before World War II is a literary hybrid: it's part memoir, part historical and ethnographic study, and part biographical dictionary of some leading cultural figures of the era. Abramowicz wrote some of the essays contemporaneously as a young writer with a bright future ahead of him, and the rest in retrospect as a Jewish refugee in postwar New York, having lost his wife, relatives and friends in the Holocaust.

While the focus is the city of Vilna, known as the Jerusalem of Lithuania, Abramowicz also devotes considerable space to describing the Lithuanian countryside and its Jewish population in essays such as *Rural Jewish Occupations in Lithuania* and *The Diet of Lithuanian Jews.*

Chaim Bialik, **Mendele Mokher Sforim**, **I.L. Peretz**, **Achad Ha'am** and **Chaim Weizmann** are only some of the personalities Abramowicz describes, having encountered all of these figures through his involvement in the lively cultural scene that the government attempted to suppress.

First published in Yiddish some 40 years ago, Abramowicz's book was edited in part by his daughter, **Dina Abramowicz**, a longtime librarian at the YIVO Institute, who also supplied a chapter on her father's life and work.

Anyone interested in Jewish life in prewar eastern Europe should find *Profiles of A Lost World* an engrossing read.

* * *

Movie News: Country music singer **Dolly Parton** has paid an amount in the "low six figures" for the rights to *The Jew Store*, a memoir by **Stella Suberman** about being Jewish in the American South.

The book is based on the experiences of the Bronson family, who moved in the 1920s from the Bronx to a Tennessee town, where they ran a dry goods store. Parton hopes to produce a movie based on the material.

* * *

Holy Land Photographs: Photographer **Neil Fox** has produced Psalms of Renaissance, a new solo exhibit of photos of vistas from the Middle East. The photographs are rendered in brilliant saturated colors, utilizing a process called Dye Transfer.

Opens Sept. 9 and runs until Oct. 30 at Gallery Arcturus, 80 Gerrard St. E., 977-1077. Opening reception, Sept. 9, 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

* * *

Writing Workshop: Award-winning writer **Cary Fagan** is offering a fiction workshop this fall. Fagan is the highly acclaimed author of six books of fiction, including the recent novel *Felix Roth* and the children's book, *Gogol's Coat.*

For several years Fagan has been conducting fiction writing workshops for the University of Toronto and the Toronto Writing Workshop. This fall, however, he is running his workshop independently for the first time. It begins Monday Oct. 18 and runs for eight weeks. The location is Fagan's studio on Lonsdale Road in Forest Hill. The cost is $200.

"I find teaching a very rewarding experience," Fagan says. "There is nothing I like better than to talk about fiction and how it works with a group of passionate writers. There is always something interesting in a new piece of writing, even by a beginning writer.

"I think my strength as a teacher is being able to see what a writer is struggling to get out and helping them to find the way."

The workshop is open to writers at all levels. To register, call 489-1071.

Travel books offer interesting views of European countries

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

With the bustle of the summer tourist season just about over, now might be the perfect time to consider a European vacation.

If your destination is France, look no further than *Discovering the Villages of France* (Raincoast) by Michael Busselle.

With the ease of a seasoned traveller, he describes picturesque burgs – such as Riquewihr in Alsace and Vezelay in Burgundy – you can easily visit. The book is lavishly illustrated with color photographs of the places he recommends.

Should you be thinking solely of southern France, which is known for its golden beaches and snow-capped mountains, *Province & the Cote d'Azur* (Raincoast) will fit the bill.

Spain is alluring, and one of its most stylish cities is Barcelona. If you're heading that way, read *Barcelona* (Raincoast).

There is much more to Scotland than its fabled highlands and its vast lochs. If you're tempted, try reading *Scotland* (Raincoast).

Lying on the edge of Scotland's Firth of Forth, Edinburgh can be delightful if you know where to go. *Edinburgh* (Raincoast) will lead you in the right directions.

Renowned for its wilderness areas, Finland has 187,000 lakes and 179,000 islands. But, of course, Finland offers more than just beautiful scenery, as you'll discover by reading *Finland* (Raincoast).

If you plan to be in the Czech Republic, Austria or Hungary any time soon, you'll probably be interested in perusing *Cheap Eats in Prague, Vienna and Budapest* (Raincoast). As the saying goes, armies march on their stomachs.

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The Kabbalistic Psychoanalysis of Adam R. Tzaddik by Moriah Productions (Toronto) Sept. 4 & 5, $14/$12/$10

The Golem (Poland/USA) A silent film with live music With Alan Bern Aug. 31 with Daniel Hoffman Quartet Sept. 5, $8

Brave Old World's Song of the Lodz Ghetto (USA) Sept. 5, $12/$8

Ashkenaz Fidl Kapelye (International) Sept. 6, $8

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Musical lineup at Ashkenaz '99 bigger and more versatile

Continued from page 54

is the concert to see. (Aug. 30 – a ticketed event)

Unofficially representing New York's so-called Radical Jewish Culture movement, the brilliant clarinetist David Krakauer will perform with his avant-garde, genre-bending ensemble, Klezmer Madness. An intense event that is sure to shatter the senses (and possibly the eardrum) with equal turns of shrieking rambunctiousness, dissonant chaos, and funky urban rhythms. Don't bring your bubbie and zayde to this one. (Sept. 4 and 5).

Advocates of "authenticity" will enjoy the archaic sound of Khevrisa, a mini-supergroup modelled on the east European klezmer *kapelye* of the 19th century. With traditional instrumentation (*prima* and *sekund* violins, cymbalom, and bass) and repertoire gleaned from the oldest known recording and folk song collections, Khevrisa's academic yet soulful approach hearkens back to the days before klezmer was "corrupted" by American influences.

Material will range from solemn *nigguns* to lively *freilachs*. The group will also discuss the history and social context within which the old-time *kapelye* functioned. (Sept. 5)

Ever wonder what a typical village wedding is like in the southeastern corner of Europe? Check out legendary Bulgarian saxophonist Yuri Yanakov's presentation of Balkan, Rom and Turkish-influenced wedding music. This raucous and thoroughly contemporary form is known for its ridiculously fast tempos, unfathomable rhythms, and searing virtuosity, and is sure to blow the minds of all in attendance. Not for the faint of heart. (Sept. 2 and 4)

For a more contemplative experience, don't miss the beautifully rendered interpretations of Yiddish vocal and instrumental nuggets by Brooklyn's Deborah Strauss and Jeff Warschauer Duo. This husband and wife team, also of the Klezmer Conservatory Band, perform with passion, vitality and a refined elegance. Their performances range from exquisitely mellow to joyously upbeat. (Aug. 31)

David Krakauer will surely shatter the senses.

Another virtuosic duo, making their first North American appearance, is Klezmer en Buenos Aires. They could prove to be the sleeper hit of the festival. With unique interpretations of klezmer and Yiddish standards, incorporating small doses of jazz and tango, the pair's stunning, nearly telepathic interplay is sure to captivate. (Sept. 1, 4 and 6)

Toronto's vibrant Yiddish music scene is represented by The Flying Bulgar Band, whose jazz and Latin-inflected innovations have taken them so far beyond their roots that they dropped the word klezmer from their name. (Aug. 31 and Sept. 5)

For more orthodox stylings check out local stalwarts Hu-Tsa-Tsa, who balance tradition and originality in their dynamic interpretations of klezmer standards. (Sept. 6)

More eclectic is Czech-born Torontonian Lenka Lichtenberg, who combines Middle-Eastern, eastern European, and contemporary music in an expressive and moving style, backed by a hot band of local players. (Sept. 5)

Also worth seeing are Flying Bulgars Marilyn Lerner and Dave Wall, who promise intriguing jazz-influenced compositions set to contemporary Jewish poetry. (Sept. 1 and 6)

On Sept. 3, Ashkenaz takes a break, but diehard klezmaniacs can catch an unaffiliated event at the Free Times Cafe (320 College St.), where locals Beyond the Pale will present their unique form of klezmer and east-European fusion, joined by special guest Eve Monzingo of the Chicago Klezmer Ensemble.

Other musical events worth noting include lectures and workshops on klezmer and related musical styles by Hankus Netsky (Aug. 31), Yuri Yanakov (Sept. 2), and Zev Feldman (Sept. 6).

Last, but not least, the Festival All-Star Dance Party should be a raucous affair, enlivened by the musical mayhem of a throw-together band of top klezmorim who will attempt to make you dance until your legs fall off. (Sept. 5) Check the festival program for all scheduling.

Klezmer en Buenos Aires.

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Arts & Travel

Paris is alive with the bright light of Jewish life

By CURT LEVIANT and ERIKA PFEIFER LEVIANT
Special to the CJN

PARIS — The old saying that Paris is the City of Lights is even truer now that all the older floodlights that used to illuminate the famous landmarks have been replaced with super-bright halogen lights.

This lighting, which in its intensity almost imitates daylight, has transformed the city at night. It glitters like an extended sparkling necklace. Among the gems glinting in the night are the Arch of Triumph, the Louvre, and crowning them all, the Eiffel Tower.

But Paris is also a city of lights of another kind — the bright light of Jewish life. With the exception of the period of expulsion from France in 1395 – no Jews were known to be in Paris in the 15th and 16th centuries – Jewish residence in France and in Paris has been almost continuous for 1,400 years.

France was the first European nation to grant Jews citizenship and there have been three Jewish prime ministers – Leon Blum, Rene Mayer, and Pierre Mendes-France.

It was in Paris at The Castille, on quiet rue Cambon (just behind the Ritz) where Theodore Herzl wrote *The Jewish State*. By coincidence, we stayed in that very hotel.

A modern and stylish hotel, the Castille, publicizes its Herzl connection. Above the main entrance, a plaque in French and in Hebrew, reads: "In this house, in 1895, Benjamin Ze'ev Herzl, founder of the Zionist movement, wrote his prophetic book, *The Jewish State*, which foresaw the re-establishment of a Jewish state in Israel."

The Castille located in the heart of Paris, is within walking distance of two of the most famous and beautiful synagogues in Paris – the grand cathedral synagogue on rue Victoire, built in 1874, and the slightly smaller, but an equally dazzling building on rue Buffault.

In France, shuls are generally not known by congregational name, but by the name of the street on which they are located. Both congregations welcomed visitors, inviting them to partake of the beautiful kiddush after Sabbath services.

A good place to begin one's tour of Jewish Paris is the area around rue des Rosiers, in the historic Marais district. Known as the Pletzl (Yiddish for little place or square) it was the Juiverie – the Jewish residential quarter – some 700 years ago when rue des Rosiers was called the Street of the Jews.

Here is a picturesque part of old Paris within walking distance of the new Picasso Museum. On its narrow, winding streets one can find synagogues, little prayer rooms, schools, kosher restaurants, groceries, bakeries, bookstores, falafel stands, and kosher pizza bars.

Brimming with life, the place is reminiscent of New York's Lower East Side during its heyday. Invariably, Jews dressed in chassidic garb will be seen.

Be sure to visit the rue Pavee synagogue, which was designed by Hector Guimard, the same architect who made the famous art nouveau decoration for the Paris Metro.

Nearby is another not-to-be-missed site of Jewish Paris – the Memorial to the Deported, by the Seine River. This monument, a short walk from the Notre Dame Cathedral and its riverside walking path, is dedicated to French Jews who were victims of the Holocaust.

A second Holocaust monument, called the Memorial to the Unknown Jewish Martyrs, is located on rue Geoffrey-l'Ansier. An adjoining building housing a small museum and library is open 10 a.m. to noon and 2 to 5 p.m. every day but Saturday.

Another lively Jewish area is located along the rue Richer, the street which formerly had at its centre the famed — but now closed —Folies Bergeres. Here too you can find kosher restaurants, Tunisian bakeries, snack bars, and the Colbo, one of the largest Jewish bookstores in Paris.

The works of famous Jewish artists who lived in Paris —Camille Pissarro, Marc Chagall, Chaim Soutine, Amedeo Modigliani — can be seen in many of the major museums. As well, the Bibliotheque Nationale has a rich and variegated collection of Hebrew manuscripts, which can be viewed with written permission obtained in advance.

Judaism is alive and well in Paris and there are now about 50 synagogues. The mass migration of North African Jews in the early 1960s re-invigorated a community on the decline. The Ashkenazi Jews, tend to be very assimilated and are prone to intermarriage.

This story illustrates the changes the French Jewish community has undergone. The Chief Rabbi of France and the Archbishop of France meet at the Eiffel Tower. Which one of them speaks Yiddish? Answer – the Archbishop. Cardinal Lustiger, a Jewish Holocaust survivor, converted to Catholicism. The Chief Rabbi, who is Sephardi, does not know Yiddish.

Today, there are some 700,000 Jews in France – about 350,000 reside in Paris – making France the fourth largest community of Jews in the world, after the United States, Israel and the former Soviet Union.

If you travel outside of Paris, be sure to buy a France Rail Pass before you leave Canada (it cannot be bought in France). It dramatically reduces costs and helps one avoid the long ticket lines.

Another useful advance purchase is the three-day or week-long museum pass, which reduces the cost of museums and is also a time saver. The pass is issued in conjunction with a Metro subway discount card.

Walking is the best way to see Paris. But if you're there only for a few days, take a few of the city and out-of-city tours. We recommend the famed Paris Bus Tours, which picks you up at your hotel. We took a full day excursion combining the major landmarks and sites of Paris in the morning with an afternoon trip to the countryside to see Versailles.

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Health

Remember three As when school starts

TORONTO — Forget about the three Rs. As the school year approaches, countless children are learning about the three As, as in alone, anxious and afraid.

While September is a time of exciting new experiences – new classmates, and new subjects – that in itself can also make it a season of worry says Dr. Gary Freeman, a child psychologist at North York General Hospital.

"It's the great unknown," says Freeman. "In some ways, starting school is like starting a new job, but adults know what to expect. Children might lack a frame of reference. They think no one else gets the jitters."

Freeman offers these tips on how parents can help their children prepare for the school year. Some of these are especially applicable to younger children.

• Talk to your child about his or her feelings about school. Get into some specific causes of anxiety, such as saying goodbye to the parents, being left alone in the classroom and making new friends. Emphasize the positive aspects of school. And don't just have one discussion. Bring the subject up as often as you need to put the child more at ease.

• Share your own experience of starting school, and how you learned to handle it.

• Get ready for the end of summer by changing some routines. Eating, sleeping and wake up times should become more regular so that children can ease into the school schedule. Do this at least one week before school starts.

• To help children get ready for homework, parents can start structuring some school-like activities at home, such as reading time.

• Take your children along when you go back-to-school shopping, and involve them in picking out their school clothes and supplies (even if it's just one or two inexpensive items, like markers).

• Visit the school before the first day of class, just to walk through the hallways and the classrooms, and to meet some of the staff if possible. (If you have any specific concerns about your child's adjustment, share these in advance with your child's teachers and principal.)

BAYCREST WOMEN'S AUXILIARY EXECUTIVE

The Women's Auxiliary at Baycrest Centre has announced its new president and executive for 1999 to 2001. From left: vice-presidents Heather Goose and Gloria Gordon, president Susan Fenwick, immediate past president Mimi Greenspoon, vice-presidents Joy Gales and Honey Sherman.

Lowering risk of heart disease

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Most people know deep down that proper diet, exercise, and a healthy lifestyle can substantially lower the risk of heart disease. What they often are not too clear on, is just what this all means.

Enter Rob Myers, 35, a staff cardiologist at Toronto's Sunnybrook Health Science Centre, and a lecturer at the University of Toronto Department of Medicine at Sunnybrook.

His recent book *Take It To Heart: your complete guide to preventing and treating heart disease* (ECW Press, 1998) is a detailed and comprehensive discussion of the subject. The breezy, conversational tone, replete with jokes, makes it easy to read.

Myers told *The CJN* that he deliberately wrote the book that way, so that it would be "more digestible," and people would be more likely to read – and reread – the whole thing.

"Doctors often don't have the time to spend with patients discussing lifestyle issues," said Myers, adding that "it is easy to give a pill, but most of the treatment for heart disease takes place out of the office. It is up to the patient to take responsibility for his own health."

Most people don't, he acknowledged. "Seventy percent of those who have their first heart attack are smokers. Twenty-five percent die before they even reach the hospital," since they either can't recognize the symptoms of heart disease, or they don't take them seriously.

While the classic signs of a heart attack are severe pain in the centre of the chest and more pain radiating down the left arm, Myers said, symptoms can, in fact, be as deceptive as an ache in the jaw, or shortness of breath.

Myers insists that it is not that difficult to educate oneself about heart disease – "in a couple of weeks or so people can turn themselves around."

Moderating risk factors is clearly shown to limit, or even reverse, progression of the disease, he said.

Myers is strongly opposed to alternative medicine, saying at one point in *Take It to Heart*: "Those who advocate alfalfa juice for medicinal benefit are usually selling it."

People have to be careful and critical about information. "[A treatment] either works or it doesn't. You have to find out if it does what it claims to do (after all, you are putting something into your system), and look at the evidence. Is the information accurate? Can the results be reproduced under scientific conditions?"

Take It To Heart is not just a "how-to" book. Myers does not just tell you to eat a low-fat, high fibre diet, rich in fruits, vegetables and grains, but explains how each element contributes to a healthy heart and a healthy body.

He covers newer concepts such as the benefits of Omega 3 fat (as is found in fish), target heart rate, and white coat hypertension (normal blood pressure that changes when it is being measured by a health professional). His discussion on these topics includes tables.

About Nutrition

By LISA WEINBERG

As we get our kids ready to go back to school, I often have discussions with parents about the struggle of sending a healthy lunch to school, as well as about getting kids to eat breakfast.

Here are some important pointers to make this a little easier. First, anything at breakfast is better than nothing at all. So, I'd rather see a child eat a chocolate chip cookie for breakfast than have no breakfast.

Also, breakfast doesn't have to be eaten sitting at the kitchen table. Mornings are rushed in most households; don't feel guilty about your child eating cheese and crackers in the car, a granola bar at the bus stop or an apple in the schoolyard.

As adults, we usually like variety in what we eat, but children often do not. Don't lose sleep over your child wanting the same sandwich every day for lunch. If it's reasonably healthy and they're eating it, then you're OK.

From my experience, disguising food as Mickey Mouse will not get a child to eat something they don't like, so in most cases, save your time and creativity for a play activity and feed your children foods they like.

Lisa Weinberg is a registered dietitian/nutritionist, specializing in pediatric and adult nutrition in Toronto. If you have any nutrition questions send them to The CJN.

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28 MAIMONIDES COURT! 4+1 BEDROOMS, 4 BATHS
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$449K! Unbelievable! Prestige cul-de-sac! Gorgeous lot! Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

1ST AD! 38 RED ROCK DRIVE! 5 YEARS NEW!
3,000+ sq. ft., 5 bedrooms, finished basement, pie shaped lot. Richard Sherman** 866-9999 or 226-1987

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CONDOMINIUMS

ST. CLAIR/AVENUE RD. $469,000
Unique 2 bedroom + den, 1 suite per floor, citywide view. Richard Sherman** 866-9999 or 226-1987

260 HEATH STREET WEST! NOW $295K!
Spectacular 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, large terrace with panoramic ravine views! Sandon Schwartzben** 226-1987

** Associate Broker * Sales Representative

REAL ESTATE Section

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

Paul Slavens
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FINE HOMES

PRIME YORKVILLE CONDO - $749,000.
1st time offered. Exceptional 2600 sq. ft. suite with wonderful entertaining areas & sweeping views from all principal rooms. Numerous upgrades. *Linda Rose.

• • •

UPPER VILLAGE - $499,000.
Updated 3+ bdrms. home. SOLD kitchen. Leaded windows. Marble fireplace. Finished lower level. Lovely garden. Private drive. *Leslie Dennis.

• • •

FOREST HILL - $549,000.
Fabulous 4 bdrm. centre hall plan. Reno'd kitchen w/walk out to deck. Finished lower level. Built-in garage. Prof. landscaped garden. Steps to schools & subway. *Leslie Dennis.

• • •

CASTLEFIELD AVENUE - PRIME LOCATION
$259,000. Rare 4 bdrm. semi, full of original charm. Large principal rms. Fireplace. Beautiful leaded glass windows. Deep lot. Walk to subway. *Carol Cotton.

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FAIRLAWN/YONGE - NEW HOMES
Exceptional custom built homes on 150 ft. deep lots. Approx. 2,500 sq. ft. plus finished lower level. Private drive and garage. Choose your finishes. **Don Wagman.

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Outstanding family home. 3+1 bedrooms. Oversized eat-in kitchen. Large family room. Finished lower level. *Linda Rose/*Barbara Kaplan. SOLD

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Lrge. store + 2 apts., fully rented, well-maint. bldg., busy location, good income.

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THORNHILL, 4 bedrooms, 2 storey, good-sized rooms, central air, walk to public transit, $309,000.

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Spacious 2 bdrm., solarium, fam. room, move-in condition, newly decorated, well-maintained building, only $181,500. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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Spacious ranch bungalow! 4 bedrooms, 54 x 138 ft. lot, prestigious location, asking $437,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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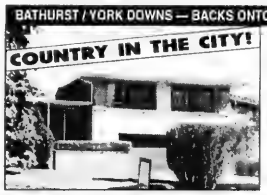

Spacious side-split on 70 x 200 ft. lot (irregular), serene private setting. **ACT NOW ON THIS EXQUISITE PROPERTY!** Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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Main floor library, finished basement, in-law suite, sun room off kitchen, asking $349,000. Call Esther Rubenstein (416) 787-1712.

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3 + 1 bedroom detached bungalow, sep. entry to in-law suite, close to all amenities, only $329,000! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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3 + 2 bedrooms, hardwood floors, eat-in kitchen, sep. entry to two in-law suites, fabulous location close to all amenities. Only $269,000 — **ACT NOW!** Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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7 bedroom home, dream maple kitchen, oversized breakfast room, w/o to deck, gorgeous finished basement. Close to BAYT, shops, TTC. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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PRIME THORNHILL – JUST LISTED
Designer décor. Extensively renovated plus addition. Walk to synagogue. Only $419,000. Call David Zaikin*

1ST AD - RENOVATED 3 BEDROOM $389,000
Desirable cedarvale, shows to perfection, gorgeous kitchen, $$$ upgrades. Natalie Kopman*

BATHURST/EGLINTON $4,000/MONTH
Very lge. backsplit, excel. loc., new kit., new appls, 4+1 bdrms., 45' fam. rm., lib., available immediately. Arlette Carmona*

BATHURST/GLENCAIRN LUXURY CONDO
$389K. Spacious 2 bdrm. apt., prestigious bldg. Ron Haber**

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Drewry/Gardenia. 3,600 sq. ft. plus bsmnt., 4+2 bedrooms, 5 baths - 3 ensuites, jacuzzi + sauna. Incredible home.

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Bath./S. of Steeles - 4 bdrm., side split on quiet cres. near park, school, shuls. 1 block from TTC, lot 58 x 130, huge fam. room & master bdrm., fin. bsmt., many, extras. $349,900. Or rent with option to purchase. 416-492-4646.

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500 GLENCAIRN AVE./BATHURST • 1 bedroom + den • South exp.• Over 1,000 sq. ft. • 2 baths • Ensuite laundry • Marble • Sabbath elevator • **Open House Sunday 2 - 5**

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UNIT # 604 – SOLD Top Dollar!
UNIT # 407 – SOLD Top Dollar*

155 MARLEE AVENUE
UNIT # 1004 – SOLD 102% Of Asking Price!
UNIT # 1703 – SOLD Top Dollar!

DORIS ENDER

500 GLENCAIRN AVENUE
UNIT # 205 – SOLD Top Dollar*
*Provided Buyer

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100 Antibes - 3 bdrm., 2 bth., for rent or sale. 416-638-0647.

55 ACCOMMODATION WANTED

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70 UNIVERSITY ACCOMMODATION

Jewish home seeks n/smkg female to rent room. Avail immed. Pkg., cable., lau. incl. Furn or non. Board avail. $650+. Karen 905-770-9136, evenings.

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Thornhill, semi-priv. bsmt. apt., shul, male, $375. 905-886-2273

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631-9377 or 631-0388 - Super

34 Carscadden Drive. Luxurious apt. bldg. near Bathurst & Sheppard. Now accepting applications. Super, 416-398-3628.

Bath./Wilson, lux. 1 bdr, pool, a/c.$1100/mo.Sept 1. 789-0828

Finch/Wilmington, cozy 1 bdr. bsmt. apt, furn., sep. entr., TTC, pkg., n/smkrs., refs. 635-5956.

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FABULOUS LOW-RISE CONDO!!
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UNIT # 205 – SOLD Top Dollar*
*Provided Buyer

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82 ROOM FOR RENT

Bath/Steeles; furn., non-smoking female, kosher kitchen, $500/month. 905-761-7746.

105 COTTAGE FOR SALE

Belle Ewart - Lakefront, shared lot, 3 bdrm., equipped, no agents. 905-881-3317.

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Delray Beach, Florida
FURN - BOBBY JONES
2 BR 2 BA + DEN $115,000 FAB VIEW.
BEAUTIFUL FURN 2 BR 2 BA + DEN INCL GOLF WITH GREAT WATER VIEW $163,000
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DOODY CAPLAN 1-561-495-2279

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***HALLANDALE* - Hallmark** lux. condo, sec., low flr on intercoastal, just north of Hallandale Blvd. Fully furn 2 br, 2 full bth., **n/smkg only.** Avail from Jan 6. min. 3 months. 905-731-0609.

Hemispheres - 2 bdrm., 2 bth., oceanfront, high flr., furn., tennis, etc. Yearly rental only. Call 416-963-8469.

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Naples - 2 bdrm., 2 bth. condo on golf course, gar., tennis, fitness, pools, n/smkrs., Nov, Dec., Apr. Photos. 444-1878.

Tamarac-Lakes Carriage Hills, superb, furn, 2 bdrm, 2 bth, 4 mos. $1200/mo. 905-731-0975.

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Deerfield, Century Village, 1 bdr. for Dec-Mar. 905-738-3350

Wanted to rent at Century Village in Deerfield, 2 bdrms., 2 bths., A/C, for Jan. - Mar. or Feb. - Apr, 2000. 204-475-7932

Century Village, Deerfield, require 1 or 2 bdrm. for one winter month. 514-484-5767.

150 FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION

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Exquisite Jerusalem apt. for rent for holidays. Baka, 2 bdrm., fully furn. in historic old bldg. surrounded by garden. Avail. for all of Sept. until Oct. 4. Prefer adults w/out kids. Newly reno'd. Kosher kit. 2 terraces, 1 useable for Succah. Elegant original windows. 12 ft ceilings. 1 flight up. Rent: $500/wk, but our concern is how you will care for our apt. suzsinger@aol.com or 301-986-1549 (Wash DC area).

160 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE

Ramat Gan - 2 bdrm. fully furn, avail. immed. 416-783-5594.

198 SPACE FOR LEASE

Bath./Lawrence - Bsmnt., semi private entrance, suitable for office. 416-784-9684.

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Beth Sholom Playtime Nursery seeks an Exper. E.C.E. Nursery Teacher for its dynamic & growing parents & tots groups, ages 1-3 years, 4 mornings a week. Only prospective candidates will be contacted. Send resume to: Beth Sholom Playtime Nursery, Search Committee Chairman, 1445 Eglinton Ave. W., Toronto, M6C 2E6 or fax: 416-781-6462.

Executive Secretary is being sought by home based consulting firm (Dufferin/Steeles area). The successful candidate must demonstrate the following capabilities: Excellent customer friendly phone skills, ability to work under tight deadlines, loyalty, impeccable ability to edit rough drafts, heightened sense of organizational capacity, enjoys a good laugh and is excellent on Word and PowerPoint. Salary is commensurate with experience. If you feel you have the above attributes, fax your resume to 416-650-0389, email to sag@netcom.ca or send to P.O. Box 81530 Steeles Ave. W., North York, Ontario, M2R 3X1. (No agencies please)

Exp. sales person needed for Fish Distributor/Wholesaler to bring in new accounts & look after existing ones. Call Rick @ 416-661-1895.

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Kosher chef with 40 yrs. exp seeks f/t, p/t job. 905-731-6049

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MANAGER OF BUSINESS OPERATIONS
The candidate should have a strong financial and administrative background coupled with the following:
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- Experience in a community center or equivalent environment a definite asset

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Fax: (905) 889-9552

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Please send resume to: Chairman, Search Committee
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250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

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Professionally trained Filipino caregivers seeking sponsorship. Call 905-727-3884.

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Live-out nanny req'd mid Sept. in Yonge & Steeles area. Must have exp. with a new born & be avail. for light housekeeping duties. Please Call 905-707-9490.

Mothers Helper. CHAT, high-school or university student req'd. Lawrence & Bayview. Mon. - Thurs., 5-9pm. 385-3311

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275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

A Jewish gentleman, 50's, established, honest, sincere, easy going, humourous, 5'7", seeks non-smoking lady, upto 46 for long term relationship. Call Nathan at 416-544-9459.

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Elderly able man of 90 years, would like female company over 80 years. 416-781-1611.

Very Young Looking sincere, attractive petite, 49 year old Jewish lady wants a refined gentleman with old fashion values for enjoying finer things in life. Age 50-65. Reply P.O. Box 27 CJN, 6900 Decarie Blvd, #341, Montreal, H3X 2T8.

*** CJN Boxes for Personal Companions Wanted ads are valid for 30 (thirty) days only (from 1st publication date). Replies must be received within this time frame in order to be forwarded to the correct CJN Box #.**

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Address your mail to:

The Canadian Jewish News
1500 Don Mills Rd.
Suite 205
North York, Ontario
M3B 3K4
Box # _____

280 ANNOUNCEMENTS

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300 ARTICLES FOR SALE

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NEW Professional air compressor, 125 psi, 3gal tank, good for washing car, home & air brushing.$300.905-450-9553

330 OBITUARIES

APPLEBAUM, Honey Estelle - on Aug. 5, 1999.
FELTON, Esther - on Aug. 5, 1999.
ZOLTY, Ben - on Aug. 5, 1999, late of 116 Barse St.
FEDER, Sofiya - on Aug. 6, 1999.
GRYFE, Freda - on Aug. 6, 1999.
UHR, Morris - on Aug. 6, 1999.
MORDEN, Mary - on Aug. 7, 1999, late of 4001 Leslie St.
LOVICH, Mikhail - on Aug. 9, 1999.
SHADLYN, Marianne - on Aug. 9, 1999, late of 1131 Steeles Ave. W.
BENYAIR, Nina - on Aug. 10, 1999, late of 11 Townsgate Dr.
PEARL, Jack - on Aug. 10, 1999, late of 2 Buchan Crt.
RICHMAN, Yetta - on Aug. 10, 1999, late of 429 Walmer Rd.
PIASECKA, Krystyna - on Aug. 12, 1999.
SOLOMON, Max - on Aug. 12, 1999, late of 7 Farrington Dr.
HARRIS, Ruth - on Aug. 13, 1999.
TAYLOR, Bessie - on Aug. 13, 1999.
BASSKEN, Harry - on Aug. 14, 1999.
BLAIER, Rose - on Aug. 14, 1999.
FREEMAN, Jennie - on Aug. 14, 1999, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
SWAN, Frances - on Aug. 14, 1999, late of 154 Banbury Rd.
COLLIS, Ida - on Aug. 15, 1999, late of 4005 Bayview Ave.
LAT, Shulamit - on Aug. 15, 1999, late of 4300 Bathurst St.
BERGER, John - on Aug. 17, 1999.
MELMAN, Bertha - on Aug. 17, 1999, late of 4415 Bathurst St.
WISEBERG, Fae - on Aug. 17, 1999, late of 35 Canyon Ave.
GOLDSTEIN, Bella - on Aug. 18, 1999, late of 138 Dunblaine Ave.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

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ABRAMOVITZ, Fannie - on July 31, 1999, late of 400 Walmer Rd.
DASH, Eva - on Aug. 1, 1999, late of 668 Roselawn Ave., #807.
BLATT, Sophia - on Aug. 3, 1999, late of 429 Walmer Rd.
VIGODA, Samuel - on Aug. 9, 1999, late of RR#2.

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SIMON, Norman - on Aug. 5, 1999, late of 1035 Eglinton Ave. W.
RITTER, Lou - on Aug. 6, 1999, late of 40 Baif Blvd., #904.
SILVER, Myrna - on Aug. 6, 1999, late of 86 Crimson Millway.
BUDLOVSKY, Joseph - on Aug. 7, 1999, late of 75 Wynford Hgts. Cres., #1405.
KAVIN, Matla - on Aug. 7, 1999, late of 52 Chiswell Cres.
BROOKS, Jack - on Aug. 8, 1999, late of Sunnybrook Health Centre.
FEINBERG, Ethel - on Aug. 8, 1999, late of 2911 Bayview Ave. T.H. 108G.
TORY, Philip - on Aug. 8, 1999, late of 640 Sheppard Ave. E., #507.
ROSEN, Sidney - on Aug. 12, 1999, late of 265 Queens Dr., #207.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
HARRY & TOBY FISH ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, August 29th, 2:00 p.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Ostrovtzer Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
SARAH FISCH ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, August 29th, 11:00 a.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Community CCC Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
ANNE FISHER CASS ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, August 29th, 12:30 p.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Keiltzer Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
LUCYNA GOLENZER ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, August 29th, 1:00 p.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Community Section CCC
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
ANDREW KARP ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, August 29th, 12:00 Noon
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Community Section #3
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
HARRY KIDECKEL ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, August 29th, 9:30 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Beth Emeth Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
GERALD POTASKY ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, August 29th at 1:30 p.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Adath Israel Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of
MORRIS SMOLACK ז"ל
late of Guelph, Ontario
will take place on
Sunday, August 29th, 1999 at 12:00 Noon
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
6033 Bathurst Street (2 blocks S. of Steeles), Toronto
Husiatiner Klaus Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late

LUBA LAMASZ ז"ל

will take place

Sunday, August 29th, 11:00 a.m.

Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park

Yavne Zion Section

Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late

IRVING PERSOFSKY ז"ל

will take place

Sunday, August 29th, 11:00 a.m.

Mount Sinai Memorial Park

Pride of Israel Section

Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late

NATHAN WEISBLATT ז"ל

will take place

Sunday, September 5th, 11:00 a.m.

Dawes Rd. Cemetery

Shidlover Section

Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late

BATIA MALAMUD ז"ל

will take place

Sunday, August 29th, 2:30 p.m.

Pardes Shalom Cemetery

Farbund Section

Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late

DAVID RICH ז"ל

will take place

Sunday, August 29th, 12:00 noon

Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park

Strashover Young Men's Society Section

Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late

RONALD SHERMAN ז"ל

will take place

Sunday, August 29th, 12:30 p.m.

Pardes Shalom Cemetery

Grand Order of Israel Section

Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late

LEO PERKELL ז"ל

will take place

Sunday, August 29th, 11:30 a.m.

Pardes Shalom Cemetery

Temple Emanuel Section

Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late

GEORGE STARR ז"ל

will take place

Sunday, August 29th, 10:00 a.m.

Roselawn Cemetery

Adath Israel Section

Relatives and friends are invited to attend

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HEALTHY LIFESTYLE
Single female, from Richmond Hill area, honest, sociable, vegetarian, enjoy hiking, outdoors, romantic evenings, employed. Seeking a male, non smoker, non drinker, who enjoys a healthy lifestyle. AD#1205

SUMMER ROMANCE
Single mom, early 40's, youthful, attractive, fit, Eastern European background, enjoy dining and dancing, long walks, movies, travelling, theater. Seeking a male, fit, established, intelligent, easy going, optimistic, looks and grooming are important. AD#1110

ZEST FOR LIFE
Single Jewish female, 5'5", attractive, vivacious, brown hair and eyes, fit, kind, sincere, lots of fun to be with, proud of my jewish heritage. Seeking a Jewish male, 40-50, established, handsome, kind, fit, exciting, fun loving. AD#1354

SEEKING SOULMATE
Single female, 35, 5'1", brown hair, green eyes, down to earth, kind, good sense of humour, enjoy movies, outdoor cafes, long walks, 50's and 60's music, art galleries. Seeking a male, energetic, responsible, confident, established, with a heart of gold. AD#1593

LET'S DO LUNCH
Widowed female, mid 40's, brunette, professional, enjoy long walks, movies, theater, travelling, very family oriented. Seeking an honest, caring male, 45-55, with similar interests, for long term relationship. AD#2064

LONG TERM RELATIONSHIP
Single female, 36, 5'4', attractive, slim, brunette, professional, lots of interests. Seeking a male, 35-44, non smoker, professional, with as little baggage as possible, to be my knight in shining armor. AD#1308

FRIENDS FIRST
Single female, mid 40's, European background, attractive, fit, slim, optimistic, enjoy good conversation, dining and dancing, walking, travelling, theater, movies, fitness. Seeking a male, very fit, attractive, with similar interests. AD#1376

SEND ME MY BESHERT
Single female, 33, attractive, spiritually oriented, environmental and popular educator, writer, healer. Seeking a male to laugh and explore life with, and enjoy a healthy green life style. AD#1223

SUMMER ROMANCE
Single female, 35, brown hair, green eyes, 5'1", enjoy movies, long walks, window shopping, art galleries, theater, good sense of humour, down to earth, kind hearted, definitely not a princess. Seeking a male, who is sweet, honest, well groomed, confident, strong values, modern thinking AD#1039

SUMMER ROMANCE
Single female, 34, enjoy long walks, cycling, dining, dancing, the theater, ice cream. Seeking a Jewish male, 33-40, non smoker, no children, warm, caring, sensitive, intelligent, fun loving. AD#1407

LET'S SHARE LIFE
Single female, elegant, attractive, professional, 50+, enjoy cultural activities, sports. Seeking a male, educated, honest, good sense of humour, professional. AD#1296

SERIOUS RELATIONSHIP
Single Jewish female, 36, 5'5", active, slim, nice figure, enjoy dining in or out, socializing. Seeking a male, professional, intelligent, good conversationalist, enjoy working out and is ready for a relationship and starting a family. AD#1107

LET'S GO DUTCH
Single Jewish female, slim, attractive, professional, good sense of humour, enjoy good conversation and having fun. Seeking a male, non smoker, 40-50yrs, Jewish, Reform or Conservative. AD#1034

NIFTY 50'S
Divorced Jewish female, 51, 5'5", attractive, affectionate, fun loving, independent, outgoing, good sense of humour and family values, enjoy opera, theater, long walks. Seeking a professional male, 45-55, financially secure, intelligent, with similar interests. AD#1077

PAMPER ME
Single female, 40, full figured, attractive, friendly, happy, affectionate. Seeking a male, financially secure, who will spoil and pamper me, and I will be loving companion for life. AD#1136

LONG TERM
Single female, 40, Jewish, green eyes Seeking a male who is established, kind hearted and a business man. AD#1215

CITY AND COUNTRY GIRL
Single Jewish female, non smoker. Seeking an attractive male, 63+, with a great sense of humour, who enjoys the arts and travelling. AD#2059

LET'S HAVE COFFEE
Divorced Jewish female, 46, petite, attractive, blond, easy going, compassionate, enjoy dining & dancing, theater, exploring new places, family life, proud of my Jewish heritage. Seeking a single Jewish male, 46-58, non smoker, with similar interests. AD#1305

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ARE YOU OUT THERE?
Single male, 69, cheerful, solvent, quite sexy, rich in friendship and humour, semi retired, but lacking that one special, very attractive lady to share life's pleasure with. Are you out there? AD#1318

SEEKING SOULMATE
Single male, professional, 6'1", 160lbs, youthful, compassionate, thoughtful, tolerant, of Israeli origin, enjoy reading, classical music, the country site. Seeking a female with similar interests and qualities for permanent relationship. AD#1208

SUN, SEA AND SAND
Single male, from Toronto area, retired, good sense of humour, 5'11", brown hair, blue eyes, enjoy sports, 60's music, like to winter in Florida, all expenses shared. Seeking a female, good sense of humour, easy going, with similar interests. AD#1203

HOME AND COUNTRY LIVING
Single male, 39, 5'5", 150lbs, blue eyes, well established, health care professional, warm, enjoy Jazz & Blue's music, travelling Seeking a fit female, 29-37, who is healthy, confident, intelligent. AD#1511

LIFE TO SHARE
Single Jewish male, 37, professional, honest, caring, great sense of humour, fun to be with. Seeking an attractive female to enjoy life to the fullest together. AD#1218

LIKES DAY TRIPS
Separated male, 56, enjoy theater, dining out, day trips, long walks, cycling, cruises, day trips. Seeking a female with similar interests. AD#1057

FIDDLER ON THE ROOF
Single Jewish male, good looking, young looking, healthy, traditional values, sports onented, enjoy long walks, dining, dancing, reading, . Seeking a female, for a long term relationship, possibly marriage. AD#1106

LONG TERM RELATIONSHIP
Single Jewish male, 40, 5'8", medium to husky build, kind, caring, sincere, compassionate, traditional values, non professional, enjoy theater, music, dining and dancing, outdoor activities. Seeking a Jewish female, 28-39, divorced, with children OK! AD#2060

NO HEAD GAMES
Single white male, Jewish, 5'5", blue eyes, brown hair, spontaneous, easy going, fun loving, enjoy sports, travelling, outdoor activities. Seeking a Jewish female, 21-28, down to earth, spontaneous, no worries, no head games please. AD#1219

FAMILY LIFE
Single Jewish male, 5'8", 160lbs, blue-green eyes, fit, a writer. Seeking a Jewish female, who is ready for commitment and starting a family. AD#1061

LONG TERM RELATIONSHIP
Single Jewish male, 37, 5'7", slim, full of life, fun to be with, enjoy long walks, dining and dancing, hiking, movies. Seeking a Jewish female, 28-37, for long term serious relationship. AD#1613

HOPELESS ROMANTIC
Divorced male, professional, Eastern European background, 5'10", slim, fit, handsome, down to earth, non smoker, enjoy movies, sunsets, and a healthy life style. Seeking a female, 30ish, affectionate, slim, attractive, for a long term relationship. AD#1323

MARRIAGE MINDED
Single male, easy going, sincere, enjoy movies, art, books, long walks, a wide variety of interests. Seeking a female, 25-35, for a serious relationship. AD#1603

FUN TO BE WITH
Single male, 34, 6', brown hair, blue green eyes, slim, enjoy movies, dining out, trade shows, culture, adventures Seeking a Jewish female, 30-36, 5'5"+, easy going, outgoing, with similar interests. AD#1596

ACTIVE
Single male, professional, active, enjoy fun and games, travelling, dining out, sports activities. Seeking a female, who is attractive, intelligent, athletic, with similar interests. AD#1312

HEALTHY LIFESTYLE
Divorced male, 5'10", handsome, professional, slim, fit, down to earth, non smoker, hopeless romantic, enjoy sunsets on the beach. Seeking a slim, attractive female, in her 30's, kind, affectionate. AD#2058

PROFESSIONAL
Single Jewish male, 50, professional, enjoy sports, fishing, walking, movies, dining out. Seeking a Jewish female, 38-45, attractive, with similar interests. AD#1416

HOPELESS ROMANTIC
Divorced male, Eastern European background, professional, 5'10", slim, fit, non smoker, down to earth, romantic, enjoy sunsets and a healthy life style. Seeking a slim, attractive female, 30ish, for a long term relationship. AD#2052

ROMANTIC AT HEART
Single Jewish male, late 40's, 5'10", grey blue eyes, sincere, warm, gentle, compassionate, good sense of humour, enjoy the theater, bowling, tennis, long walks. Seeking a female, single or widowed, Orthodox preferred, but not required, with similar interests and personality. AD#1150

FRIENDS FIRST
Single Jewish male, 53, fit, employed, live in Thornhill. Seeking a Jewish female for friendship, with no expectations. AD#2053

LIKES TO SHARE
Single Jewish male, 37, honest, caring, fun to be with. Seeking a female, who is attractive to enjoy life to the fullest together. AD#1088

DEVOTED TO YOU
Single male, 5'8", 160lbs, athletic build greenish-blue eyes, handsome, honest generous, kind, smart, enjoy exercising reading, swimming, tennis. Seeking a Jewish female, no children, wonderful, devoted, ready to start a family. AD#1528

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Sports

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The Canadian Jewish news

The thrill of racing

Love of horses is all in the family

By HARLAN ABBEY
Special to The CJN

BUFFALO — It's addictive, admitted Daryl Ezra, referring to his love of horse racing.

"It's my family's fault. My uncles, Ben, Davey, Abie, Pineapple and Joe Abromowitz had the concession to sell *Daily Racing Forms* at Woodbine.

"My brothers, Morrie, who's now a stock broker, and Brad, who works in the postal service, worked there starting at 11 years, just as I did," he continued with a smile, on the backstretch at the Fort Erie Race Track, where he has a stable of four horses.

But Daryl was the only one who couldn't get the thrills of racing out of his mind.

"My first love was announcing races," he said. "I won a Call A Race contest when I was 16. I have been a race caller at Barrie, Bellevue, Elmira, Kawartha Downs, Finger Lakes, Windsor and the steeplechase day at Genesee, in New York."

He was also involved in racetrack marketing and publicity before finally becoming a trainer four years ago.

"I won with the third horse I entered," he recalled, "which was good. If I'd won with my first starter, I'd have thought it was too easy.

"Every day you learn something new, if you ask questions.

"I think the hardest thing is to know who I'm running against, how to sneak up on the likely challengers if the jockeys follow your instructions and attack the contenders' weaknesses."

Some aspects of horse racing are simple, he continued. "You can't make chicken salad without some chicken, so if you have a better bred, sounder horse to begin with, you're that much ahead.

"This year my brother Morrie has bought some decent horses for me to train, horses in the $16,000 claiming class.

"They can win for $12,000 to $16,000 if they stay sound, or should still be able to win for $6,000 if they go off-form."

Daryl is the son of Jerry and Honey Ezra. His stable includes Kayla's Wish, a 4-year-old filly who had a win, two seconds and two thirds in her last four starts, moving from the $8,000 claiming level to $12,500.

No More Ruckus, a similarly aged filly, won a maiden special weights race and was moving up to the $32,000 level on the grass.

Another project is Straight Home, a high-strung grey, and Dickson County, which was claimed away from Ezra for $7,500. (He later claimed him back for $5,000.)

One new development that Ezra has added to his training practice is to ride the horses himself: "I'm tall and weigh 170," he said. "I'm not a polished rider, but I can stay on.

"Of course, I just ride the horses in slow workouts. It'd be too much strain on their legs to ride them at near racing speed.

"Straight Home started to settle down after I kept riding him slowly around the barns again and again.

"When a 112-pound jockey gets on them, they're really strong after lugging me around during the winter and early spring.

"I like to think they say to themselves, once a jockey like Lisa Hammett gets on, 'Hey, this gal knows what she's doing. I'm going to listen to her.'"

Although Ezra is doing pretty well at Fort Erie, with five wins in 13 starts, plus four seconds, he isn't sure it will continue.

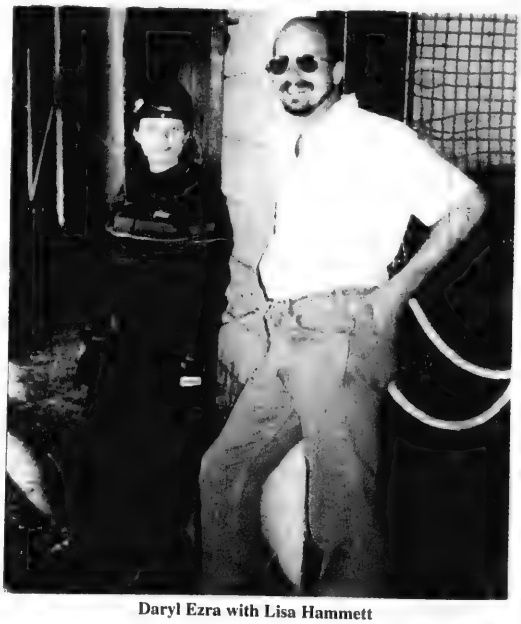
"If the purses keep going up because of the installation of slot machines," he explained, "the competition is going to get much tougher. We'll have full fields of 10 to 11 horses in every race. It will be much more competitive.

"No trainers are going to have 38 percent win percentages, like I do now, or even in the low 30s and high 20s.

"But," he concluded, "racing gets in your blood. It's so addictive.

"There's an old saying, and I believe it: 'A bad day on the backstretch is better than a good day any place else.'"

Trainer Daryl Ezra (on right), jockey Lisa Hammett and groom.



Daryl Ezra with Lisa Hammett

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The Inside Back

ספרותנו

מאת: יעל זליגר

"דונקטור מול דונקטור נר"

"ברצפת חשכונה הומיית עד חלילה...ברחביה ורחוב רמביץ...סניף פלאץ, קפה וינה... וממול לקפה - תפנוקת רבנים, ובפנים - ישיבות אפיקורסים. מגוסטרה אל גוסטרה נדברים ארביסקטים, ודונקטור מול דונקטור נר." (עתן אלתרמן, יואריך, 1936.)

אמנון רמון, מדריך סיורים בירושלים יצחק בן-צבי, וחוקר במכון ירושלים לחקר ישראל העניק לנו ספר מרהיב המספר את סיפורה של רחביה, חשכונה חירושלמית הקלאסית. דונקטור מול דונקטור נר חושף את רחביה לא רק כשכונת מגורים נודעת, תפארת החברה לחכשרת היישוב, אלא כפסיפס צבעוני של חיי תרבות וחברה.

הייחודי ברחביה היה חשילוב המרתק בין הוזי המייסדים, חזון הבונים ואופי העולים "הייקים". קבוצת הקונים הראשונה (רכישת הקרקעות לשכונה אושרה ב- 1921) הייתה משפחות ספרדיות בראשותם של יצחק יהודה כהן וחתנו יצחק ר מולכו. רוב הבונים וסתתי האבנים היו מהפכנים, אנשי גדוד העבודה שחלמו על קומונה של פועלים. אך לימים הפכה רחביה למרכז הבורגנות הירושלמית בשל חזונם של העולים מגרמניה לחקים שכונה של גנים ובתי קפה.

המטייל בשכונת רחביה יבחין מיד שרבים מרחובותיה נקראו על שמם של גדולי חכמי תקופת הזוהר בספרד; שמואל הנגיד, יהודה חלוי, אבן גבירול, אבן עזרא, הרמב"ן וכו'. רק בשני מקרים, בשל לחץ שחפעיל מנחם אושיסקין, חוחלפו חשמות לרחוב אושיסקין ורחוב חקרן חקיימת.

כאמור, עולי מרכז אירופה בתקופת שנות ה- 30 חוללו מפנה בתולדות רחביה. ברחובות חשכונה החלו מדברים גרמנית ומושנים כ"שלאף שטונדחי", "קפה שטונדחי", "יחר פרופסורי", ו"יפראו דוקטורי" חשתלבו באווירה. שי"י עגנון, בשירה מעיד שלא חיה יום שבו לא "נזדמן לו מכיר ומודעי ברחביה. אכן, רבים מהמפרסמים בספר החיסטוריה של חיישוב גרו ברחביה. מבכירי חעסקנים חציוניים, נציגי חיי התרבות בארץ, רופאים, שופטים ועד לאנשי כספים. אך יותר מכל זוחתה רחביה עם מורי האוניברסיטה העברית. (חיילה סילסי ופטר מלך יוגוסלביה גרו ברחביה כשנה.)

ברחביה חיה ייצוג חדי רב-גווני. חיו בה בעלי חשקפת ליברליות, סוציאליסטים חילוניים, ספרדים מסורתיים, אנשי "מזרחי", אורתודוקסים וכמה ממנחיגי "אגודת ישראל". עימותים חיו מתעוררים פה ושם בעיקר בענין פתיחת בתי קפה בשבת.

בית חספר המפורסם ברחביה חיה כמובן הגימנסיה העברית (1909). את חמורות הראשונות, רחל ינאית בן-צבי מספרת "באין ספרי לימוד בעברית, תרגמתי לעצמי משפות אחרות.."

אחד מחפרקים המרתקים בספר מתאר את סגנון האדריכלות ברחביה. תושבי השכונה היו מבני המעמד חבינוני-גבוה ובנו את ביתם לפי טעמם האישי.

לא מעט בשל מעמדה הרם זכתה השכונה להנצחה בספרות העברית. חיים חזז, ב"היהישבת בגנים" מתריס על עושרה של רחביה לעומת דלות שכנתה, נחלאות. "הנה שתי שכונות...כאן אכילה ושתיה ושובע גדול וכאן מכת רעב..." גיבור שירה של שי"י עגנון, ד"ר מנפרד הרבסט אמנם מתגורר בבקעה העלית אך כל חבריו חם דרי רחביה. וכך מתאר עגנון את טיולו של הרבסט ברחביה; "...שהרי עיקר טיולו ברחביה ובסביבותיה...את מי מצא שם ואת מי לא מצא שם...אלו חזכרתי את כולם היה יוצא מעין לקסיקון של גדולי ירושלים וחכמיה עם תוספת אנשים הסמוכים לאנשי חמדע." על תחלוך שקיעתה של רחביה (בשנות הששים) מספר עמוס עוז ב"ארצות התר"; השכונה שאמורה היתה להיות פרוור-גנים נסתפה "בבנייה טרופת-נשימה" ורק חלילות מחזירים לרחביה "מעט מחלומותיה השדודים."

ספרו של אמנון רמון חינו נכס תעודי לכולנו ולא רק עבורי,שחייתי גרה ברחוב חתיבונים, שברחביה.

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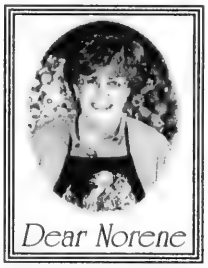
Balsamic Vinaigrette
1/3 cup extra virgin olive oil
2 tblsp balsamic vinegar
1 tblsp stone ground mustard
1 tsp honey
1/4 tsp salt
freshly ground pepper to taste

Whisk all ingredients in a bowl and store in refrigerator until ready for use. Serves 4.

1 cup smoked turkey, cut into 1/2" cubes
1/4 cup diced green onion, some green incl.
2/3 cup Bing cherries, washed, halved & pitted
1 med. romaine lettuce, chopped
1 can mandarin oranges
balsamic vinaigrette

Toss all ingredients, except cherries together in a large bowl. Drizzle balsamic vinaigrette over salad, reserving 1 tblsp. of vinaigrette and toss salad. Drizzle remaining vinaigrette over cherries and toss to coat. Arrange salad on individual plates and sprinkle with cherries.

About Food



By NORENE GILLETZ

The High Holy Days are coming, and so are your guests! So much work, so little time! Holiday preparations can be overwhelming. Here are some suggestions to simplify preparations and help you get organized.

Make your guest list – the people you want, and the people you have to invite!

Plan your menu carefully if there are guests with special dietary needs (ie, diabetics, vegetarians, people on restrictive diets). I always include some of my family's favorite dishes, plus a few new ones.

Next, delegate! Let friends and family share in the preparation (and cleanup).

Children can polish candlesticks, design place cards and set the table. They can also be involved in meal preparation – helping you plan, shop and cook. In addition to teaching them cooking skills, you'll spend quality time together and create wonderful memories.

Do you have enough seating? Check your tablecloths, napkins, cutlery, china, glassware, wine decanters, serving pieces and platters. Borrow, buy or rent what's missing.

Are all your appliances working? Is there enough room in your refrigerator, freezer and oven? My friends once bought such a big turkey that they had to cook it in an industrial oven in their friend's restaurant.

Check your pantry, refrigerator and freezer. Organize your shopping list according to how foods are located in the supermarket. Don't forget honey, apples, challah, wine, candles and flowers.

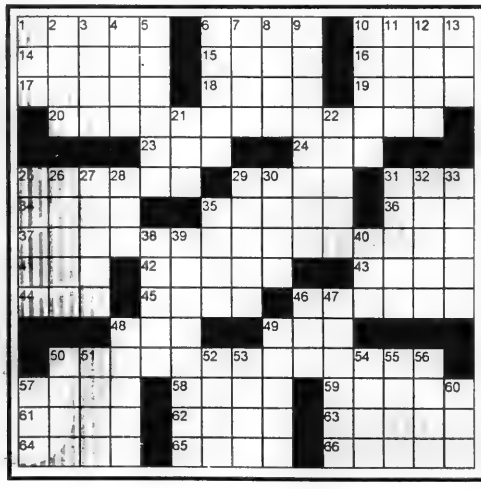
Prepare and freeze as much as possible in advance – chicken soup, meatballs, tzimmes, kugels. Roast the brisket and refrigerate it overnight. Remove hardened fat, slice and freeze.

Last-minute dishes can be prepared up to two days in advance.

For Rosh Hashanah, it is traditional to serve apple slices or challah dipped in honey. Choose vegetable and fruit dishes to complement heavier dishes.

For Yom Kippur, traditional foods like chicken soup, kreplach and boiled chicken are served. To avoid thirst during the fast, avoid spicy, salty foods. Drink adequate liquids before and after fasting to prevent dehydration. To break the fast, dairy foods, fish, salads and kugels are ideal. *B'tayavon* – eat in good health!

Norene Gilletz, a Canadian author of kosher cookbooks, gives lectures and cooking demonstrations throughout North America. Submit cooking questions to The CJN. *Contact Norene at gourmana@total.net*



The Canadian Jewish news

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

It Could Be Verse.

By Matt Gaffney and David Bianco (QSyndicate@aol.com)

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(This week's answers are on page 56.)

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COMMUNITY FOCUS '99

The Canadian Jewish news

Section B

Looking back and to the future

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

Let us begin right away by acknowledging that, for Jews, the year 2000 is *not* the beginning of the new millennium, with all the mystical potential the term conjures up. That event will not take place for us for about another 240 years.

Editorial

In fact, for observant Jews, the change in the century will pass virtually unmarked, as Dec. 31 this year falls on Friday night.

The CJN refuses to even get into the argument over whether the secular millennium actually falls in 2000 or in 2001. Or 6001 as opposed to 6000 in the Jewish calendar.

That being said, Jews are not immune to the intense hype, much of which, it must be admitted, is fostered by the media, implying that Jan. 1, 2000 will somehow be different from Dec. 31, 1999. We may pooh-pooh the idea, but don't all of us have a sneaking hope that some event of immense cosmic significance is about to occur?

The Community Focus supplement usually deals with what is happening in the Jewish community. This year, however, we look back at how things were for Jews over the years, and, at the end, speculate about what the community might look like in the coming years.

The supplement is framed by two scholarly articles, one by historian and archivist Stephen Speisman, the other by community planner Jay Brodbar. In between, we have nostalgic looks at Jewish life in Toronto – newspapers, schools, restaurants, bookstores.

The word nostalgia tends to have a slightly negative connotation. We think of it as a warm, fuzzy view through pink-tinged glasses, which ignores the unpretty realities of times gone by.

In some respects, that is certainly true. The early days of the 1900s were rife with anti-Semitism, poverty, harsh immigration rules, restrictive covenants. Jews could not intern in hospitals, get jobs in engineering or architectural firms, or sell at Eaton's, although they could work in the factories.

Yet, as the supplement shows, Jews were not disheartened. There was a rich cultural life, a compassionate philanthropic system, a plethora of schools and shuls. Jews created their own hospital, their own clubs, their own newspapers, theatres and cemeteries.

Certainly we focus on the good stuff. Most people do. But is that necessarily a bad thing?

This century, as was most of this millennium, was full of horror for our people. Inquisition, massacres, expulsions, pogroms, forced conversions, the Holocaust. We, of all peoples, could surely be forgiven for seeing the world as a very dark place indeed.

But we don't. Jews are endlessly optimistic. We persevere. We find things to laugh about even when it appears that crying is more realistic. We pick ourselves up and start again. We rebuild a state out of ruins and tears and hope.

While there may be some trepidation about what the next 1,000 years will bring, Jews are not trembling in terror. We seldom do.

Perhaps the lesson we can teach the world at this time is to face the new millennium with courage, and with clear eyes, acceptance and imagination. Most of all, we can transmit our hope for a brighter, better tomorrow. What greater dream can there be?

Savoring life at Perlmutar Bakery on Baldwin Street. [Photo courtesy The Ontario Jewish Archives]

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Community Focus

Looking back six decades at old school days and former graduates

Seen above is the graduating class of Peretz Shule, 1933. At right is the graduating class of Brunswick Talmud Torah, 1930.

[Photos courtesy The Ontario Jewish Archives: 1519 and 000029]

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Shimon Navon: Leadership by Example

In June of 1988, physically unscathed after his tour of active duty, Shimon Navon, a reserve officer patrolling between Hebron and Bethlehem, was served a devastating molotov cocktail provided by Fatah.

Severely burned, the brave young soldier faced a daunting task. More than forty operations were required to make Shimon almost whole.

Unsatisfied with merely existing, Shimon, with the help of Beit Halochem, completed studies at Hebrew University, married and began a family. Today he is a successful entrepreneur.

An officer at heart with a strong sense of leadership by example, Shimon makes time to help fellow soldiers overcome their trauma as a regular volunteer at Beit Halochem.

Shimon Navon stands as a tribute to the IDF and to the veterans that he now serves.

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1,000 years of Yiddish to be celebrated

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

The coming year will see a veritable explosion of events in the Toronto community, as the Yiddish committee of UJA Federation celebrates 1,000 years of Yiddish.

On the drawing board are plans for a Yiddish cultural and educational centre, and already inked in is a performance of the large-cast musical, *On Second Avenue*, by the visiting Dora Wasserman troupe from Montreal. It will be performed at the Leah Posluns Theatre at the end of October, sponsored by the Jewish Studies Department of University of Toronto.

As a culmination of the year's events, in November 2000, there will be a major three-day conference on Yiddish in Toronto, with an international cast of players.

All these initiatives come from the federation's Yiddish committee, headed by Ethel Cooper, after a coordinating committee representing the whole Jewish community held a brainstorming weekend.

The events, the Yiddish committee members believe, will prove that the riches of the pre-Holocaust era can be passed on from generation to generation, and will confirm the remarks made by the late Isaac Bashevis Singer at the Nobel Prize reception, that Yiddish will live on.

Some of the plans depend on UJA Federation's receiving a grant under the federal government's millennium fund.

About 10 percent of Toronto's Jewish population of 170,000 now speak Yiddish. The figure was about 50 percent before the Holocaust, said Sam Lipshitz, 89, a 40-year-member of the Yiddish committee.

In the 1920s and 1930s, the number of Yiddish speakers was even higher, Lipshitz said.

The decline is due to the increasing number of Canadian-born Jews, he said.

"Nobody is so foolish as to believe that in the coming years, Yiddish will be the language of the street," said Lipshitz.

"You won't buy your tomatoes in Yiddish," said Ashkenaz festival artistic director David Buchbinder. But he believes the jury is still out on what will happen to the language, considering worldwide changes in Jewish practices.

But he has absolutely no doubt that Yiddish language and culture are stronger in the Toronto Jewish community today than they were 15 or 20 years ago.

Supporters of the language are glad that the Jewish Board of Education has recognized the Yiddish Sunday school for children in North York as a supplementary school that will receive funding. They are also enthusiastic about the inclusion of a workshop on Yiddish in the Board's annual training event for teachers this summer and the attendance of Yiddish teachers from the North York school.

Major increases in funding and the necessary infrastructure are needed if Yiddish is to be strengthened in Toronto, said Stanley Sanderson, vice-president of the organization, Friends of Yiddish.

A major benefactor of Yiddish is needed, especially to train qualified teachers and to establish a Yiddish day school, Sanderson said.

The growth of Friends of Yiddish is due in part to a desire among its members not to lose the riches of Yiddish, according to executive committee member, Bess Shockett. Its monthly programs are popular and well attended, concentrating on conversation, Yiddish performers and music.

No one could foresee that the small group that met in Les Nirenberg's living room 15 years ago would tap into a gold mine.

For a taste of the color and humor that Yiddish has, I recommend a visit to the general membership locker rooms at the Bathurst Jewish Centre when the seniors are there, Monday to Friday, in the mornings. You will hear discussed such topics as current politics in Israel or pungent comments on the latest actions by Mayor Mel Lastman, in real Yiddish – unvarnished, guttural and idiomatic.

Proponents say Yiddish is not being taught in any of the Jewish day schools except Bialik and haredi schools such as Yesodei Hatorah, and is not available at the high school level at Community Hebrew Academy (CHAT).

However, Yiddish is doing well in the departments of Jewish studies at University of Toronto and York University.

Optimists point out that Holocaust survivors who immigrated to Canada speak Yiddish with all its richness, membership in Friends of Yiddish has grown from 20 to 250 in the past 15 years, 75 to 100 children take Yiddish lessons every Sunday in North York, more and more young people are enrolling in adult Yiddish classes, and Unser Yiddish Vinkl, a monthly luncheon club for Yiddish conversation founded by Ben Kayfetz, is so popular it keeps the location of its meetings secret.

But the skeptics say that young Jews growing up in Toronto are not interested in Yiddish and that in a few generations it will disappear completely.

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COMMUNITY FOCUS

Gurion Hyman in front of Hyman's Book Store on Spadina, 1948. [Photo courtesy Gurion Hyman]

Hyman's provided *sforim* for every occasion

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

As the people of the Book, wherever Jews live, they will always find a dealer who can provide them with *sforim* – Hebrew, Jewish and religious books.

Before the turn of the century, rabbis and scholars brought with them numerous sacred books, and from time to time, a shipment of books would arrive here.

Barenholtz on Dundas Street just west of Spadina Avenue, was one of the first shops to deal with a large range of Hebrew and Yiddish books. Others like Rains cigar and confectionary store carried a small supply of Jewish content books, but not as their main business.

In 1925, Ben-Zion Hyman, who had come from Odessa, Russia, in 1914, opened the first modern Jewish book store in Toronto at 371 Spadina Ave.

In a recent interview, Ben-Zion's son, Gurion, who was born the year his family opened Hyman's book store, said his father had received a degree in electrical engineering in Odessa, taught himself English after his arrival in Toronto, and received a degree in electrical engineering from the University of Toronto.

But overt anti-Semitism kept Jewish engineers and other professionals in low paying jobs. To keep his family, Gurion Hyman's father had to teach Hebrew and give bar mitzvah lessons part time.

"My father, who was very scholarly, was offered a job as principal at the Brunswick Talmud Torah. At the time, he was helping with recruiting teachers for the school. But he decided to go into the book business. At that time, most Jewish publications were imported from New York."

In 1926, Hyman's Bookstore moved across the street to 412 Spadina Ave., just north of Cecil Street. It was the busier side of the street and a larger facility. The Hymans rented out a flat and some additional rooms, and they also lived above the store.

For almost half a century, Hyman's was the hub of cultural activities in the city. Struggling to remain in business during the depression, the store began to add new products and services.

Hyman's had two typewriters – English and Yiddish – and a copy machine. They began translating and creating letters and newsletters for many of the landsmanshaft organizations.

This brought in many customers and made Hyman's a landmark in the city. With the needle trade on Spadina Avenue, Hyman's added business ledgers and other office supplies.

When his father realized that many boys received duplicate books as bar mitzvah gifts, Hyman's initiated a bar mitzvah registry. Since both Ben-Zion and Fannie, his wife, had beautiful handwriting, they began to personally engrave the books, which became keepsakes. And they began creating their own artistic holiday cards, many with intricate cutouts.

The store became known as the Jewish parliament of Spadina, as scholars and community leaders would congregate there and carry on heated debates. In those days, in order to stay open on Sunday, the store sold cigarettes and soft drinks.

Hyman's also had a book-lending operation, and Gurion recalls that his father used it to spearhead the establishment of a Jewish Public Library. He moved his book loan business five doors north to an empty store and donated many books to the library.

His mother, Gurion says, was the business head of the family and his father the gentle academic. Ben-Zion knew his wife would be angry if he gave away so many books, and Gurion recalls "that my father would steal the books from himself and hide them in his coat to take them to the library so my mother shouldn't know."

It is said that Ben-Zion would even give away books to scholars.

The library later followed the population and operated from Markham and Harbord streets, in a house owned by Archie Bennett. It later moved to Glengrove Avenue. Currently the Jewish Public Library is located in the Lipa Green Building.

In 1948, with the declaration of the State of Israel, there was an awakened pride in Jewish books and Israeli gifts, and the store expanded its stock to carry many Israeli-made items. Gurion recalls that it was a very busy period for them.

Their business began to drop in the 1950s – the Jewish population was decreasing and numerous synagogues and schools were moving northward.

As well, the synagogue sisterhoods and the schools began buying directly from publishers and suppliers. And with the shift northward, other Jewish books shops such as Negev, Israel's and Miriam's opened on Eglinton and further north.

In 1953, Gurion opened a branch book store at 1032 Eglinton Ave. with his wife Ruth. After some 10 years, the store was sold and became Pollock's Bookstore.

In 1970, after Fannie Hyman died, there were only a few shtieblach left downtown and a sparse Jewish population. Ben-Zion closed the store in 1971. It was the end of an era.

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Recalling a vibrant market

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

I can still remember the wonderful things I smelled, when as a child, my mother took me shopping to Kensington Market on Thursdays.

Kensington Market was the hub of activity, as storekeepers – mostly East European Jews – and bargain-seeking shoppers congregated.

You could always smell bread baking in the myriad of bakery shops.

At one time, individuals could make their own bread or buns and take them to the bakery to be baked.

Perlmutar Bakery, on Baldwin Street. [Photo courtesy The Ontario Jewish Archives]

There were bins and large baskets of fresh fruits and vegetables, mostly in over-sized baskets. And there was the aroma of spices that would make your mouth water.

You could stick your finger in a barrel of sour pickles or tomatoes – before the health laws were passed – or you could pick out a live chicken, which Mother would feel all over, and then take down the lane to the shochet.

You could buy a fresh carp that swam in the bathtub until...but we don't want to think about that.

If you went into one of the creameries such as Mandels or Daiters, you could get fresh (almost minutes old) cheese. Usually, there was a variety of about half a dozen cheeses. We bought eggs by the crate; who knew about cholesterol.

Looking back, names come popping into my mind. Who was Mollie Pearl on Augusta Avenue? Some of the bakeries included Lottman's, Perlmutar's, and not too far away, Cohen's, Louis, Gula, Markowitz, Union, and a bagel bakery on Fitzroy Terrace which was actually a laneway. That's where Gryfe's Bakery was founded. Today, Gryfe's continues to draw long lines in any kind of weather.

The Health Bread Bakery on College Street could beat anyone in a contest for their blueberry buns.

In those days, the butcher shops sold all kinds of parts that when our children hear about it, utter, "Yuch, how could you eat that?"

There was no regulated kashrut supervision and most butcher shops had an old bearded man sleeping on a rickety chair near the door; he was the store employed mashgiach.

There were many butcher shops. The one that pops into mind is Greenspan's at the corner of Brunswick and Harbord streets.

Across the road on Harbord Street was Martin's Butcher Shop. And just up a few stores, was Tenenbaum's Poultry. There, you not only got fine chickens, but you could have a conversation with one of the Tenenbaums.

Other names that pop into mind from the 30s and 40s include Abram's on Montrose at Dundas, Cohen the butcher on Dundas, Politsky's, Nissenbaum Wohl Poultry, Poteck and Zigelstein's, and I'm told there was Ball's Butcher Shop, Wall, and Binstock, the only butcher shop run by a woman.

To further stir up memories, can you remember the grocery stores run by Orloff, Dvoreszky, Finkelstein, Edell, Schwarz, Levitts, Teichman, Brightman, Mirvish, Hurowitz and Sone. How many more can you remember?

Those days are gone forever. Today, we shop in sterile looking supermarkets, and buy mainly packaged meats, breads, pastries and pickles. Other fun-to-buy foods come in jars or plastic containers.

Most of these things have now faded into the past but the remembrances are still delicious.

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COMMUNITY FOCUS

Toronto boasts rich Jewish history

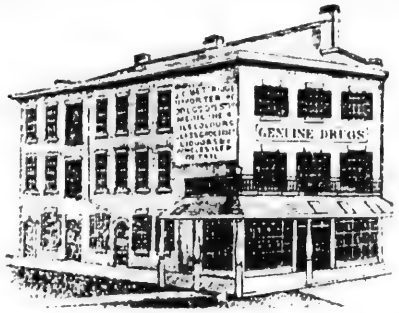
By STEPHEN SPEISMAN
Special to The CJN

When the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York, the future King George V and Queen Mary, debarked from their train at the top of St. George Street in October 1901, they certainly gave little thought to Toronto's Jewish community, except, perhaps, to take notice of its representatives, Rabbi Solomon Jacobs of Holy Blossom Congregation, and the Rev. Abraham Halpern, chazzan and shochet of Shomrai Shabboth Congregation.

That community, numbering just over 3,000, was a very small part of Toronto's population. There was, however, a discernible Jewish area – St. John's Ward, roughly bounded by Richmond, College, Yonge and University.

While the scions of the English Jews who had arrived in the city between the 1850s and the 1870s lived in the middle-class streets east of Yonge and had recently erected a magnificent Byzantine-style synagogue on Bond Street, the east European Jews clustered in the Ward had already outnumbered them by the turn of the century.

Just as they were separated from the English Jews by geography and by social and economic status, the east Europeans were not themselves homogeneous. They were divided by their country of origin, most visibly by synagogue: the Lithuanian Goel Tzedec, in a former church on University at Elm; the White Russian Chevra Tehillim (later McCaul Street) over a blacksmith's shop on Richmond Street; the Galician Shomrai Shabboth, which had recently occupied a building on Chestnut Street; and the Polish Beth Jacob on Elm Street near Yonge. The Romanians, still not numerous enough to have their own building, would soon found their own congregation (Adath Israel) in rented rooms in the basement of the Bond Street Synagogue.



Coombe's Drug Store on the southeast corner of Yonge and Richmond Streets, site of the first synagogue in Toronto. [Photo courtesy Toronto Historical Board]

Over the next 15 years, the Ward would develop into a flourishing North American shtetl, burgeoning with kosher restaurants, bakeries and other shops, with a Yiddish theatre and newspapers. So, also, came new ideas: socialism, Zionism, secularism, trade unionism, each of which gave rise to its own organization or, as is the case in Jewish communities, more than one.

By World War I, there were two religious schools (now Associated and Eitz Chaim) and several secularist schools (now Bialik and the Peretz Shule), in addition to congregational schools in the major synagogues. Day schools, however, were still decades in the future, and indeed were anathema to Toronto's Jews, to whom the public school was the gateway to North American life.

Although some members of Holy Blossom had major businesses – for instance, the Samuels and the Benjamins in metals, and the Goldsteins in tobacco – and the congregation even included a few professionals, many first generation east European immigrants made their living in minor commerce: peddling dry goods on the street or in the countryside, junk collecting, and either working in garment factories such as Eaton's or doing piecework on contract at home.

The lucky ones were able to open small shops, usually dealing in foodstuffs or second-hand clothing, or to use the skills acquired in Europe (bakers and shoemakers). A very few – Mendel Granatstein in waste processing, for example – even had relatively large businesses and employed other Jews.

The Jewish population increased significantly in the first decades of the 20th century. By 1921, there were about 34,000 Jews in the city. With this growth came social problems – poverty, unemployment, delinquency, prejudice, missionaries.

Earlier in the century, small voluntary associations, usually run by women, were able to assist the Jewish poor, support families whose breadwinner was ill or unemployed and provide household help for women who had recently given birth. By the period of World War I, more sophisticated methods were needed.

In 1912, the Associated Hebrew Charities was organized to provide a central clearing-house of information on families in need of assistance. In 1916, this was absorbed by the Federation of the Jewish Philanthropies of Toronto, established in that year to run a united campaign to fund the various charitable organizations. These included the Jewish Free Dispensary (1909, the predecessor to Mount Sinai Hospital), which provided free medical care and drugs to keep Jews away from the missions; and the Jewish orphanage, the Jewish Day Nursery, and the Hebrew Maternity Aid Society (now all part of the Jewish Family & Child Service).

The federation would ultimately develop into a planning organization to deal with the depression of the 1930s (United Jewish Welfare Fund) and was the predecessor to the present UJA Federation of Greater Toronto.

The end of World War I gave rise to issues that extended beyond the boundaries of Toronto and required new organizations to handle them. Canadian Jewish Congress

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UJA Federation
United Way of Greater Toronto

Continued from page B7

JIAS established after World War I

A labor march down Spadina Avenue, July 11, 1933. [Photo courtesy City of Toronto Archives, Globe & Mail Collection]

was established in 1919 to provide a single voice for Canadian Jewry at the peace conference, especially with regard to a Jewish homeland in Eretz Yisrael.

The arrival of peace also made increased immigration possible for European Jews left displaced and destitute by the hostilities. The Jewish Immigrant Aid Society of Canada, originally an arm of Congress with an office in Toronto, was created to fill the breach.

Concurrent with these developments was the rise of landsmanshaften, mutual benefit societies based on common geographic origins. These provided social activities, but also interest-free loans, medical insurance and cemetery plots, which enabled Jews often to avoid the embarrassment of approaching one of the welfare organizations. These societies would play an important role in Toronto's Jewish life for decades to come.

As the Jewish population grew in the 1920s, especially after the United States closed immigration from eastern Europe in 1924 and until Canada did the same in 1931, the new Jewish area along Spadina Avenue and in the surrounding streets (including the Kensington Market) blossomed.

Until the mid-1950s, this was the heart of the Jewish community. Here a rich cultural, commercial and religious life endured. Both professional and amateur theatre, whether in the Standard Theatre or at Alhambra Hall on Spadina Avenue, provided an escape from the struggles of daily life. Poetry readings at the Labor Lyceum or political speeches there or at the Standard, provided intellectual stimulation.

One's physical appetite was easily satisfied by a variety of restaurants – Goldenberg's, Shopsowitz's, Ladovsky's, Walerstein's, The Famous, Silver's, Abella's, Wellts', Lazar's – to name only a few. And heaven help you if you didn't finish your soup; this was considered a major affront to the proprietor.

These decades, however, were not without conflict. Jews in the garment industry banded together in unions to fight exploitation by employers. Spadina south of Dundas, as well as Richmond and Adelaide, saw bitter strikes, especially in the 1930s. These troubles often divided landsmanshaften, socialist and Zionist societies, because they included workers, managers and owners. Even families found themselves in conflict.

Another area of division, if often somewhat tamer than labor disputes, was politics. In 1900, even as late as 1950, if someone had predicted that Toronto would have had three Jewish mayors by 2000, he would have been thought ridiculous. Jewish aldermen, members of the school board, of the provincial legislature and even of Parliament were a possibility. But they represented only a relatively small constituency. To have a Jew as the spokesperson for the entire city and to have his Jewishness hardly an issue – impossible.

Other "impossibilities" earlier in the century have become realities as 2000 approaches: Jewish teachers in the public school system a commonplace, even principals and the odd superintendent; Jewish department heads and medical professors where Jewish interns were

Continued on page B9

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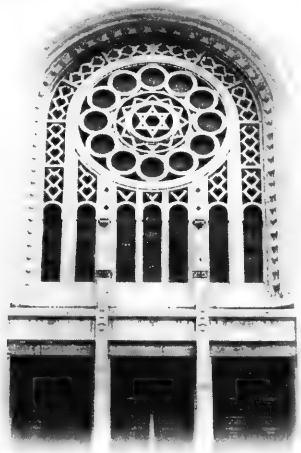

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City's demographic character has changed

Continued from page B8

once barred; Jewish partners in non-Jewish legal, architectural and engineering firms; even the odd banking official.

Jews live where they wish, or at least where they can afford to live, without thought of discrimination. We appear to have made it.

The past half century has seen rapid and dramatic change in the demographic character of the Jewish community. From the mid '50s onward, the community began to move northward and eastward, with Bathurst Street as its core. (A northwesterly movement in the late 1950s up Keele Street had petered out by the early '70s.) Skipping over Forest Hill, the middle class moved first into the southern portion of North York in the early '50s (Eglinton to Wilson) and to Downsview and Bathurst Manor in the latter part of the decade (Wilson to just north of Sheppard).

The early '60s saw development just north of Finch along Bathurst and in the Bayview-York Mills district; in the past 30 years, up Bathurst beyond the city limits at Steeles through Thornhill-Vaughan into Richmond Hill. Similar development, with somewhat less density, was evident north of York Mills on Bayview, and north of Sheppard on Leslie and Don Mills into Markham. And in contrast to many larger North American cities, a discernible Jewish area continued in Toronto, especially along the Bathurst Street corridor.

The community also experienced drastic changes in its composition, beginning with survivors of the Shoah, who injected new life into the Yiddish language-based cultural life of Jewish Toronto, as well as a boost to Orthodoxy and organizational diversity.

These were followed by Hungarian Jews in the latter part of the decade, and by Moroccan Sephardim from 1957 onward. The Hungarians either reinforced Orthodox practice (along with survivors, they introduced varieties of Chassidism to Toronto) or positioned themselves to the left of the religious spectrum or with secularism.

Not having had an 18th-century Sephardi community, Toronto Jewry of the '50s, rooted in eastern Europe, looked upon the new Sephardi arrivals as exotic (after all, they didn't even speak Yiddish), and even looked condescendingly on the proud and rich heritage of the Moroccans. As 2000 approaches, the Sephardi community has integrated well into the organizational and religious life of the city, with several congregations, a day school and the magnificent new Sephardic Kehila Centre.

Beginning in the late '60s, Jews came from the Soviet Union, first a trickle and then, by the 1980s and '90s, a virtual torrent. Also in this period, significant numbers of Israelis began to arrive, and the community continues to attempt to integrate both of these groups.

Less effort in this regard was required for the South Africans and Montrealers who comprise Toronto's most recent immigrants. Without language barriers and used to highly organized communities, both of these groups quickly gravitated to existing organizations, where their talents propelled them into positions of leadership. Toronto has been fortunate in that difficulties for Jews elsewhere have enriched our own community.

But the Jewish community of the last years of the 20th century is not without its problems. Our poor are less visible than they were a century ago and most Jews are ignorant of their existence. Our communal welfare agencies are more numerous and better organized than they were, but their task is greater, especially as they struggle to fill the gap left by the retrenchment of a regressive and mean-spirited provincial government.

> *It should not take a war in Israel to recognize common destiny*

The maintenance of Jewish identity among our youth is more of a problem than it was a century ago. Anti-Semitism alone was sufficient then to prevent more than a few from drifting away. With acceptance and opportunity in the late 1990s, however, we struggle to find solutions privately, and especially through our communal organizations, to perpetuate our community. We make our Jewish gathering places more attractive, and provide Jewish programming to them; we pour our communal funds into Jewish education, with significant but not universal success. And the expense of Jewish day school education still requires parental sacrifice and commitment that may not always be forthcoming.

Toronto, once insignificant in the Jewish world, is now one of its premier communities. But however far we have come, we dare not become overconfident. The challenges of Y2K are great, and have nothing to do with computers.

Our community is as polarized as it was a century ago. It is not now between the affluent and the poor, between the English Jews and the east Europeans, between the Litvak and the Galicianer. Now it is between the various religious ideologies, between the affiliated and the non-identified.

It should not take a war in Israel to make us realize our common destiny.

Stephen Speisman is director of the Ontario Jewish Archives, and executive director of Toronto Hebrew Memorial Park. He is the author of The Jews of Toronto: a history to 1937.

The Toronto Council for Reform Judaism wishes you a Shana Tova. May it be God's will to renew for us a good and sweet year.

Those who pray with the community will have their prayers granted - Talmud, Beracholt 8a

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Queen's student finds diversity in Toronto

By NICOLE SALAMA
Student Intern

Every time I board the train in Kingston and head home to Toronto, I sit back in my seat, smile and relax.

Kingston is the perfect university city. The community, especially the Jewish one, is friendly and welcoming. Occasionally, however, I find Kingston small, and I like to head home to the big city.

I grew up in Toronto, am tied to the city, and have always been attached to the Jewish community. I enjoy driving down Bathurst Street and seeing all of the Jewish businesses, and walking in my area and seeing mezuzot on the doorways.

I chose Queen's University because I wanted to move to a small university town. It is very convenient that Princess street (the main street) has all one might need, but I did not realize how much I was going to miss Toronto and the Jewishness I feel here.

While I am involved with the Jewish community in Kingston, and Hillel at Queen's, it is still strange for me to be at a school with roughly 400 Jews, and living in a city where the entire population is roughly the size of Toronto's Jewish community.

While its population is small, the Jewish community in Kingston reaches out to the Jewish students who live there for eight months of the year. We are always welcome at both the Orthodox and Reform congregations. (There is no Conservative congregation.) As well, for the High Holy Days and Passover, the homes of many Jews in Kingston are open to students unable to get home for the holidays.

Hillel at Queen's also tries its best to reach the Jewish students. Unfortunately, many Jewish students don't go to Hillel, but those that do, enjoy mingling with friends and eating a dinner that they don't have to cook.

Because Queen's has a small Jewish population, when we meet each other I find that a special bond forms, in particular with those from Toronto.

Wherever I go in Kingston, I usually see someone I know because Kingston is a small city and many of the university students go to the same places.

I find it interesting that while Toronto is so big, the Jewish community is fairly close knit. In one way or another everyone is connected. If I am shopping downtown or going out with friends I frequently see familiar faces. I enjoy this sense of a smaller community within a larger one.

I love the size of Toronto, its diversity, and the fact that there are numerous places to go and things to see. Typically, I don't take advantage of the plethora of options open to me, but it is nice to know they are there. When I do have the urge to do something different, at least I have numerous things to choose from.

When I was in high school, I never appreciated Toronto. I rarely explored the city and now I wish I had more time to do so.

On some level I believed that the world was somehow Jewish. What else was I to think? I went to Hebrew school for my entire life, Jewish or predominantly Jewish camps, and joined United Synagogue Youth, etc.

I knew about the small Jewish presence at Queen's, but living there opened my eyes to many different things.

I realize now how much I took for granted in terms of my Jewishness. Not everyone knows how tasteless matzah is or even what it is. It's odd to feel as if you are the only Jewish person in a movie theatre.

That is why I enjoy my visits to Toronto. I like Shabbat dinners of chicken and knishes, and it's a bonus that I don't have to cook. I find it fun to go out with friends knowing I will see other acquaintances, especially on the days before the High Holy Days and Passover when everyone returns from university.

Working at *The CJN* has also broadened my perspective on what Toronto's Jewish community has to offer. There are services I never knew about that are of great value to the community. It is comforting to know that whatever you might need, the community offers.

Personally, I never knew about all of the events that occur on a weekly basis, such as Jewish themed concerts and discussion groups held by rabbis. I was also unaware of the volunteer opportunities available through numerous organizations such as UJA Federation and B'nai Brith. If you need the help or if you want to help others there are opportunities here to do it all.

All in all, I think Toronto is a fantastic city. Yes, I admit I run off to Kingston to escape big city life, but I often find myself longing for the diversity and Jewishness that Toronto has to offer.

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Jewish press has thrived throughout the 1900s

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

When they arrived in Canada in the early decades of this century, Jews turned to their own newspapers to help them make their way in the new land.

Written in Yiddish or English, and published in eastern, central and western Canada, these papers produced colorful publishers and editors who waded into controversial issues.

Many of them figure prominently in the pages of *A Century of the Canadian Jewish Press: 1880s-1980s*, written by Lewis Levendel.

At one time Winnipeg had three weekly newspapers competing for circulation. Today it has one – the *Jewish Post*.

Toronto has one weekly, *The Canadian Jewish News*. *The Jewish Standard*, also based in Toronto, is published several times a year. Others, like the *Canadian Jewish Review* and *the Jewish Chronicle*, no longer exist.

There are also successful Jewish newspapers in Vancouver, Edmonton, Calgary, Winnipeg, London, Toronto and Montreal.

Since this community supplement is not distributed in Montreal, this article will not deal in depth with the Montreal scene where *The Kanader Adler* (Canadian Eagle), the beacon of Yiddish journalism in Montreal, is just a memory.

As well, there are thriving bulletins in Ottawa and Hamilton, synagogue publications for all streams of Judaism, and specialized papers put out by organizations such as B'nai Brith Canada and by the Russian Jewish community of Toronto. Many organizations, such as the Canadian Jewish Congress, also publish their own newsletters.

Although the ideological disputes differ from those of the past (pro- or anti-Zionist stances were common before the State of Israel was established in 1948), the papers of today still speak out. Most of those that survived tend to give voice to diverse viewpoints.

The Daily Hebrew Journal, first published in Toronto in 1912 (it introduced an English page in 1938), is no longer in operation. Its irrepressible editor, Samuel (Shmuel) Shapiro, had a "hit list" of people whose names, he vowed, would never appear in his paper.

The editors of its English page included David Rome, Ben Lappin, Leo Hayman and Moishe Franks, principal of the Brunswick Talmud Torah. His son, Reuven Franks, is a well-known NBC journalist.

The heyday of Canadian Jewish newspapers was in the middle of the century. Many of the journalists were also teachers, among them was Bernard Wind, a columnist for the *Daily Hebrew Journal*.

Although he already had two jobs, Wind was on the lookout for a third, for the admirable purpose of keeping himself away from the racetrack.

It may come as a surprise to our younger readers that the fierce debates about Zionism which followed the anti-Jewish riots in Palestine in 1929, led to the founding of *the Jewish Standard* in Toronto by Rose Dunkelman.

This publication gave pro-Zionists an English language forum to counteract the editorials in the *Canadian Jewish Review*, some of which were written by Rabbi Maurice Eisendrath of Holy Blossom Temple.

Julius Hayman, 91, who graduated from the University of Manitoba law school, became editor of the *Standard* in 1935, buying it a few years later. Still technically its publisher, Hayman has been associated with the *Standard* for 64 years.

His son, Michael, now its managing editor, said the *Standard* is one of the few remaining independent Jewish publications still in existence.

M.J. Nurenberger, a member of the Herut party, founded *The Canadian Jewish News* in 1959 and later, after he sold the paper to its present owners, established the now defunct *Jewish Times*.

Now in ill health, Nurenberger was an editor who made enemies as well as friends. He achieved international prominence with the publication of *The Silent Jews*, a book about the failure of the American Jewish establishment to rescue Jewish victims of the Holocaust.

The developer A.B. (Archie) Bennett, regarded as the senior statesman among Canadian Jewish journalists, contributed thoughtful columns to a number of publications over seven decades. His son, A.J. (Avi) Bennett, is chairman of the Canadian publishing company, McClelland & Stewart.

The *Yiddishe Neius*, a supplement with *Toronto News*, was distributed to subscribers to two New York Yiddish daily newspapers from 1935 to 1955. Edited by Morris Goldstick, it was a fixture on the Toronto scene.

Max Grafstein of London, a prosperous textile businessman, and uncle of Senator Jerry Grafstein, was a publisher and editor of distinction. One of his projects was a collection of the writings of Sholom Aleichem. He also edited *The Jewish Observer*.

Senator Grafstein once went to a book signing in Toronto by Isaac Bashevis Singer. When he mentioned the name Grafstein, Singer muttered under his breath, "Didn't like him then, don't like him now." Later Singer explained that Max Grafstein had once sold a story to the *Bintl Brief* in *The Forward* in New York for $3 while he (Singer) got only $2 for his story.

Before he suffered a breakdown in the mid 1950s, A.M. Klein, the distinguished Canadian poet and novelist, was an editorial and feature writer for the *Canadian Jewish Review* and a publicist for Sam Bronfman and the Canadian Jewish Congress.

Though there have been many changes in their coverage and make-up, veteran Canadian Jewish journalist Ben Kayfetz is optimistic about the future of Canadian Jewish newspapers, believing the papers will continue to improve as they meet changing tastes of readers.

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These are a few...

By ZAHAVA KLEINERT
Special to The CJN

As we pass into a new millennium, we should take some time to look back at some individuals who have left an indelible mark on our Jewish community.

As I researched this article, I realized that an astonishing number of rabbis, communal leaders, artists and entrepreneurs, both men and women, have contributed to the rich panorama of Jewish life.

This is not a research project, merely a backward look at some – but not all – of those who affected our lives. How many do you know, and how many more can you add?

One of the first names that comes to mind is Ezekiel Hart – a pioneer and major figure in the evolution of civil liberties in Canada.

Elected to the legislature of Lower Canada in 1807, Hart was denied the right to take his seat because the law regulated that all members of the House had to take their oath "on the true faith of a Christian."

But, thanks to Hart, the law was altered in 1832, some 25 years before similar legislation was removed from the statutes in Great Britain.

Senator David Croll served as mayor of Windsor and was elected to the Ontario legislature. He was the first Jew to attain cabinet rank in a provincial legislature. He was elected member of parliament and then became the first Canadian Jew to be appointed to the Senate.

Nathan Phillips immediately pops into memory. A member of the Toronto City Council for 36 years and mayor of Toronto for eight years, he was honored with the naming of the civic area, Nathan Phillips Square.

Also memorable are Allan Grossman, Toronto alderman, provincial cabinet minister and MP; Philip Givens, alderman, controller and mayor of Toronto; and Herb Gray elected in Windsor as an MP and presently the deputy prime minister of Canada.

David Lewis, one of Canada's labor leaders, leader of the New Democrat Party and member of parliament, was the first Jew to lead a federal party.

J. B. Salsberg, a leader in the Canadian labor movement and the Labor Progressive party, alderman in the City of Toronto and a member of the Ontario legislature, was a featured columnist with *The CJN*.

We could add more names to this list such as Louis Rasminsky, governor of the Bank of Canada; Abraham Lieff, supreme court judge; and Bora Laskin, chief justice of the Supreme Court of Canada.

Jews played an important role in the field of entertainment, and comedians and writers John Wayne and Frank Shuster stand out. They had an illustrious career on CFRB radio and with the *Wayne and Shuster Show*, which aired across North America and beyond for many years.

They appeared with many celebrities including Ed Sullivan and Jack Benny.

Outstanding composers and conductors include Louis Applebaum, Srul Irving Glick, Victor Feldbrill, Boris Brott, Milton Barnes and Percy Faith, who went south of the border along with a host of others.

Also in the entertainment world was Lorne Green whose distinctive voice enthralled the country with the news. He established a school called the Academy of Radio Arts and he became the beloved, benevolent father in the long-running series, *Bonanza*.

Who can forget Bert Pearl, writer and vocalist, who for many years was the star and MC of the *Happy Gang*; Lou Jacobi, actor in Yiddish and English who moved to New York and became an international performer; Basya Hunter, an outstanding teacher, writer, actress and director; Leo Orenstein, Paul Kligman, Lloyd Bochner, and Cec Linder.

And what about Harvey Hart, Walter Susskind, meteorologist Percy Saltzman, Eugene Kash, Maureen Forester, Harry Rasky, Kenneth Soble, and those who provide entertainment such as Ed Mirvish, Simcha Jacobovici and Moses Znaimer. And Sam Sniderman, who changed the face of the record selling business?

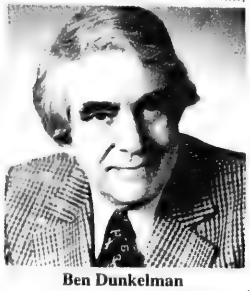
Among our writers and historians, we have such illustrious names as Mordecai Richler, Leonard Cohen, Irving Layton, Matt Cohen, A.M. Klein, Barbara Frum, Miriam Waddington, Adele Weisman, Yiddishist Sam Lipshitz, poet Donia Cleman, Sydney Katz, critic Nathan Cohen, and editorial writer and author Mark Gayne.

Journalists include Julius Hayman, editor and publisher of *The Jewish Standard*; Meyer Nuremberger; Ralph Hyman; Maurice Lucow; and historians David Rome, Stephen Speisman, Ben Kayfetz, Gerald Tulchinsky, H.M. Caiserman, Harold Troper and Irving Abella.

Outstanding women of our times include Judy Feld Carr, who saved thousands of Syrian Jews; Ida Siegel, community leader and the first Jewish female to be elected as a member of the Toronto Board of Education; Mattie Rotenberg, an educator and broadcaster; Julie Koschitzky, former national president of Canadian Jewish Congress, and psychologist and community leader Reva Gerstein.

We could also include Balfoura

Continued on page B13



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...of our community's outstanding Jews

Continued from page B12

Gordon, Sophie Bennett, Dora Till, Dora Wilinsky, and Marvelle Koffler, who worked so diligently for the good of the community, Rose Wolfe, chancellor of the University of Toronto, Judge Rosalie Abella, and Yiddish writer Rochel Korn.

Our outstanding community leaders are a roster of who's who.

Archie Bennett, the founding executive member of the Canadian Jewish Congress, Samuel Bronfman, Sam Ruth, Ben Dunkelman, Charles Bronfman, Louis Lockshin, Kurt Rothschild, Meyer Gasner, Irving Oelbaum, Donald Carr, D. Lou Harris, David Newman, Ben Sadowski, Samuel Granatstein, Fredrick Catzman, Saul Sigler, Mark Levy, Joseph Tanenbaum and Abe Posluns are only a few.

Impressive in our history are the rabbis who helped build our synagogues and institutions of learning. A book can be written about many of these clergymen. Rabbis Jacob Gordon, founder of the Simcoe Street Talmud Torah; Gedalia Felder, teacher and author of eight books on Halachah and chair of the Rabbinical Vaad Hakashruth; Yehuda Leib Graubart, and scholar, Nachman Shemen.

An outstanding orator, Rabbi Irwin Witty, headed the Board of Jewish Education. Also important are rabbis David Ochs, spiritual leader of Torah Emeth; Abraham Feinberg of the Holy Blossom Temple; Abraham Price; Dov Shochet; Joseph Kelman, founder of Kadima, She'arim and the Reena Foundation; Israel Frankel of the Jewish Public Library; and Bernard Rosensweig, who headed the North American Orthodox rabbinate.

Rabbis Walter Wurzburger, Stuart Rosenberg, Gunther Plaut, Reuben Slonim, David Monson and Erwin Schild, all contributed to the growth of their congregations.

In the field of medicine, many names jump to the foreground: doctors Nathan Rosen, Samuel Hurwich, Maxwell Bochner, Arnold Epstein, D. Louis Harris, Sam Esser, and Henry Goldenberg, just to skim the surface.

Most important to our history are our educators: Levy Jacober; world renowned professor Emil Fackenheim; Itshi Mayer Korolnek; Benjamin Clodman; Joseph Klinghoffer; M.Z.R. Frank; Itzchok Matenko; and hundreds of other dedicated teachers and administrators. Each of us has our special list.

Numerous other outstanding characters can be included: artists such as Aba Bayefsky; award-winning poet Simcha Simchovitch; sculptor Sorel Etrog, and too many others to mention.

Academics abound, such as the Shapiro brothers, presidents of McGill University and Princeton. In the fields of business and industry are the Reichmann family, Leslie Dan, Peter Munk and Joseph Rotman.

These names merely give us a sense of what talent and energy there is in the Jewish community. A research project should be undertaken to document the lives and accomplishments of our leaders who have set a pattern of devotion to our community – one that should be emulated from generation to generation.

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NA'AMAT CANADA

COMMUNITY FOCUS

Jewish schools have adapted to change

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

Throughout the centuries, Jewish learning has always been a priority, regardless of where a Jew lived.

At the beginning of the 20th century, Yiddish, the mameloshen, was the language most often spoken by the Jews who came to North America, as Hebrew was then considered the language of prayer and study.

With the arrival of Jews to Canada, Yiddish began to fall away to be replaced by English. But the need to study Hebrew for religious studies remained an unquestioned necessity.

The first organized Jewish community in Toronto was formed in 1849, when a deed was granted to Abraham Nordheimer to allow him to set aside an area for a Jewish burial ground on Pape Avenue.

This was their first requirement; education was the next priority.

From the beginning, small clusters of students gathered to learn with a rabbi or melamed, and in 1907, under the guidance of Rabbi Jacob Gordon, a group of community leaders founded a school on Simcoe Street – the forerunner to the current Associated Hebrew Schools of Toronto.

The school's mandate was to teach the Ivrit-b'Ivrit method, using Hebrew as the language of instruction, which was then considered a radical departure. They also implemented modern teaching techniques. Anything modern was considered suspicious, and the school met with resistance.

YMHA (right) nestles beside the Brunswick Talmud Torah.

In 1915, a group of Jews, mainly from Poland, found that the teaching at the Simcoe Street school departed too much from strict religious doctrines.

Reb Itshe Meyer Korolnek, who had a flaming red beard, and a group of pious men therefore planned a school that would meet their needs.

With an enrolment of seven children, they established Eitz Chaim Talmud Torah on Chestnut Street, and confined its teaching to the Torah, talmudic writings and the liturgy.

In 1917, they moved the school to D'Arcy Street and it became known as the D'Arcy Street Talmud Torah. The school later moved to Viewmount Avenue and today Eitz Chaim has three branches, some reaching beyond the boundaries of the city.

The Simcoe Street school moved to Brunswick Avenue in 1924 and became known as the Toronto Hebrew Free School or the Brunswick Avenue Talmud Torah. Although the school closed for a short time during the Depression, it did reopen and soon followed the ever-changing Jewish community by opening a number of satellite branches and affiliated schools throughout the city.

The first school that was not based on religious practice was formed in 1911, offering a secularist Jewish education with emphasis on Yiddish language and culture. It became the I.L. Peretz Institute, operating under the wing of the Arbeter Ring (Workmen's Circle now located on Lawrence Avenue West).

In 1919, Poalei Zion broke off from the Peretz school, and the Labor Zionists established their own shule known as the Farband Folk School, which later merged with Bialik Day School.

Heightened interest

Left of the Poalei Zion, the Borochov School was formed. Still further left, the United Jewish People's Order sponsored the Morris Winchevsky School, which is currently housed on Cranbrooke Avenue.

After the declaration of the State of Israel, a new awareness of our roots brought a heightened interest in the Hebrew language and Jewish education.

In the 1950s, as the day school model began to take hold despite the criticism of those who called the system segregationist, the Associated Hebrew School moved to Bathurst Street and Neptune Drive. The Associated now operates three branches to accommodate the established and newly built areas

One-by-one day schools began to develop, encompassing every shade of ideology and practice. Two of the larger day school systems in the GTA are the Conservative movement's United Synagogue Day School with three branches, and the Reform movement's Leo Baeck Day School.

Today, there are 29 day schools listed with the Board of Jewish Education with a total population of 10,700.

As well, there are two special education day schools, She'arim Hebrew Day School and Zareinu Educational Centre. The Yeshiva Ahavas Torah, a school for boys, is a special education high school.

More and more day high schools are forming, the largest of which is The Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto (CHAT).

In the early years, many synagogues did not operate a Hebrew or religious school. One of the first to do so was Holy Blossom Temple, which maintained a religious school on Sundays.

Later, however, many synagogues, especially Conservative congregations, offered religious and Hebrew classes. The Reform temples added classes on Saturday and during the week.

In an article such as this, it is not possible to list all the Jewish schools in the area, and therefore this is not a complete treatment of the educational scene but merely the essence of what has developed over the years.

In 1950, the Bureau of Jewish Education, now the Board of Jewish Education of UJA Federation of Greater Toronto, was established. It has played an important role in co-ordinating and planning for the future in Jewish Education.

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Community Focus

D'Arcy baseball team, 1920s. It is unclear if they could have beaten the Blue Jays. [Photo courtesy The Ontario Jewish Archives: 2921]

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COMMUNITY FOCUS

Dorothy Dworkin and members of the Ladies Auxiliary, Mount Sinai Hospital, 1920s. Although they wore nurses' uniforms and performed many of the same duties that one would have expected from staff, they were all volunteers. [Photo courtesy The Ontario Jewish Archives: 3341]

Kosher businesses throughout the Toronto area

One of the most important changes in the life of Toronto's Jewish community is that there is a unified system of kashrut supervision, under what is now called the Kashruth Council of Toronto (COR).

Here is a partial list of some of the businesses certified as kosher by COR.

BUTCHER SHOPS

IGA (Clark & Hilda); B. Goldstein Products; Hartman's Kosher Meats; Manor Kosher Meat Market; Perl's Meat Products Ltd.; Prime Kosher Meats; Glatt Kosher Stroli's Meats.

BAKERIES

COR approved bake shops are closed on Saturdays and use only certified ingredients in their baking. There are many misconceptions about the ingredients marked on any package. Vegetable shortening, as an example, may not necessarily be made from all vegetable components and may include some animal fat. Some bakeries may add milk or milk derivatives to their breads and challahs. Careful scrutiny of all ingredients used in baking is of vital importance to the consumer interested in kosher products.

Anita Bengio Patisserie Inc.; Carmel Bakery, Div. Premium Kosher Products; Dairy Treats European Cafe/Bakery; Eti's Cakes Ltd.; IGA (Clark & Hilda); Hermes Bakery; Hole in One; Isaac's Bakery Limited; My Zaidy's Bagel; My Zaidy's Bakery (1999) Inc.; Richman's Bakery; Sweet York Desserts.

TAKE OUT SERVICES — CATERERS

Adeer Catering; Beverly Hills Caterers; Caterers York Ltd.; Ely's Fine Foods; Fine Touch Catering; GMB Culinary Productions Inc.; It's An Occasion Ltd.; Jacobs Catering Ltd.; King Solomon's Catering; Kosherland; L'Echaim Caterers; Le King's Catering; Levy's Catering; Malmar Fine Foods/Tastefully Yours; Menchens Catering; Miriam's Table; North "Y" Cafeteria; Peter Graben Caterers; Rachel's Catering; Rose Lazar Catering Services; Sweet York Desserts; Tri Elm Catering; Zuchter Berk Creative Caterers.

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COMMUNITY FOCUS

Kayfetz adds personal touch to history

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

If you are looking for information about the history of our community, Ben Kayfetz is one of the people you should talk to.

Not only is he knowledgeable, but he is always willing to share his vast storehouse of information, and he will always add a few personal stories to make the times come to life.

Over the years, Kayfetz has worn many hats. He was a professional communal worker before his retirement, and a keen lay observer. Kayfetz is a prolific writer, broadcaster and advocate for human rights.

Now in his 80s, Kayfetz has rubbed shoulders with the notables in the Jewish and secular communities.

Born in Cabbagetown, he attended Charles G. Fraser public school and Parkdale Collegiate. He studied languages at the University of Toronto, and after graduation, taught in Niagara Falls at a private high school and later in Huntsville, Ont.

He recalls that those were the days when Jewish teachers had great difficulty finding a position.

During the war, he went to Ottawa to read mail to and from prisoners of war.

After the war, he was sent to Germany as a uniformed civilian to monitor the long distance telephone calls and telegrams of the civilian German population.

Towards the end of his two-year stay in Germany, he received a letter from Ben Lappin, director of community relations at the Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region. Lappin informed him that he was going to return to school to do postgraduate studies, and he asked Kayfetz if he was interested in applying for his position. That letter set the direction for his life.

He remembers being interviewed for the position by Rabbi Abraham Feinberg, who chaired the committee, and community leader J. Irving Oelbaum.

Kayfetz took the position. The mandate was to organize and promote the passage of an anti-discrimination law. As the years went on, he became involved in numerous committees.

Some of the activities included international affairs, kashrut, archives, Soviet Jewry and wherever else his expertise was needed.

Ben Kayfetz

In 1947, discrimination was evident everywhere in the community. It only took four years of intensive effort and co-operation from the leaders of the Jewish community for the fair labor laws to be enacted – they thought it would take 10 or 12 years. The laws were later expanded to include housing and other human rights areas.

Kayfetz recalls that in those days, sexual preference, age discrimination, disabilities and gender were totally ignored. "It was difficult to get people to shut out their biases. It was considered normal to have them. It didn't even come under consideration for a long time – it wasn't on anyone's agenda."

Quiet spoken and an outstanding communicator, Kayfetz has witnessed many other changes in his lifetime and some things that he believes have not changed fast enough.

He is unhappy that in some areas in Canada, school teachers still believe that they have a right to teach their religion in the public school system.

A major change, he notes, is that for many years, Jewish politicians were generally elected from wards with large Jewish populations. He cites Herb Gray as an example of change.

"Gray came from an area in Windsor with a small Jewish community. Now, Mel Lastman is the super mayor and there is no thought of him hiding his Jewishness."

He adds that today, anti-Semitism, where it exists, is covered up. "No politician would be foolish enough to say anything in public that is remotely considered anti-Jewish."

Other changes, he notes, are in our immigration policies. "Now they are not based on racism."

For Jews, a dramatic change in attitude has taken place in corporations, major law offices, hospitals, and in the financial world. "In 1928, the Toronto General Hospital agreed to take one Jewish doctor a year on staff. You could get into medical school, but not into a hospital."

Adamant that he is not a professional historian, Kayfetz has published numerous articles and monographs on the Jewish community. He has been a contributor to the *Jewish Standard*, the *Globe and Mail*, the *Jewish Chronicle* of London, England and the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

Kayfetz has not only been a astute observer of the Canadian and Jewish scenes, he has also affected change for the improvement of our communities.

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COMMUNITY FOCUS

CJN ad rep says goodbye

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

Ruth Goldsmith is 70 years old – and doesn't mind who knows it.

She is a passionate lover of classical music, nature and family, a feminist, and a proud member of the Orthodox community – with reservations.

CJN advertisers know her better as advertising consultant for organizations for the past 20 years, a job she describes as "work I love doing, and they even pay me to do it!"

Goldsmith's era at the paper will come to a close at the end of August, when she retires. Well, sort of.

While she won't be coming in to *The CJN* four days a week, vegetating is not on her agenda. Her plans include travel, volunteering, working on behalf of the Older Women's Network and rights for older women, spending more time with her husband, Ernest, a retired engineer for Toronto Hydro, with daughter Naomi and grandchildren Aliza, Shira and Avi, and with her many friends.

As well, Goldsmith says, "Opportunities tend to appear. I have had to say no to many opportunities. Working women have to limit their extracurricular activities.

"I'm looking forward to a more relaxed lifestyle," she says, without even a laugh.

She describes the responsibility she has had at *CJN* as "supporting and working with organizations in varying their advertising, and getting the best value they can for the budget they have available."

Ruth Goldsmith

Since advertising budgets tend to be limited, she wanted to give her clients "the opportunity to advertise where it is most appropriate for them, where and how to maximize the benefits."

In the years since she began at *The CJN*, the most positive change she has seen, in her estimation, is that "as the community has grown, more women professionals are found in positions of authority, such as executive directors."

The people she deals with she finds to be "more committed, qualified, educated and idealistic. They are proud of being Jewish, and are more confident and self-assured."

Goldsmith is a firm advocate of the concept of klal Yisrael – Jewish unity, one might say.

"I love how *The CJN* reflects all viewpoints. Its editorial policy is that we are all Jews, and all points of view should be respected. That is very healthy," she says.

This philosophy of openness she sees in *CJN* staff. "They are a mix of all ages, backgrounds, creeds, religions. There is a tremendous team spirit – we all support each other, not just within each department, but between departments too."

Technology has transformed the advertising world, she says. "When I started 20 years ago, there were no faxes or computers, and only a primitive telephone system. [Now, we can] provide better service, and give better support to our advertisers. It is very satisfying."

Goldsmith is very involved with the Older Women's Network, an advocacy group to promote the rights of older women, in such areas as health care, housing, transportation, pensions.

"The Older Women's Network is the ideal venue for my efforts as I age," she said, noting that "within the Orthodox community, as a woman, volunteer opportunities are somewhat limited. While I was on the board of my shul, more responsible positions are not available to me as a Torah observant Jew."

Goldsmith believes firmly that "women in the Orthodox community have spiritual needs that are not being fully met." As an example, she cited the opposition of most Orthodox rabbis to women's prayer groups. She was hurt when she was told by rabbis that while women are permitted to perform many mitzvot such as saying Kiddush and Kaddish, "we are not obligated and it doesn't count."

Women will only attain true equality, she insists, by studying Torah. Then, she says, they will be able to debate men on their own level.

Those who try to effect change in women's status by opting out of religious observance are "deluding themselves," she says.

"Those who stay within Orthodoxy are the ones involved in real change. You don't want to desecrate principles that are precious."

Goldsmith and her husband came to Canada in the late 1950s, after spending six years in Brazil. Before coming to *The CJN*, she worked as a secretary, did public relations and wrote speeches.

Among her past employers were Rabbi Abraham Feinberg of Holy Blossom, Rabbi David Monson ("I loved working with him. He was the first one who recognized me as a person, not just a dictating machine"), Israel Bonds, JNF, and Canadian Jewish Congress.

She was the first mature student in the community college system when she enrolled at Centennial College in 1967 and earned her diploma in journalism.

Somehow, she also found time to do volunteer work, especially for Mizrachi Women (now Emunah), Shaarei Tefillah and Eitz Chaim.

"Volunteer work is rewarding in a way no other work is. I felt self-actualized."

It will surprise no one if Ruth Goldsmith continues to appear at the doors of *The CJN* on behalf of one of her many interests. We wish her good luck, good health and good fortune.

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***CJN* reporter Cynthia Gasner is in the front row, left side, in this picture of a class at the Brunswick Talmud Torah, around 1940. The teacher is Mr. Carney. Can you find yourself? Your brother? Sister? Cousin? Best friend? Parent? Let us know.**

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FROM DOR TO DOR

Seen above are four generations of the Levine family in 1913. [Photo courtesy The Ontario Jewish Archives: 000084]

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Enjoying an historic *nosh*

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

Food wonderful food. Many religious and social events in all cultures centre around food.

It is therefore no surprise that in the Jewish community, over the years, restaurants, delicatessens and catering facilities have played a major role in our lives.

The CJN asked this writer to scan her memory and jog the memory of some of our readers over 50, as we try to recall the eating facilities of yesteryear.

We are not historians and this is not a scholarly report; the following is, therefore, not a complete list of early gastronomic establishments, and some names may not be absolutely accurate, but they certainly will bring back memories.

Back in the 1930s and earlier, restaurants and other food establishments did not have kashrut supervision, because most owners were observant and it was assumed that everyone was kosher.

Today, however, the Kashruth Council of Toronto is the primary agency for kashrut supervision here. The offices are located in the Lipa Green Building.

Strolling down memory lane to the days when most of us lived in the area bounded by Dundas and College, Spadina and Ossington, there were numerous drugstores that had a food and fountain counter.

Familiar names of restaurants included Goldenberg's, Tel Aviv, Quality, Mintz (later a tavern), Shekters, the Rumanian Grill, Rubin's and United Bakers.

If you wanted a corn beef or pastrami sandwich, you went to delicatessens like the Edelists', Pancer's, Wasser, Kalb, Altshuler, Paskowitz, Becker's, Switzer's, Wellts, Eppes Essen or Shopsowitz.

And you could find familiar faces at The Bagel restaurant on College Street just west of Spadina. People gave it unflattering names, but it had a loyal clientele.

In catering, who can forget the Murray House on Beverley Street. It was "the place to get married," and they had all the trimmings.

As the community moved north and east, so did the eating establishments, leaving behind the facilities for other ethnic food purveyors.

The granddaddy of the Jewish restaurants is the United Bakers Dairy Restaurant, which closed its doors on Spadina Avenue in 1986 after 75 years, and is now operating in its 87th year.

Restaurateur Herman Ladovsky, who was born the year the original store opened, can remember much of the history that flowed through the restaurant.

You can often see the spry and jovial Ladovsky at the restaurant, located in Lawrence Plaza since 1984, meeting and greeting people and often telling one of his jokes or stories.

The restaurant is now operated by the third generation, Ruthie Ladovsky and her brother Phillip. As far as we know, it is the only restaurant in Toronto that has survived the generations.

Ruth, Herman and Philip Ladovsky relax at the Lawrence Plaza United Bakers Dairy Restaurant. A photo of the original restaurant on Spadina hangs behind them.

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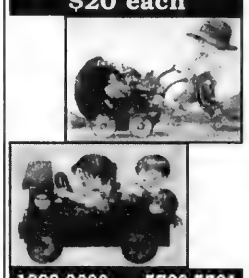

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Looking to the future

By JAY BRODBAR
Special to The CJN

It is said that since the destruction of the Temple, prophecy is reserved for children and fools.

It has been a long time since I have been mistaken for the former, and I do not relish the latter designation; thus I ought to resist the temptation to prognosticate. So what you will find here is neither prophecy nor prognostication but rather a series of qualified guesses and questions about what our Jewish community might look like in the coming century.

If you are the kind of person who chuckles at five-day weather forecasts, then you have the necessary skepticism required to read on.

Most demographic forecasts use as their basis census data of some sort or another. For any year that we have data, the information is critical. But when these numbers are used for prediction, no one is infallible.

I have in my files a report by UJA Federation's top planner in the late '80s surmising that Greater Toronto's population "by the turn of the century could approach 150,000." Little did he know that in fact the community had reached that landmark even while he was writing his forecast and now, as we shall see, some estimates put our population as over 200,000.

This forecast was not alone in dramatically underestimating the growth of our community. Why? Population numbers change for basically three reasons: births, deaths and migration. The last is especially hard to estimate, since it is sensitive to economic and political factors such as war, economic depression, immigration policies and political movements that occur on both national and global arenas.

The vast proportion of our dramatic growth (for example, 34,000 from 1981 to 1991) was due to high immigration. Toronto draws immigrants, and Jewish immigrants are no exception. Interestingly, our community's recent growth is due about equally to people moving here from abroad and to those coming from other parts of Canada.

It is also important to take into account, not just the total numbers, but how those numbers distribute themselves throughout the GTA. Here again, there are factors beyond our control, like the type and cost of housing, the development of transportation infrastructure, and the location of schools, synagogues and health and recreational facilities.

For example, the presence of Jewish seniors in York region is very small. But that can change, depending on the nature of housing and services that become available, as well as such factors as a more integrated mass public transportation system throughout the GTA.

In spite of the fact that we can't anticipate the kinds of political and economic events that might dramatically increase immigration to Toronto or emigration out of Toronto, all things being equal, there are certain safe bets for the immediate and longer-term future. These include the continued dramatic growth in the number of frail elderly (those over 75), as well as the dramatic growth in the overall senior population as the baby boom generation ages. Certain differences in the characteristics of various geographic areas are also likely to remain.

For example, York Region is disproportionately home to young families, and as suggested earlier, unless housing stock (such as apartments and condominiums and assisted living) is adequate, mass transit expands and elder services are increased, this trend is likely to continue.

What will the GTA look like in terms of overall population numbers? The GTA task force several years ago commissioned some projections for its own purposes. Based on assumptions of flat fertility levels, a complicated scenario of shifting mortality rates, and due to its historical volatility, fairly complicated immigration scenarios, the task force estimated a series of projections until the year 2031 based on the 1991 census.

If we apply similar assumptions to the Jewish population of the Toronto Census Metropolitan Area (CMA), which is fairly equivalent for our purposes, to the GTA, we come up with the following projections:

2001 – 203,803
2011 – 234,287
2021 – 263,397
2031 – 294,780

The task force also projected alternative low and high scenarios. Even by the former, our community would reach just under a quarter of a million persons by 2031; by the latter, it would reach close to a staggering 360,000.

When we look at the amount of change for various age groups between 1991 and 2021, we can see the impact of the baby boom in successive peaks of increases in the older groups as we move into the future. This has all the implications discussed in the widely read book by David K. Foot *Boom, Bust and Echo*.

The most dramatic changes will follow the baby boomers. For example, in 1991 there were under 7,000 Jews in the 70 to 74 age group; by 2031 that number is predicted to be close to 17,000.

When we look into the future, we also need to take into account that Greater Toronto Area Jewry, as noted earlier, does not have a uniform look across the whole metropolis. Different sectors have different flavors with different characteristics and needs. In terms of defined geographic areas, there are probably three we should focus on:

Continued on page B23

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COMMUNITY FOCUS

York Region an area of tremendous growth

Continued from page B22

York Region, downtown and the demographic centre.

York Region has been an area of tremendous growth for both the general and the Jewish community. If treated separately, this area, with estimates of close to 60,000 Jews, would be the third largest Jewish community in Canada (after Toronto and Montreal). The vast majority of Jews live in the Thornhill sections of the cities of Vaughan and Markham, with pockets in Richmond Hill.

An important characteristic of Jews in this area is that they are young: In 1991, one out of every three was under 15 years old. It is likely that for the foreseeable future, the educational and recreational needs of this age range will be paramount, both as it moves through time (and gets older), and with the influx of new young families due to continued real estate development.

It will be interesting to see if senior-related services and housing materialize in the future. It's a bit of a chicken and egg question. Some people believe that there will be a need based on people wanting to be close to their families and grandchildren, but it is also dependent on the ability of the region to meet this age group's needs.

The downtown area for our purposes is quite large: the area south of St. Clair from the Humber River to the Beaches. With over 15,000 Jews, it is the smallest in number, but to give us some perspective, it is equivalent in size to the entire Jewish population of Ottawa.

There are a number of qualities that are characteristic of Jews living in this area: They are much more likely to be single, not young or old, nor immigrants. The downtown has the highest proportion of Jews living in one parent families.

When we compare Jews in this area with those in the other two areas of higher Jewish density, it is clear that the basis and nature of Jewish identity is different. For example, whereas only four percent of Jews in the higher density Jewish areas identified themselves in 1991 as Jews by ethnic ancestry with no religious affiliation, 20 percent of those living downtown identified themselves in that manner. In addition, close to 42 percent of Jews in the downtown area live in families where at least one spouse and/or parent is not Jewish.

There has been a lot of activity in recent years, as manifested by the formation of the Downtown Jewish Community Council, an association of 21 downtown organizations, and as seen in the role of the Bloor JCC as the magnet institution.

There are growing attempts to meet the needs of this group through the creation of greater options for Jewish education and an emphasis on the cultural programming that seems to be a key locus of identification for Jews in this area.

In some ways, this group may be hardest for which to forecast: I suspect that the success of these efforts at maintaining and revitalizing the content of Jewish life will go a long way to assure a continued Jewish presence in Toronto's downtown.

The demographic centre of the community is in North York. This area should continue to be an important core of Jewish activity. A fair portion of that area (especially along the Bathurst corridor) is composed of empty nesters, the

Continued on page B27

Sherman's Hardware Store, Queen Street West, 1920s. [Photo courtesy The Ontario Jewish Archives: 1434]

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Tel: 416-636-1880, ext. 229
Fax: 416-636-5813
The Bathurst Jewish Centre is a multi-service community centre which provides social, athletic, educational, recreational and cultural programs for people of all ages. Come to life at the Centre.

BLOOR JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTRE
750 Spadina Ave.,
Toronto, Ont. M5S 2J2
Executive Director: Bill Emery
Tel: 416-924-6211 Fax: 416-924-0442
Join us at the BloorJCC; a vibrant, active downtown community based centre with over 3,000 members and 10,000 people who participate in over 450 programs, athletically and culturally. One of over 20 members of a strong and vocal Downtown Jewish Community Council, we also boast a Judaic store and a Kosher restaurant (COR).

JEWISH WOMEN INTERNATIONAL OF CANADA
638A Sheppard Ave. W., Ste. 210,
Downsview, Ont. M3H 2S1
Executive Director: Penny Krowitz
Tel: 416-630-9313 Fax: 416-630-9319
E-mail: jwic@colosseum.com
JWI/C strengthens the lives of women, children and families through education, advocacy and action focusing on family violence and the emotional health of children. There are chapters all over the GTA - call now for information 416-630-9313. We have the place for you!

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN OF CANADA, Toronto Section
4700 Bathurst St.,
Willowdale, Ont. M2R 1W8
Executive Director: Terry S. Winston
Tel: 416-633-5100 Fax: 416-633-1956
Established in 1897, National Council of Jewish Women of Canada, Toronto Section, is a volunteer service organization, dedicated to identifying community needs and providing leadership changes in our community. We are proud of a century of service, education and social action.

REENA
Toby & Henry Battle Developmental Centre
927 Clark Ave. W.,
Thornhill, Ont. L4J 8G6
Executive Director: Sandy Keshen
Tel: 905-889-6484 Fax: 905-889-3827
Reena is a non-profit social service agency supporting individuals with a developmental handicap, and their families through residential and social work programs. Community day, evening and Sunday programs focus on recreation, education, life skill/vocational training, support and leisure. Charitable donations can be made through the Reena Foundation at 905-763-8254, ext. 3033.

TORONTO HEBREW BENEVOLENT SOCIETY
c/o Rose-Anne Petlock
4 Colvestone Rd.,
Toronto, Ont. M2L 1X3
Contact: Stan Federman
Tel: 416-787-7574
Now in its 101st year, the Society offers social events, annual Chanukah party, monthly Sunday morning breakfast meetings with interesting guest speakers; group outings and tours. We also carry out charity work for the needy in our community. Affordable dues. Membership open to women and men.

UJA FEDERATION
4600 Bathurst St.,
Toronto, Ont. M2R 3V2
Tel: 416-635-2883 Fax: 416-631-5715
No matter where Jews live in the Greater Toronto area, there is one organization responsible for fundraising, planning and the co-ordination of services on their behalf. UJA Federation is our community's central organization. Through the Annual Campaign, endowments and the Legacy capital initiatives, UJA Federation raises millions of dollars to support an extensive network of essential services, such as Jewish education and Israel experience programs to strengthen Jewish identity; assistance for the vulnerable and the rescue of Jews in danger around the world. UJA Federation also provides a strong Jewish voice on issues of urgent concern through financial support for Canadian Jewish Congress. UJA Federation departments include the Board of Jewish Education, Committee for Yiddish, Holocaust Education and Memorial Centre, Jewish Information Service and Ontario Jewish Archives. Among UJA Federation beneficiary agencies are the Bathurst Jewish Centre, BBYO, Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, Bloor Jewish Community Centre, Canadian Jewish Congress, Circle of Care (formerly Senior Care) the Jewish Agency, Jewish Camp Council, Jewish Campus Services, Jewish Family & Child Service, Jewish Immigrant Aid Service. Jewish Vocational Services, Jews For Judaism, Reena, the Toronto Jewish Free Loan Cassa and Zareinu. UJA Federation fundraising expenses are among the world's lowest.

UNITED JEWISH PEOPLE'S ORDER
585 Cranbrooke Ave.,
Toronto, Ont. M6A 2X9
Executive Director: Maxine Hermolin
Tel: 416-789-5502 Fax:416-789-5981
e-mail: mws@cpol.com
A progressive secular Jewish voice for more than 70 years, UJPO sponsors the Morris Winchevsky School, Toronto Jewish Folk Choir, Cranbrooke Friendship Club for seniors, Camp Naivelt, Yiddish Reading Circle, social action/educational events, cultural & holiday celebrations including Secular Third Seder, Warsaw Ghetto Uprising Commemoration, arts and music programs.

DAY CARE

B'NAI SHALOM DAY NURSERY
275 Arnold Ave.,
Thornhill, Ont. L4J 1C3
Co-ordinator: Sadie Domb
Tel: 905-731-2797 / 905-731-7527
New Toddler Room for 18 mo.-2 1/2 yr. olds. Full or 1/2 days for children 18 mo.-5 yrs. Government licensed since 1984 and subsidies. Warm nurturing environment. Experienced ECE teachers. Open year round 7 a.m.-6 p.m. Hot kosher lunches and snacks (under COR). Full-time Jr. K program. Hebrew, music, arts & crafts, holiday celebrations.

J&F HOME CHILD CARE SERVICES INC.
211 Consumers Rd., #205
Willowdale, Ont. M2J 4G8
Executive Director: Fran Ostronoff
Tel: 416-494-5898 Fax: 416-494-6147
Quality care is J&F Home Child Care Services with 20 years of excellence. Licensed, screened, supervised homes in the North York, Thornhill, Richmond Hill, Scarborough areas. Our caregivers are professionally trained through Canadian Mothercraft Society. For children ages 6 wks.-12 yrs.

EDUCATION

AHAVAT YISRAEL HEBREW SCHOOL
8950 Bathurst St.,
Thornhill, Ont. L4J 8A7
Principal: Mrs. Leslie Shapiro
Tel: 905-731-6704 Fax: 905-731-4651
Provides a creative, enjoyable learning experience for those interested in a once or optional twice a week program. The school, in its 9th year, offers an enriching curriculum of reading, writing, language, prayers, Israel and holidays. Special events include challah baking, Purim party and Passover seder. Remedial and enriched program available.

ASSOCIATED HEBREW SCHOOLS OF TORONTO
Educational Director: Rabbi Abraham Soffer
Executive Director: Arthur Landa
Administration Office
6100 Leslie St.,
Willowdale, Ont. M2H 3J1
Tel: 416-494-7666 Fax: 416-494-2925

Danilack Centre: Pre-School—Gr.8
6100 Leslie St.,
Willowdale, Ont. M2H 3J1
Elementary Principals: Jackie Weintraub, Ruth Portnoy
Tel: 416-494-7666 Fax: 416-494-2925

Jr. High Principals: Rabbi P. Brumer, Jerry H. Rosenfield
Tel: 416-494-7280 Fax: 416-494-3477

Hurwich Centre
Temporarily closed.

Kamin Centre: Pre-School—Gr. 6
300 Atkinson Ave.,
Thornhill, Ont. L4J 8A2
Bet Hayeled (Pre-School) Supervisors: Surie Nagel, Susan Herberman.
Elementary Principals: Sandy Rabinowitz, Rabbi P. Tessler
Tel: 905-889-3998 Fax: 905-889-5183

Posluns Education Centre
18 Neptune Dr.,
Toronto, Ont. M6A 1X1
Elementary Principals: Rosalie Sniderman, Betty Katzman
Tel: 416-787-1872
The mission of Associated Hebrew Schools of Toronto is to continue our long history of providing our students with an excellent Jewish and General Studies education based on Torah values in a safe and supportive learning environment. Now in its 9th decade, Associated offers outstanding educational programs for a Pre-School-Gr. 8 student population exceeding 2,400.

ATTENTION DISORDERS NEUROFEEDBACK CENTRE (ADNC)
262 St. Clair Ave. W., Suite 102,
Toronto, Ont. M4V 1R8
Director: Tamara Druckman
Tel: 416-944-0103
Neurofeedback is a non-invasive alternative to medication for Attention Deficit Disorder. By utilizing feedback from their brainwave activity, individuals are able to learn to increase their powers of concentration. In conjunction with the intensive training program, the ADNC teaches learning strategies which enhance the increased ability to concentrate and focus.

BEIT RAYIM HEBREW SCHOOL
9711 Bayview Ave.,
Richmond Hill, Ont. L4C 9X7
Principal: Haia Hason
Tel./Fax: 905-770-7639
www.beitrayim.org
SK-Grade 8+. Innovative programs enrich the Jewish life of each student. Curriculum includes Hebrew language, holidays, Bible, Israel, prayers, music, history. Special events, field trips, family programs. Certified by BJE and the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism. Grads qualify for Bar/Bat Mitzvah in any Conservative Synagogue. 2 day program (Thurs. & Sun.).

BETH ISRAEL HEBREW ACADEMY
11 Pickett Cres.,
Richmond Hill, Ont. L4C 9L1
Director: Lillian Benlolo
Tel: 905-770-1082 Fax:905-770-6965
Beth Israel Hebrew Academy offers Sundays and afternoon Hebrew programs for children ages 5-Bar/Bat Mitzvah, in Richmond Hill and Thornhill. Small classes, individual attention, special events, and activities are integrated into Hebrew studies. Bar/bat mitzvah preparation.

BETH SHOLOM HEBREW SCHOOL
1445 Eglinton Ave. W.,
Toronto, Ont. M6C 2E6
Principal: Marcia Goldlist
Tel: 416-783-6103 Fax: 416-783-9923
Beth Sholom offers a 2-day-a-week program (except kindergarten). We have added a new and exciting program 1-Saturday-a-month especially for learning the Shabbat prayers. New also, is our grade 8 program. Choose from once -a-week, or a once- a-month talk with the Rabbi.

BETH TIKVAH CONGREGATIONAL SCHOOL
3080 Bayview Ave.,
Willowdale, Ont. M2N 5L3
Principal: Rabbi Natan Kandler
Tel: 416-221-3433, ext. 312
Fax: 416-221-1602
Offers a dynamic 2-day-a-week Jewish studies curriculum: Hebrew, Bible, prayer, history and values. We seek to develop a positive Jewish identity in each child through a meaningful, responsive educational environment, with a variety of youth activities. All classes (JK-7) are open to the community and are in the Synagogue.

BETH TZEDEC CONGREGATIONAL SCHOOL
1700 Bathurst St.,
Toronto, Ont. M5P 3K3
Director of Education and Youth: Dr. Daniel F. Goldberg
Tel: 416-787-0381, ext. 30
Fax: 416-781-0150
Beth Tzedec Congregational School is a supplementary school offering an exciting educational experience that encourages family involvement and inspires joy and pride in being Jewish. Classes focus on Hebrew reading, prayer, bible, holidays and customs, history, and Israel, enabling students to become active, contributing members of the Jewish community.

BIALIK HEBREW DAY SCHOOL
12 Viewmount Ave.,
Toronto, Ont. M6B 1T3
Administrator: Sonia Shron
Tel: 416-783-3346 Fax: 416-785-8287
Bialik Hebrew Day School serves children from JK-Grade 8, striving to provide an integrated Jewish and general education. Through our integrated program, students learn to value their Jewishness and love for Israel while developing a sense of membership in the Canadian community.

B'NAI SHALOM HEBREW SCHOOL
Yorkhill E.S., 350 Hilda Ave.
(at Clark) **Thornhill**
Principal: Joseph Klinger, MA
Administrator: Sadie Domb
Tel: 905-731-2797
School hours - once or twice weekly. K-Grade 7. Bar/bat mitzvah. Affiliated with Board of Jewish Education. Conservative schools' curriculum. Trusted name in Hebrew education since 1983. Subjects covered: Hebrew, holidays, prayers, Israel, Bible, history, Israeli folkdancing, music.

CHAT (Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto
200 Wilmington Ave.,
Downsview, Ont. M3H 5J8
Headmaster: Paul J. Shaviv, MA, M.Phil
Tel: 416-636-5984 Fax: 416-636-7717
Toronto's community high school (gr. 9-12) providing courses leading to university entrance. A comprehensive Jewish studies program is an integral part of our school, including a community service requirement. Our reputation is

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EDUCATION CONT'D

based on individual care for every student We offer an extensive program of sports and extra-curricular activities.

DOWNTOWN JEWISH COMMUNITY SCHOOL (c/o BloorJCC)
750 Spadina Ave.,
Toronto, Ont. M5S 2J2
Principal: Joan Schoenfeld
Tel: 416-924-6211 Fax: 416-924-0442
E-mail: djds@total.net
Independent school. 350 students, ages 4-18. Jr. K-12. High school Wed. 7-8:30 p.m. Special programs/features: community holiday celebration program and Oneg Shabbat dinners, adult education programs, family Israel fair. Provides students with strong sense of Jewish identity in pluralistic community.

DOWNTOWN JEWISH DAY SCHOOL
750 Spadina Ave., (Bloor JCC)
Toronto, Ont. M5S 2J2
School Administrator: Doris Weisz
Tel: 416-924-6211 Fax: 416-924-0442
E-mail: djds@total.net
The Downtown Jewish Day School, located at the BloorJCC has use of pool, gym and free after school program. We offer: excellence in education, 2 teachers/class, arts-based instruction, meaningful religious education, nurturing and child-centred environment. Free BloorJCC family membership. Spaces available in SK-Gr. 3. Enroll now, call 924-6211.

KADIMA SCHOOL
(Beth Emeth Synagogue) 100 Elder St.,
North York, Ont. M3H 5G7
Supervisor: Galya Ouanounou
Tel: 416-638-6235 Fax: 416-631-6572
Kadima Sunday School, founded by Rabbi Joseph Kelman, offers an exciting Jewish learning experience for youth with developmental disabilities. Classes held at Beth Emeth include Hebrew study, holidays, customs and prayers. Students enjoy participating in crafts, music and community programs. A low yearly fee applies. Subsidies and transportation available.

THE LEO BAECK DAY SCHOOL
Atkinson Campus,
36 Atkinson Ave.,
Thornhill, Ont. L4J 8C9

Holy Blossom Campus
1950 Bathurst St.,
Toronto, Ont. M5P 3K9
Director: Zita J. Gardner, M.Ed., RJE
Tel: 905-709-3636
A Reform Jewish day school where families, teachers and the community create a warm atmosphere in which individual learning styles are addressed. Each student is prepared as a knowledgeable, practising Liberal Jew, able to participate effectively in Canadian society. Music, art and computers enrich our curriculum, integrating Judaic and general studies.

MORRIS WINCHEVSKY SCHOOL
585 Cranbrooke Ave.,
Toronto, Ont. M6A 2X9
Executive Director: Maxine Hermolin
Tel: 416-789-5502 Fax: 416-789-5981
E-mail: mws@cpol.com
More than 70 years of Progressive Humanistic Secular Jewish Education! Sunday morning classes, ages 4-13. Jewish identity & heritage explored through Yiddish culture, Jewish history, literature, music, folk dance, drama & art with a social justice perspective. Family/community-oriented holiday celebrations. Graduation marked by Secular Bar-Bat Mitzvah. Youth Leadership Training Program plus youth activities and projects.

ORAH SCHOOL
45 Canyon Ave., (in Ulpanat Orot bldg)
North York, Ont. M3H 3S4
Contact: Rabbi Yosef Michalowicz
Tel: 416-223-5556
ORAH - Sunday school for Jewish children (ages 4-13) from Russian-speaking families. Classes on Sundays 9:45 a.m.-3:45 p.m. Curriculum includes Jewish studies - Hebrew, customs, traditions, Jewish heritage, Bar/Bat Mitzvah; Russian language. Experienced professional teachers; supportive, friendly environment.

PLAYLEARN PRESCHOOL INC.
9741 Bayview Ave.,
Richmond Hill, Ont. L4C 9X7
Director: Mrs. Necha Jakubowicz
Tel: 905-737-3336 Fax: 905-886-0059
Licensed by the Ministry of Community and Social Services, the warm nurturing atmosphere and carefully thought-out programming fosters socialization skills, builds self-esteem and allows each child to reach his/her fullest potential. The joys of being Jewish are carefully transmitted through hands-on activities, forming an awareness and love for people and Eretz Israel.

PRIDE OF ISRAEL HEBREW SCHOOL
59 Lissom Cres.,
Willowdale, Ont. M2R 2P2
School Bd. Chairperson: Paul Caplin
Tel: 905-738-4511 Fax: 905-761-0733
The Pride of Israel Hebrew School (affiliated with Pride of Israel Synagogue) is a fully functioning Conservative educational program in the Bathurst & Steeles area. The school welcomes students from the ages of 5 yrs. old, has a full Bar and Bat Mitzvah component, and an excellent weekly Junior Congregation service.

SHAAR SHALOM RELIGIOUS SCHOOL
2 Simonston Blvd.,
Thornhill, Ont. L3T 4L1
Principal: Karen L. Goodis, RJE
Location: Thornhill Secondary School.
Tel: 905-889-0987 Fax: 905-889-1575
Kindergarten, Sunday; Gr. 1-2, twice weekly; Gr. 3-7, three times weekly; Gr. 8 Judaica program. Highlights: family education, winter arts program, music, emphasis on synagogue skills and remediation available. We are committed to providing children with the tools to become committed adult Jews. Affiliated with BJE and United Synagogue of Conservaive Judaism.

UNITED CONGREGATIONAL SCHOOLS
100 Elder St.
Toronto, Ont. M3H 5G7
Educational Director: Rabbi Joseph Kelman
Tel: 416-633-1338 Fax: 416-633-3153
Comprehensive program emphasizing Hebrew, holiday celebrations, synagogue skills and history. 6 hours of classes, Wednesdays and Sundays. Central campus with free bus service from Thornhill on Wednesdays. Field trips, weekly music program, participating in Zimriyah Choir Festival. Bar/Bat Mitzvah program. Supported by Beth David and Beth Emeth Synagogues.

UNITED SYNAGOGUE DAY SCHOOL
Administration House:
3072 Bayview Ave.
Director of Education: Lucy Cohen

Bathurst Campus
1700 Bathurst St.

Bayview Campus,
3072 Bayview Ave.

Richmond Hill Campus,
9711 Bayview Ave.

Tel: 416-225-5928, ext. 37
Fax: 416-225-9108

JK - Grade 8. Offers a warm, stimulating, Jewish environment where students can develop socially, cognitively, physically and emotionally. Quality general and Jewish studies programs integrating computers, creative arts, music, physical education and family education. Teaching strategies enable students to develop their critical thinking and problem-solving skills. Association: Conservative movement.

YACHAD/National Jewish Council for the Disabled
49 Bainbridge Ave.,
North York, Ont. M3H 2K1
Program Co-ordinator: Galya Ouanounou
Tel: 416-638-6235 Fax: 416-631-6572
Yachad/National Jewish Council for the Disabled provides integrated social, educational and recreational programs for Jewish youth and young adults with special needs. All programs are held with mainstream Jewish high school and university-aged students. Programs include: weekly learning group, bi-monthly programs, Shabbtons, as well as summer tours to the U.S. and Israel.

FUNERAL CHAPELS

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL
2401 Steeles Ave. W.,
North York, Ont. M3J 2P1
Contact: Michael Chas Benjamin
Tel: 416-663-9060 Fax: 416-663-9417
E-mail: info@bpmc.on.ca
We are part of the fabric that binds together the Toronto Jewish community, even in times of sorrow and stress. Four generations of the Benjamin family have provided support to bereaved Jewish families. We devote ourselves to upholding Jewish law and traditions, a responsibility we regard as a sacred trust.

HEBREW BASIC BURIAL
3429 Bathurst St.,
Toronto, Ont. M6A 2C3
Contact: Lawrence Scheinman
Tel: 416-780-0596 Fax: 416-780-0638
When economy is a major consideration, you should know that Hebrew Basic Burial offers the lowest interment costs available from any Jewish establishment. Guaranteed. Families who have used Hebrew Basic Burial's services have all found that dignity and observance of Jewish law were exactly as they should be.

STEELES MEMORIAL CHAPEL
350 Steeles Ave. W.,
Thornhill, Ont. L4J 1A1
Managing Funeral Director:
Carol P. Saucier
Tel: 905-881-6003 Fax: 905-881-8539
The Toronto Jewish community has, for over 70 years, entrusted us with its most sacred and important task. We accept your trust with a measure of humility and a great sense of responsibility. As a community run organization we have established a tradition of tzedaka towards organizations in the city and in Israel.

ISRAEL BASED ORGANIZATIONS

AID TO DISABLED VETERANS OF ISRAEL BEIT HALOCHEM CANADA
3101 Bathurst St., 4th floor,
Toronto, Ont. M6A 2A6
Tel: 416-787-8950 1-800-355-1648
Fax: 416-787-1097
E-mail: bhcan@interlog.com
Web site: www.interlog.com/~bhcan
Beit Halochem Canada assists disabled Israeli veterans and their families rehabilitate themselves physically and emotionally. Four state of the art facilities in Israel offer a comprehensive range of services to disabled members including medicine, hydrotherapy, physical therapy, creative and athletic activities. Please help ensure that these programs continue for our Israeli heroes.

THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE SOLDIERS OF ISRAEL
788 Marlee Ave., Ste. 201,
North York, Ont. M6B 3K1
Tel: 416-783-3053 Fax: 416-787-7496
Toll free: 1-800-433-6226
The Association is: the only civilian group whose programs make the life of every soldier on active duty in Israel's Defence Forces a little easier; co-ordinating its projects with the IDF to meet each soldier's recreational, educational and emotional needs; making army service more pleasant for every soldier; showing we care.

CANADIAN FRIENDS OF BOYS TOWN JERUSALEM
2788 Bathurst St., Ste. 200,
Toronto, Ont. M6B 3A3
Executive Director: Denise Gold
Tel: 416-789-7241 Fax: 416-789-1090
Over the past 50 years, Boys Town has enhanced the lives of more than 10,000 youths giving them new hopes and aspirations. Programs include computer science, design and manufacturing, electronics, mechanics, academic and religious studies. In turn, these boys have become key assets in building a better and stronger Israel.

CANADIAN FRIENDS OF EZRATH NASHIM - HERZOG HOSPITAL
3101 Bathurst St., Ste. 606,
Toronto, Ont. M6A 2A6
Tel: 416-256-4222 Fax: 416-256-1446
E-mail: herzoghosp@better.net
Herzog Hospital is the prime institution serving the geriatric and psychiatric population of Jerusalem. Recognized worldwide for research in both Alzheimer and Parkinson's Disease and major psychiatric disorders. Recently acclaimed for isolating several genes that appear to contribute to personality development. Donations to Herzog Hospital receive income tax receipts.

CANADIAN FRIENDS OF GIVAT HAVIVA
1111 Finch Ave. W., Ste. 456,
Downsview, Ont. M3J 2E5
Tel: 416-736-9655 Fax: 416-736-1405
Supports Givat Haviva, one of Israel's leading centres promoting democracy, tolerance and mutual respect between Israel's diverse communities; integrating new immigrants; presenting Holocaust workshops; developing community access to art and the media. Canadians can play a direct and personal role by supporting Givat Haviva's internationally acclaimed programs.

THE CANADIAN SHAARE ZEDEK HOSPITAL FOUNDATION
3089 Bathurst St., Ste. 205,
Toronto, Ont. M6A 2A4
National Executive Director: Marcia Ross
Tel: 416-781-3584 1-800-387-3595
Fax: 416-781-6439
E-mail: cansz@on.aibn.com
The foundation represents Shaare Zedek Medical Center, Jerusalem's "Hospital With A Heart." Our groups and committees offer rewarding and self-fulfilling activities for people of all ages. Our all-occasion cards and certificates, Jewish New Year cards and place cards for simchot provide supporters with an opportunity to honor friends and family.

CANADIAN SOCIETY FOR YAD VASHEM
970 Lawrence Ave. W., Ste. 211,
Toronto, Ont. M6A 3B6
Executive Director: Marilyn Somers
Tel: 416-785-1333 Fax: 416-785-4536
E-mail: ydvashem@istar.ca
The Canadian Society for Yad Vashem is a non-profit, volunteer organization which seeks to link all survivors and those who wish to identify with Holocaust education and to Yad Vashem in Jerusalem. An Educational Resource Centre is open at our new office using materials designed by Yad Vashem in Israel, including the 1st of 4 interactive CD-Roms on the Holocaust "Return to Life".

CANADIAN TECHNION SOCIETY
970 Lawrence Ave. W., Ste. 206,
Toronto, Ont. M6A 3B6
Ntl. Exec. Director: Cheryl Koperwas
Tel: 416-789-4545 Fax: 416-789-0255
E-mail: cdntech@pathcom.com
National fundraising and education arm for Technion - Israel Institute of Technology, Israel's oldest university. Supports faculty recruitment and promotes academic exchange between Technion and Canadian universities, provides information for undergraduate and graduate studies, raises funds for scholarships and research projects.

CANADIAN VOLUNTEERS FOR ISRAEL
788 Marlee Ave.,
Toronto, Ont. M6B 3K1
Tel: 416-781-6089 Fax: 416-785-7687
Montreal tel: 514-735-0272
Sar-el is a voluntary, non-political organization providing Diaspora Jews with the opportunity to directly help Israel. Most volunteers are between 18 and 65. They work and live for 18 days on IDF maintenance bases. Room and board supplied. Many extras.

THE CANADIAN ZIONIST CULTURAL ASSOC.
788 Marlee Ave. , Ste. 201
North York, Ont. M6B 3K1
Tel: 416-783-3053 Fax: 416-787-7496
Toll free: 1-800-433-6226
The Association offers its facilities without charge for social and education programs for young people and new immigrants in Israel; sponsors holiday camps for widows and orphans of soldiers providing psychological and group support; grants university scholarships and sponsors refresher courses for required university entrance tests to applicants having fulfilled national service.

CANADIAN ZIONIST FEDERATION, CENTRAL REGION
3995 Bathurst St., Ste. 300,
North York, Ont. M3H 5V3
Tel: 416-633-3988 Fax: 416-633-4382
The official Canadian representative of the World Zionist Organization the CZF umbrella brings together 15 national constituent organizations whose vision is a strong and vibrant Jewish life in Canada. Its mission is the promotion of Jewish culture, education, aliyah and strengthening the ties between Israel and Canada.

EMUNAH WOMEN OF TORONTO
3768 Bathurst St., Ste. 308,
North York, Ont. M3H 3M7
Toronto Co-ordinator: Beverley Kunz
Tel: 416-636-0036 Fax: 416-636-0039
A Torah Zionist organization, standing proud of its accomplishments. Under Emunah's auspices, over 170 educational and social facilities meet the ever-increasing physical and spiritual needs of diverse communities in Israel. Emunah offers a variety of programs and events throughout the year for the community, which both entertain and educate

JEWISH NATIONAL FUND
4600 Bathurst St., Ste. 238,
Willowdale, Ont. M2R 3V3
Executive Director: Ben Prossin
Tel: 416-638-7200 Fax: 416-638-7345
Best recognized as the organization which has planted forests, parks and trees in Israel. It really does much more - builds roads, constructs dams and reservoirs, develops land infrastructure for new immigrant housing, prepares recreation and tourist sites, and conducts research with regard to various ecological concerns. Donors to JNF receive receipts for income tax purposes.

NA'AMAT CANADA
272 Codsell Ave.,
Toronto, Ont. M3H 3X2
Tel: 416-636-5425 Fax: 416-636-5248
E-mail: naamatca@aol.com
web: www.naamat.com
A dynamic fighter for women's rights in Israel and Canada. Na'amat Israel, with 450,000 members, has dramatically affected lives of women by providing child care, high schools, shelters and counselling centres for family abuse and legal advisory clinics. In Canada, Na'amat sponsors Bialik Hebrew Day School, Camp Gesher, Habonim-Dror Zionist Youth Movement and a Free Legal Aid Advisory Clinic.

ORT Canada (Organization for Educational Resource and Technological Education)
3101 Bathurst St., Ste. 604,
Toronto, Ont. M6A 2A6
Executive Director: Joel Shapiro
Tel: 416-787-0339 Fax: 416-787-9420
ORT is the world's largest non-governmental and non-profit educational network, providing vocational and technological training in more than 60 countries. Helping people help themselves continues to be the guiding force behind all of ORT's work. Today 260,000 children and adults attend 800 ORT schools worldwide. Ort provides education that works!

TORONTO HADASSAH-WIZO
638A Sheppard Ave. W., Ste. 209,
Toronto, Ont. M3H 2S1
Co-ordinator: Louise Rosenbloom
President: Carol Lou Spiegel
Tel: 416-630-8373 Fax:416-630-2370
Toronto Hadassah-WIZO is dedicated to enhancing lives in Israel's communities and promoting women's issues in

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ISRAEL BASED ORGANIZATIONS CONT'D

Canada. It supports projects in Israel — healthcare services, day care centres, education and career training, women and youth services. Locally it supports shelters for women, families in need and promotes women's issues and education

MONUMENT COMPANIES

BENJAMIN'S LANDMARK MONUMENTS
3429 Bathurst St.,
Toronto, Ont. M6A 2C3
Contact: Michael Levitt
Tel: 416-780-0635 Fax: 416-780-0638
Benjamin's Landmark Monuments is Toronto's foremost Jewish monument dealer, continuing the proud tradition of service associated with the Benjamin family name. As the only Jewish monument dealer in Ontario authorized by Rock of Ages to distribute the "Sealmark" granite with the perpetual warranty, our monument counselors can assist you in preparing an honoured memorial of unsurpassed quality

IZENBERG GOLDBERG MONUMENTS
3173 Bathurst St.,
Toronto, Ont. M6A 2B1
Tel: 416-789-0319 Fax: 416-787-0310
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A dynamic family-oriented synagogue in North York. Daily minyanim, shabbat and festival services. Hebrew School, with special program for Gr. 8 & 9. Religious, social and educational programs for youth, families and seniors. Active Sisterhood and Brotherhood Beautiful social halls, COR catering by ZB Catering Ltd. New members welcome

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864 Sheppard Ave. W.,
Downsview, Ont. M3H 2T5
Contact: Carol Modlin
Tel: 416-635-0131 Fax: 416-635-0953
A warm, friendly and family-oriented Conservative Synagogue, encompassing over 350 families, and offering a range of activities which include "hamishe" daily minyans, Friday night, Shabbat and festival services led by Cantor Marshall Loomer, sisterhood and brotherhood, and exclusive newly renovated catering facilities. New members are most welcome.

ANSHEI MINSK SYNAGOGUE
10 St. Andrew St. (Kensington Market),
Toronto, Ont., M5T 1K6
Contact: Rabbi Shmuel Spero
Tel: 416-595-5723
Morning and evening services daily and on Shabbat. The beautifully restored sanctuary glows with warmth and tradition. Please join our weekly Friday night dinners and a variety of educational and family programming. Our spirited shul community fosters a Judaism that is grounded yet spiritual, traditional and creative

BEIT RAYIM SYNAGOGUE
9711 Bayview Ave.,
Richmond Hill, Ont. L4C 9X7
Tel: 905-770-7639 Fax: 905-671-5178
A warm family oriented Egalitarian Conservative Synagogue serving the growing community of York Region Women can choose to participate in all aspects of our services and children are welcomed into the sanctuary. We are dedicated to making the synagogue experience meaningful and enjoyable, with innovative and award-winning programs for children, teens and adults

BETH DAVID B'NAI ISRAEL BETH AM CONGREGATION
55 Yeomans Rd.,
North York, Ont. M3H 3J7
Executive Director: Miriam Telem
Tel: 416-633-5500 Fax: 416-633-1740
Join us in welcoming in Rosh Hashanah (5760) and discover why our members keep coming back week-in and week-out. Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am is a vibrant, traditional Conservative Synagogue where community is embraced. Contact Miriam Telem for further information - she will be pleased to answer your questions.

BETH JACOB V'ANSHE DRILDZ CONGREGATION
147 Overbrook Pl.,
Downsview, Ont. M3H 4R1
Contact: Rabbi Jay Kelman
Tel: 416-638-5955
A growing young community oriented Orthodox Synagogue welcoming to all. We offer daily services, child care, youth programs, adult education, alternative learning minyan, ongoing social programs. Reasonable membership rates. A warm close knit community of 180 families. Central neighbourhood close to all amenities

BETH TIKVAH SYNAGOGUE
3080 Bayview Ave.,
North York, Ont. M2N 5L3
President: Robert Feldgaier
Tel: 416-221-3433 Fax: 416-221-1602
A traditional Conservative synagogue with active lay participation. With the assistance of outstanding professional staff, we offer a Congregational school, exceptional music, young family and adult programming, and an attractive incentive program for new members. We are Toronto's only Conservative synagogue to offer the choice of 4 caterers under COR supervision.

BETH TORAH CONGREGATION
47 Glenbrook Ave.,
Toronto, Ont. M6B 2L7
Contact: Marsha Domb
Tel: 416-782-4495 Fax 416-782-4496
E-mail: bethtorah@attcanada.net
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B'NAI SHALOM NORTH CONGREGATION
275 Arnold Ave.,
Thornhill, Ont. L4J 1C3
Contact: Sadie Domb
Tel: 905-731-2797
Rabbi - Chazzan Solomon Domb's "Hartzig Davening" inspires congregational singing and participation during High Holy Day services at the Garnet A. Williams Community Centre, 501 Clark Ave. W., Thornhill. Enjoy family seating with youths 6-17 yrs. in the main hall, or in a separate youth service. Nursery for 2-5 yr. olds provided. Also, catering facilities at the synagogue all year under the COR.

CANADIAN COUNCIL FOR REFORM JUDAISM
36 Atkinson Ave.,
Thornhill, Ont. L4J 8C9
Director: Rabbi Paul Golomb
Tel: 905-709-2275 Fax: 905-709-1895
Canadian national office of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, representing over 850 synagogues throughout North America, promotes liberal Judaism through synagogue support, outreach, youth programs, Jewish camping, adult and child education, social action.

CONGREGATION BINA
PO/CP 92127, 2900 Warden Ave.,
Scarborough, Ont. M1W 3Y8
Tel: 416-491-9109
Contact: Fleur Samson
Tel: 416-491-6363
The main objective of Congregation BINA, a non-profit organization for Jews from India, is to assist, maintain, and promote traditional religious, social, cultural, and educational activities among its members. Each year, High Holy Day Services and social gatherings are held, and a quarterly news bulletin, *Contact*, is published

CONGREGATION B'NAI TORAH
465 Patricia Ave.,
Willowdale, Ont. M2R 2N1
Tel: 416-226-3700
An Orthodox congregation of over 300 families, offering: women's mikvah for Sabbaths and festivals; separate Shabbat services for adults, youth and children; High Holy Day services; vibrant youth programs; daily shiurim for men and for women, and for pre- and post-bar/bat mitzvah youth; dynamic adult education programs; library.

CONGREGATION DARCHEI NOAM
15 Hove St.,
Toronto, Ont. M3H 4Y8
Rabbi Lawrence M. Pinsker
Presidnet: Debbie Rose
Tel: 416-638-4783 Fax: 416-638-5852
A community which values a fully egalitarian, participatory religious life; mutually supportive community living within Jewish spiritual and ethical ideals; warm, understandable, challenging services combining traditional prayer and contemporary poetry and song, and lively discussion; respect for Jewish traditions and awareness of the unique condition of our Jewish life.

CONGREGATION HABONIM
5 Glen Park Ave.,
Toronto, Ont. M6B 4J2
President: David Goldfarb
Tel: 416-481-1445 Fax: 416-481-9451
Congregation Habonim is a liberal, egalitarian synagogue in North Toronto Shabbat services are held the last Friday of every month. Habonim offers Religious School for members of the community as well as its own members, on a 'space available' basis.

DANFORTH JEWISH CIRCLE
P.O. Box 65003,
358 Danforth Ave.,
Toronto, Ont. M4K 3Z2
Contact: Claudia Bali
Tel: 416-614-4681 Fax: 416-469-0406
A progressive egalitarian community based in Riverdale, inclusive of interfaith and alternative unions. We're a friendly, family-oriented group committed to nurturing Jewish life and traditions through holiday and life cycle celebrations, monthly Shabbat services, and education and social action programs.

DOWNTOWN REFORM MINYAN
36 Atkinson Ave.,
Thornhill, Ont. L4J 8C9
Steering Comm. Chair: Dr. Shelley Albert
Tel: 416-538-8553 Fax 905-709-1895
We meet every Saturday at 10 a.m., Room 204, Bloor JCC (Bloor & Spadina) for a warm, egalitarian and casual Shabbat service. We welcome singles of all ages and families of all varieties. We also celebrate all festivals throughout the Jewish year. Please join us.

FIRST NARAYEVER EGALITARIAN CONGREGATION
187 Brunswick Ave., Toronto, Ont.
Tel: 416-927-0546
For the 12th year the congregation will sponsor High Holy Day services at the BloorJCC. Tickets are available at the BloorJCC or by calling the shul office. The shul offers Shabbat and holiday services, and programs, junior congregation, adult education and opportunities for participation. Guests are warmly welcomed at all times.

HOLY BLOSSOM TEMPLE
1950 Bathurst St.,
Toronto, Ont. M5P 3K9
Member Services Director: Deborah Tameanko
Tel: 416-789-3291, ext. 265
Fax: 416-789-9697
Conveniently located at Bathurst St. and Eglinton Ave. W., Holy Blossom Temple is Canada's oldest and largest Reform synagogue, offering diverse opportunities for worship, study, religious education, social action, and life cycle events Our congregational family welcomes new members throughout the year. For further information please call Deborah Tameanko, 416-789-3291, ext. 265.

KEHILLAT AHAVAT HESED
788 Marlee Ave., 3rd floor,
Toronto, Ont. M6B 3K1
Contact: Lynda Batist-Freedman
Tel: 416-653-9768
An Egalitarian, traditional congregation established in 1985 for mutual support and celebration of Jewish ritual. Focus on communal prayer, study, involvement in social causes. Inspiring, educational and interesting services. Adult education study groups. Celebratng simchot and lifecycle events. We welcome people of all ages and backgrounds, singles, couples and families.

KEHILLAT SHAAREI TORAH
2640 Bayview Ave.,
Willowdale, Ont. M2L 1B7
Administrator: Laila Clein Friedman
Tel: 416-229-2600 Fax: 416-229-2167
A young, vibrant, modern Orthodox synagogue on Bayview near York Mills. With 200 families, we offer a wide range of services and programs, while maintaining the warmth of a small shul. Our bar/bat mitzvah ceremonies are unparalleled. Visitors always welcome

THE KIEVER SYNAGOGUE
25 Bellevue Ave.,
Toronto, Ont. M5T 2N5
President: Dave Pinkus
Tel: 416-593-9956
Constructed in 1927, the Kiever Shul is an historically designated edifice, located in the Kensington area of downtown Toronto. Beautiful and immaculate, it is a true gem and a must visit for foreign Jewish tourists. Services conducted on Shabbat, High Holidys and Festivals Enquiries welcomed for weddings & bar/bat mitzvahs.

LODZER CENTRE CONGREGATION
12 Heaton St.,
North York, Ont. M3H 4Y6
Administrator: Dina Wolfe
Tel: 416-636-6665 Fax 416-636-8861
A Conservative congregation located near Bathurst & Sheppard with Rabbi Ronnie Cahana, spiritual leader. Daily and Shabbat services; High Holiday services with separate youth service and babysitting. Banquet hall seats up to 300. Catering under the Kashruth Council of the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto, by Rose Lazar Caterers

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7751 Yonge St., Box 915,
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V.P. Membership: Doreen Stern
Tel: 416-385-3910
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59 Lissom Cres.,
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Tel: 416-226-0111 Fax: 416-226-0128
A large, traditional Conservative congregation at Bathurst & Steeles. We run daily services and complete Shabbat services for the whole family. We offer bar/bat mitzvah program, Shabbat story hour, adult education, an active sisterhood and glatt kosher catering under COR.

SHAAR SHALOM SYNAGOGUE
2 Simonston Blvd.,
Thornhill, Ont. L3T 4L1
Administrator: Erma Bader
Tel: 905-889-4975 Fax: 905-889-1575
Shaar Shalom Synagogue, under the spiritual leadership of Rabbi Martin Berman and Cantor David Harei, is a Conservative congregation in Thornhill. We offer full services on Shabbat and holidays, daily minyanim, catering services, active sisterhood, brotherhood, youth groups and an afternoon Hebrew School (SK-Gr. 8).

SHAAREI BETH-EL CONGREGATION OF HALTON
186 Morrison Rd.,
Oakville, Ont. L6J 4J4
Contact: Rabbi Edward Goldfarb
Tel: 905-849-6000 Fax: 905-849-1134
A Reform congregation with a strong traditional orientation. The synagogue offers Hebrew and religious classes under the direction of Eric Petersiel, bar/bat mitzvah instruction, youth activities, sisterhood and adult education programs. The shul has experienced sustained growth over the last 17 years from Burlington and Oakville. Other members come from Milton, Mississauga, Hamilton and Toronto.

SOLEL CONGREGATION
2399 Folkway Dr.,
Mississauga, Ont. L5L 2M6
Contact: Shelley Katz
Tel: 905-828-1214 Fax: 905-820-1956
A Liberal congregation affiliated with the Reform movement and with traditional leanings in services and religious practice. Services on Friday evenings Saturday mornings and all Jewish holidays. Weekly minyanim, Tuesday mornings. Children and family participation encouraged. School from JK-Gr. 10, plus adult education classes throughout the year.

TEMPLE EMANU-EL
120 Old Colony Rd.,
North York, Ont. M2L 2K2
Membership Chair: Phil Rudolph
Tel: 416-449-3880 Fax: 905-508-5516
E-mail: temanuel@pathcom.com
A vibrant congregation located on an exquisite site, emphasizing spirituality, children's & adult's education & social conscience. 1-day mid-week Hebrew School & Sun. Hebrew & Rel. School Camp Yossi (Jr. day camp ages 3-7 P.L.C. (Pre-school & JK ages 2 1/2-5 Parent & Tot Program. 1st year's membership dues are free for unaffiliated families

TEMPLE KOL AMI
36 Atkinson Ave.,
Thornhill, Ont. L4J 8C9
Tel: 905-709-2620 Fax: 905-709-1895
Temple Kol Ami is a Reform Jewish congregation led by Rabbi Daniel Komit; Gottlieb, based in Thornhill. Established in 1989, the congregation has grown to approximately 250 members, offering a full range of religious, educational and social programs/services. We welcome inter-faith families and Jews by choice Please call for information

SENIORS

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE FOR CREATIVE LIVING
1003 Steeles Ave. W.,
North York, Ont. M2R 3T6
Tel: 416-225-2112 Fax: 416-225-2097
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CIRCLE OF CARE (formerly Senior Care)
530 Wilson Ave., 4th Floor,
North York, Ont. M3H 1T6
Executive Director: Michael Scheinert
Tel: 416-635-2860 Fax: 416-635-1692
For those seeking support in their lives or help with their daily routines as they adjust to lifecycle changes, illness or accidents. Our qualified staff provide, promptly and with sensitivity, information, referrals, homemaking, personal care, supportive counselling, Meals on Wheels (COR), respite care, visiting, and more

Jews dispersed throughout the GTA

Continued from page B23

elderly and immigrants. There could, therefore, be a diminution of Jewish life if immigration takes a significant downturn and the exodus north continues. On the other hand, given the wealth of religious, recreational and social services available, this area ought to continue as an important centre.

Finally, there is a fourth area that is most problematic because it is not geographically distinct. This involves the 20 percent or so of Jews who do not live in the other three areas. They are dispersed throughout the GTA, live in very low-density Jewish neighborhoods, and unlike the Jews of downtown whom they often resemble, do not have a defined identity or a growing Jewish infrastructure to serve them.

In future terms, these might be the Jews most vulnerable in terms of maintaining an identification with the community. Part of the challenge is finding how this group, particularly today's youth, can maintain a meaningful connection.

We have considered forecasts for the over-all population as well as the characteristics of specific areas. I would like to end with what I see as three key questions that will affect the future of our community.

The first may be seen as a strictly demographic issue: Will our community remain residentially concentrated? In the 1991 census, nearly 90 percent of the Jewish community lived where 20 percent of Toronto CMA lived. Most were located in the three areas featured above. This residential concentration is fairly unique for communities of our size in North America. It gives us a tremendous advantage in service delivery and in maintaining community cohesion. Should dramatic dispersion occur, this could have a major negative impact on the vitality and viability of our community and of Jewish identity.

The second question is only partially demographic: What will be the impact of immigration, both from abroad and other parts of Canada?

This factor, more than any other, is responsible for the doubling of our community in the last 30 years. As suggested earlier, immigration is difficult to predict because it is affected by so many external factors out of our control. However, one aspect is not hard to predict: Not only the number of immigrants but how they are responded to and how they respond are critical to the future of our community.

Immigrants can come in droves, but unless they are integrated into the Jewish community, their impact is greatly diminished. Whether they be from the former Soviet Union, South Africa, Israel, North Africa or the United States, they can easily disappear as Jews in the future.

Continued on page B28

Sgt. Fred Harris, son of Dr. and Mrs. William Harris. He was killed in Normandy in 1944. [Photo courtesy The Ontario Jewish Archives: 4516]

Community Directory of Advertisers-cont'd

Seniors Cont'd

LINCOLN PLACE
429 Walmer Rd.,
(near Spadina & St. Clair)
Toronto, Ont. M5P 2X9
Social Worker: Jackie Cohen
Tel: 416-967-6949, ext. 239
Fax: 416-928-1965
A centrally located 260 bed accredited long term care facilitity in Forest Hill since 1973. We run a fully kosher kitchen (under COR), weekly in-house synagogue services and many Jewish programs. To meet the needs of a changing population we have changed. Please call us and get re-introduced to Lincoln Place.

PINE VILLA
1035 Eglinton Ave. W.,
Toronto, Ont. M6C 2C8
Tel: 416-787-5626
What a wonderful summer we had ... our residents soaked up the sun at Cullen Gardens, Niagara Falls, and on Lake Ontario. We all enjoyed seasonal fruit at our Strawberry Social, Water-melon Fest, and Cherry Jubilee. Pine Villa residents eagerly await a happy and prosperous Jewish New Year.

TERRACE GARDENS
3705 Bathurst St.,
Toronto, Ont. M6A 2E8
Tel: 416-789-7670
This Yom Tov holiday season Terrace Gardens announces our holiday progams for Rosh Hashanah. We have children singing favourite Yom Tov melodies and the shofar will be blown. Our residents help build and decorate our own sukkah. Terrace Gardens: a real Jewish experience that's close to the heart!

Services

JEWISH CAMP COUNCIL OF TORONTO
3995 Bathurst St., Ste. 200,
Toronto, Ont. M3H 5V3
Registrar: Denise Harris
Tel: 416-630-1180 Fax: 416-630-8561
Provides a variety of camping services to the Jewish community. Camp Northland-B'nai Brith provides a residential camping experience for boys and girls 8-16 in the Haliburton Highlands. "Friends of NBB" holds a mini-camp weekend for families with young children in August. Reunion 2000, a reunion of staff and campers, is scheduled for November 2000.

JEWISH IMMIGRANT AID SERVICES OF CANADA
4600 Bathurst St., Ste. 325,
Toronto, Ont. M2R 3V3
National office:
Tel: 416-630-9051 Fax: 416-630-1376
E-mail: jiasnat@pssnet.com
Executive Vice-President: Dr. Michael Briks
Toronto office:
Tel: 416-630-6481 Fax: 416-630-1376
E-mail: mail@jiastor.org
Executive Director: Jack Kugelmass
***or* Montreal office:**
6900 Decarie Blvd., Suite 217A,
Cote St. Luc, Quebec H3X 2T8
Tel: 514-342-9351 Fax: 514-342-8452
E-mail: jias@pobox.com
Executive Director: Bob Luck
Since 1922 JIAS has helped some 175,000 Jewish refugees and immigrants come to freedom in Canada. As the national agency of Canadian Jewry, JIAS provides resettlement counselling, integration programming, language training, immigration consultation, financial assistance and social services to those newcomers who travel the difficult journey "from immigrant to citizen."

JVS OF GREATER TORONTO
74 Tycos Dr., Toronto, Ont. M6B 1V9,
Tel: 416-787-1151, Ext. 258
Fax: 416-785-7529
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Tel: 905-764-7977 Fax: 905-771-6058
E-mail: Alsher@home.com
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SEPHARDIC KEHILA CENTRE
7026 Bathurst St.,
Thornhill, Ont. L4J 8K3
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President: Jacques Benquesus
Fundraising Chairman: Maurice Benzacar
Tel: 905-669-7654 Fax: 905-669-5138
Under one roof, this facility houses the Abir Yaakob Congregation, Medrash Torah Vehayim, Mikve Ma'ayan Hasimha, Or Haemet Sephardic School, and the Sephardic Rabbinate of Ontario. It is also home to Kehila Catering, which offers superb Glatt Kosher cuisine for all your simchas.

TORONTO JEWISH FREE LOAN CASSA
4600 Bathurst St., Ste. 340,
Toronto, Ont. M2R 3V3
Office Manager: Helen Futerman
Tel: 416-635-1217 Fax: 416-635-8926
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Jewish National Fund of Toronto
4600 Bathurst Street, Suite 238, North York M2R 3V3
Telephone (416) 638-7200 Fax (416) 638-7345

What will community look like in the future?

Wedding party at marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Cornfield, early 1900s. [Photo courtesy The Ontario Jewish Archives: 4193]

Continued from page B27

This leads us to the third question, the most profound and difficult one: What will be the quality of Jewish life in the new century? The future of the Jewish community is not only, or probably chiefly, a demographic issue.

Will we continue to take care of our less fortunate members, modelling Jewish values such as gmilut chasadim and tzedakah? Will our Jewish educational system meet the needs of a diverse Jewish community with quality and flexibility? Will it address the needs of both children and adults? Will the creativity and richness of our Jewish culture bloom? Will our diversity be a source of richness and strength or of divisiveness and weakness? Will that diversity include an option of choices to make it possible for a broad range of people to continue identifying with a community, a people and a tradition that are both ancient and contemporarily relevant?

Of course, this last set of questions can be asked of Jewry throughout the world, especially outside of Israel. Our community has an advantage: Demographically, in terms of numbers and geographical concentration, it is strong. The institutional infrastructure represented by our social service agencies, synagogues, schools and cultural providers is rich and multifaceted. This augurs well for the future.

It is likely that the impressive numbers predicted for the next 30 years will materialize. But what these projections don't tell us is to what extent tens of thousands of persons who may indicate on a census that they are Jewish by ethnic ancestry or religion live Jewish lives.

This is particularly true as our community loses the direct influence of people whose Yiddishkeit was nurtured in the traditions of pre-war east European Jewry. To impact on that course of events, the only thing we can do is to continue to develop a vital Jewish community, with an institutional backbone that is both strong and flexible: a Jewish life that is meaningful culturally and spiritually. Numbers alone are lifeless; they must breathe Jewish souls.

Jay Brodbar is director of research and assistant director of community planning at UJA Federation of Greater Toronto.

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Thornhill (905) 764-1818

Westmount Community Shul
Bathurst/New Westminster Thornhill (905) 764-1818 ext 302

Gallanough Shul
Yonge/Arnold Thornhill (905) 764-6230

The Village Shul & Learning Centre
Bathurst/Eglinton (416) 785-1107

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For information or to receive our Winter Calendar call (905) 764-1818

MAH-ZEH KST?

- We are the only Modern Orthodox Synagogue in York Mills/ Bayview/401 area.
- Yes, we follow traditional practices. Though the individual practices of our members vary widely, we all feel comfortable with one another.
- Our membership of 200 families, couples and singles are of both Ashkenazic and Sephardic origin from such places as Montreal and all parts of Canada, South Africa, England, Israel, Holland, Gibraltar, Morocco, Iraq and the USA.
- In our familiar and friendly atmosphere, all are comfortable and all are welcome.
- Call us.
  - Share a Shabbat with us.
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KEHILLAT SHAAREI TORAH
2640 Bayview Ave., Willowdale, Ont. M2L 1B7
Tel: (416) 229-2600, Fax: (416) 229-2167
Rabbi Reuven Tradburks

Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Congregation

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* This is a limited-time offer available to those currently unaffiliated with a Conservative synagogue in the Greater Toronto Area

Call our Executive Director for our special membership rates
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55 Yeomans Road, Toronto, Ontario M3H 3J7

Rabbi Philip S. Scheim ▪ Cantor Yehuda Rottner

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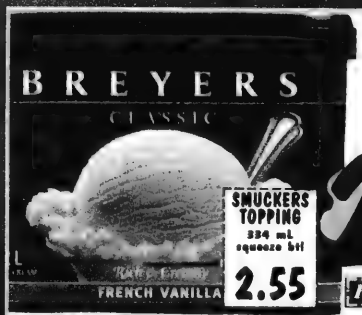

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Every Single Day!

VIENNETTA

600ML BOX OR SOLERO 660 ML, SUNKIST SMOOTHIES PKG OF 3
each
3.77

ALL NATURAL ICE CREAM

2 L tub
4.77

KLONDIKE BARS

OR SANDWICHES, CONES PKG OF 4, OR BERRY BARS PKG OF 6
each
4.44

Dairy Basics

ASTRO MULTI-PAK 12X125 g tubs
3.77

ASTRO YOGURT

ORIGINAL, BIOBEST, FAT FREE OR LIGHT
175 g tub
.39

SUNNY DELIGHT

1.89 L plastic btl
1.97
Every Single Day!

FIVE ALIVE

1.89 L carton
1.97
Every Single Day!

SOUR CREAM

500 mL tub
1.13
Every Single Day!

•***MARKHAM:*** 8190 BAYVIEW AVE.-ROMFIELD CRES & BAYVIEW AVE.; THE SHOPS ON STEELES & 404-DON MILLS & STEELES AVE. E.

•***THORNHILL:*** MAIN EXCHANGE PLAZA-BATHURST & STEELES.

C8 C8 C8

food Basics

Best Prices Everyday!

OVER 500 ITEMS LOCKED DOWN UNTIL SEPT. 24TH, 1999

DIRECT PAYMENT

WE OFFER INTERAC DEBIT CARD SERVICE.

Triple The Difference!!!

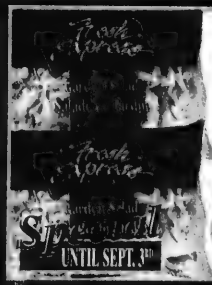
If you find any of these items at a lower price at our major competitors we'll cheerfully refund ***Triple the Difference!!!***

Milk 4 litre · Eggs large white · Butter 1lb.
Sugar 2kg · Bread white-675g · Head Lettuce
Bananas · Potatoes 10 lb (4.54 kg) bag-white · Tomatoes
Disposable Diapers Jumbo

TIDE LAUNDRY DETERGENT
POWDERED 29-37 USES
OR LIQUID 26-32 USES
7.77

RED OR GREEN SEEDLESS GRAPES
PRODUCT OF U.S.A.
NO. 1 GRADE
1.94 kg
lb .88

BONELESS SIRLOIN TIP STEAK
OR ROAST,
CUT FROM CANADA A/AA/AAA GRADES
5.45 kg
lb 2.47



FRESH EXPRESS GARDEN SALAD
PRODUCT OF U.S.A.
16 oz (454 g) pkg
.88

HEARTY GRAINS WHEAT BREAD
ASSORTED VARIETIES
680 g
.99

OLD DUTCH BLEACH
3.6 L jug
.79

HAPPY ROSH HASHANAH

PRICES EFFECTIVE FROM SATURDAY AUGUST 28TH TO FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 3RD, 1999.

SAT	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI
AUG. 28	AUG. 29	AUG. 30	AUG. 31	SEPT. 1	SEPT. 2	SEPT. 3

WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO LIMIT QUANTITIES TO HOUSEHOLD REQUIREMENTS. SOME ILLUSTRATED ITEMS MAY NOT BE CURRENTLY REPRESENTATIVE OF ITEMS ON SALE AND ARE FOR DESIGN ONLY.

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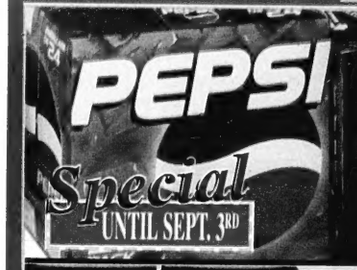
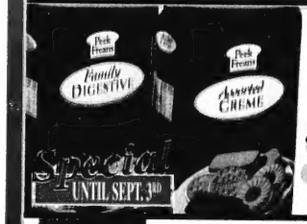
food Basics Special Buys!!!



COKE OR PEPSI
OR CANADA DRY, SPRITE, 7UP, BARQ'S
case of 24x355 mL tins
5.95
UNIT COST 7.0¢ PER 100ML



PEEK FREANS COOKIES
350 g bag
1.95

HOLIDAY LUNCHEON MEAT
340 G OR MAPLE LEAF VIENNA SAUSAGE 113G
.98

HELLMANN'S MAYONNAISE
1 L
2.95

CASAL DOMINGO WINE COOLERS
.5% ALCOHOL OR ICE WINE SPRITZ, SCOTT'S COOLER
341 mL btl
.67

CHRISTIE'S PREMIUM PLUS CRACKERS
450 g box
1.95

food Basics ...Best Prices Everyday!!!

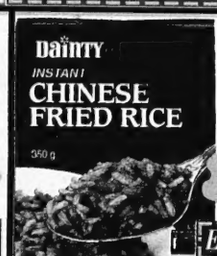
HOSTESS POTATO CHIPS 170 G
OR PKG OF 3
MASTER CHOICE MICROWAVE POPCORN
each
.97
Every Single Day!

MASTER CHOICE PASTA
IMPORTED FROM ITALY, SELECTED VARIETIES
450 g pkg
.59
Every Single Day!

TROPICAL GROVE FRUIT DRINKS
case of 12x300 mL btls
2.77
Every Single Day!

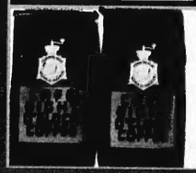
GOLD SEAL CHUNK OR FLAKED LIGHT TUNA
170G TIN OR SEAWAVE KETA SALMON 213G, PACIFIC PRIDE PINK SALMON 200G
.97
Every Single Day!

SELECT CORNED BEEF
REGULAR OR HALAL
340 g
1.49
Every Single Day!



DAINTY FRIED RICE
350 g box
.99
Every Single Day!

SALAD DRESSING
POURABLE
REGULAR OR LIGHT
475 mL btl
1.27
Every Single Day!



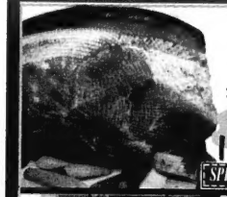
EIGHT O'CLOCK BEAN COFFEE
A SUPERB BLEND RICH IN BRAZILIAN COFFEES REGULAR
300 g bag
2.97
Every Single Day!

GARFIELD TORTILLA CHIPS
454-500 g bag
1.99
Every Single Day!

LABATT BEER
0.5% ALCOHOL
case 12x355 mL tins
4.99
Every Single Day!

MASTER CHOICE ICED TEA
case of 12-355 mL tins
2.99
Every Single Day!

Meat Basics



PICNIC SHOULDER
SMOKED PORK BONE-IN
2.14 kg
lb **.97**
SPECIAL UNTIL SEPT. 3RD

CHICKEN WINGS
FRESH, BAGGED
3.28 kg
lb **1.49**
SPECIAL UNTIL SEPT. 3RD

SCHNEIDERS RED HOTS WIENERS
450 g pkg
1.77
SPECIAL UNTIL SEPT. 3RD

SCHNEIDERS POPULAR LUNCHEON MEATS
175 g pkg
1.47
SPECIAL UNTIL SEPT. 3RD

SMOKED SAUSAGE
ASSORTED VARIETIES
MITCHELL'S GOURMET
375-450 g pkg
2.77
SPECIAL UNTIL SEPT. 3RD

Frozen Foods Basics

GOLDEN SKILLET CHICKEN NUGGETS
OR BREADED CHICKEN STRIPS, CHICKEN BURGERS
1.36 kg box
3.99
Every Single Day!

HIGH LINER FISH IN BATTER
STICKS, FRIES 700 G OR SALMON ENTREES 200 G, RINGO'S 500 G each
2.97
Every Single Day!

PINTY'S CHICKEN BREAST FILLETS
Breaded 907 g
9.95
SPECIAL UNTIL SEPT. 3RD

FRENCH FRIES
CRINKLE CUT OR JULIENNE
1 kg bag
.69
Every Single Day!

OLD SOUTH ORANGE JUICE
FROZEN CONCENTRATED
355 mL tin
.99
Every Single Day!

McCAIN FRUIT PUNCH
OR ICED TEA CONCENTRATED
355 mL tin
.59
SPECIAL UNTIL SEPT. 3RD

Bakery Basics

PREMIUM WHITE BREAD
MASTER CHOICE
675 g
.99
SPECIAL UNTIL SEPT. 3RD

GARLIC BREAD
OLIVIERI
345 g pkg
1.69
SPECIAL UNTIL SEPT. 3RD

MAMMOTH SAUSAGE OR HAMBURGER BUNS
MASTER CHOICE
pkg of 6 or 8
1.49
SPECIAL UNTIL SEPT. 3RD

Deli Basics

SLICED BLACK FOREST HAM
PRE-PACKED
.66 100 g
lb **2.99**
SPECIAL UNTIL SEPT. 3RD

SLICED BOLOGNA
PRE-PACKED
.39 100 g
lb **1.77**
SPECIAL UNTIL SEPT. 3RD

BABY FRUILANO CHEESE
SILARI
625 g
6.99
SPECIAL UNTIL SEPT. 3RD

food Basics....Over 4,000 Products at the Best Prices Everyday... *Plus* Extra Savings on Special Buys!!!

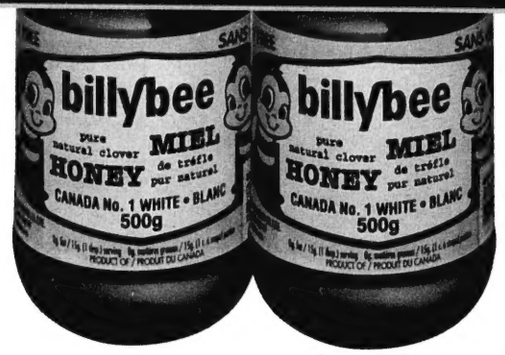
Happy Rosh Hashanah

In the Spirit and Tradition of Rosh Hashanah, may the sounds of the Shofar fill all with joy, as we wish you a New Year of Health and Happiness.

5760

TIROSH GRAPE JUICE
1.5 L btl

3.99 OR LESS!



BILLY BEE HONEY
LIQUID
500 g btl

1.95 OR LESS!

MEMORIAL CANDLES
MENORA, HECHEL OR NER ZION
each tin

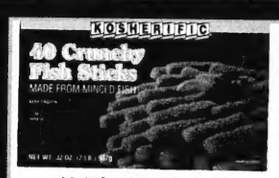
.37 OR LESS,

SABBATH CANDLES
MENORA OR HECHEL
pkg. of 72

3.25 OR LESS,

GEFILTE FISH
UNGAR'S OR BENZ FROZEN
23 oz pkg

4.95



KOSHERIFIC FISH STICKS
25 OZ PKG

OR LESS **5.97**

TINY TAMS
MANISCHEWITZ EVERYTHING OR ORIGINAL
5 oz pkg

.88

GREAT CANADIAN CHEESE
CHEDDAR, MARBLE, COLBY, BRICK, FARMERS OR MOZZARELLA
227 G PKG

2.88 OR LESS,

DANISH BUTTER COOKIES
DANISH LEGEND OR THE ROSE
500 g tin

2.97

BROOKSIDE MILK CHOCOLATE ALMONDS
454 g bag

4.88

•*MARKHAM:* 8190 BAYVIEW AVE.-ROMFIELD CRES & BAYVIEW AVE.;THE SHOPS ON STEELES & 404-DON MILLS & STEELES AVE. E.
•*THORNHILL:* MAIN EXCHANGE PLAZA-BATHURST & STEELES. VALUES EFFECTIVE UNTIL SEPTEMBER 10TH, 1999.

K6K6K6

4 WEEK Back to School! PRICE LOCKDOWN

PRICES EFFECTIVE UNTIL SEPTEMBER 24TH

HUNT'S THICK & RICH
PASTA SAUCE, TOMATO SAUCE 680 ML, TOMATO PASTE 369 ML OR MANWICH 398ML
each

.97

HEINZ KETCHUP
1 L SQUEEZE BTL

2.45

PURITAN STEW
ASSORTED VARIETIES
665 g tin

.99

HAMBURGER HELPER
OR TUNA HELPER
200-240 g box

1.57

HEINZ READY TO SERVE SOUP
227 ML TIN OR CONDENSED TOMATO 284 ML

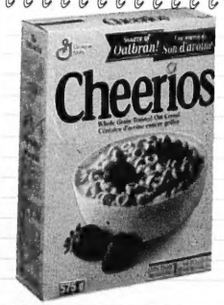
3/$1

SPLASH
1.89 L OR 1 L
FAIRLEE JUICE
each

.97

HEINZ BEANS OR PASTA
IN TOMATO SAUCE
398 mL tin

.59



CHEERIOS
OR APPLE CINNAMON CHEERIOS 575 G, MULTIGRAIN 450 G, GOLDEN GRAHAMS 385 G, CINNAMON TOAST CRUNCH OR NESTLE QUIK 400 G, COUNT CHOCULA 340 G
each

2.77

Z3Z3Z3

4 WEEK Back to School!

PRICE LOCKDOWN

PRICES EFFECTIVE UNTIL SEPTEMBER 24TH

FRUIT ROLL-UPS

110 G BOX OR
SODA FRUIT SNACKS 153 G,
GOLDEN GRAHAM TREATS 175 G, SCOOBY-DOO OR
LUCKY CHARMS FRUIT SNACKS 153 G
each

1.77

McCAIN JUICES OR DRINKS

ASSORTED FLAVOURS
3x250 mL tetra pack cartons

.67

POST SHREDDIES

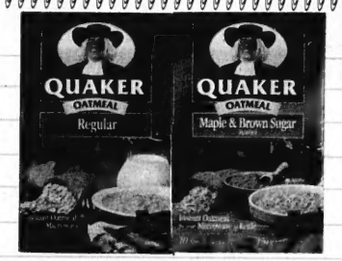
620 G OR HONEYCOMB 400 G,
PEBBLES 375 G
each

1.95

CHEF BOYARDEE PASTA

425 g tin

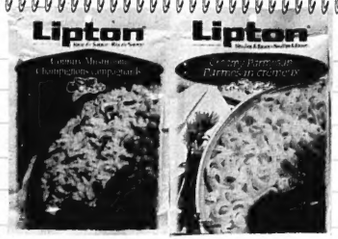
.85



QUAKER OATMEAL

READY TO SERVE
325-470 g box

1.79



LIPTON RICE N' SAUCE

OR NOODLES N' SAUCE
124-136 g pkg

.99

NUTRI-GRAIN CEREAL BARS

295 G OR TWISTS 222 G,
POP TARTS DANISH 310 G
each

1.98

WHITE CHEDDAR MACARONI & CHEESE DINNER

MASTER CHOICE
200 g pkg

2/$1

PRIMO TOMATO PASTE

156 mL tin

3/$1

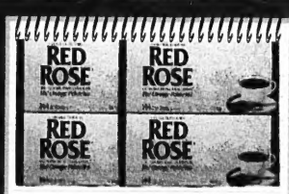
MR. NOODLES 64 G CUP

.65

TABLE SYRUP 750 ML OR PANCAKE MIX 1 KG

each

1.48



RED ROSE TEA BAGS

BOX OF 144 OR
LIPTON YELLOW LABEL TEA PKG OF 100

4.99

UNCLE BEN'S CLASSICS RICE

170-180 g box

1.25

BATHROOM TISSUE 12 ROLL PKG

2 PLY

2.77

HUNT'S SNACK PACK PKG OF 12 CUPS

3.97

While Supplies Last

RICH'N MOIST CAKE MIXES

524 G OR BROWNIE MIX 454 G,
MUFFIN MIX 338 G

.89

PRIMO RECIPE STARTER

540 mL tin

.88

HOSTESS LUNCH PACK

CHEETOS TWISTS, DORITOS NACHOS
OR LAY'S REGULAR POTATO CHIPS
pkg of 5

1.66

SKIPPY PEANUT BUTTER

CREAMY, CHUNK OR LIGHT
750 g jar

2.47

SMUCKER'S JAM

STRAWBERRY, RASPBERRY OR APRICOT 500 ML OR
SHIRRIFF MARMALADE 750 ML

2.77

MAZOLA CORN OIL

2 L

3.99

PAPER TOWELS

REGULAR
2 roll pkg

.65

PLEASE REWIND